

# SIR CALL

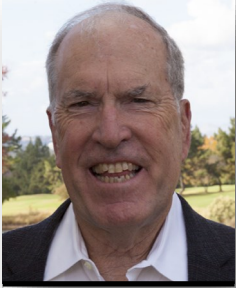
br146sircall@gmail.com

July 2020

Published For Our Members And Friends

Sons in Retirement Branch 146 of Contra Costa

WE ARE SIR – MAKE FRIENDS FOR LIFE



## Big Sir's Notes

Brad Hatcher

As mentioned in an E-blast in late June:

Please mark your calendars for July 9<sup>th</sup>. We are going to hold a monthly membership meeting using Zoom. Tentatively, we will start at

11:30 and will be done by about 1:00.

Please see the note from Little Sir about our speaker and in the red section to the right of this note. Richard has hit a home run (remember baseball?) with his selection.

Traditionally June is the colorful shirt luncheon. You are encouraged to wear a colorful shirt when you attend the zoom meeting. While it is unlikely we will be able to award a prize, it should be fun to see how outlandish your shirt is when you sign in to the event. I only request that you keep your comments about my shirt to yourself.

We will have a bit of business to complete after the speaker's remarks. Traditionally we honor members for a number of reasons. We are behind in presenting those awards. Members of the Honorees Committee will briefly tell us about each member's recognition.

Our nominating committee, **Jonathan Korfhage**, **Bruce Borgman**, and **Alan Elnick** has been hard at work gathering candidates for our 2021 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 listed on the right.

Election of officers will be held at our August 13<sup>th</sup> meeting. You may offer additional nominations for officers and directors from the floor at that meeting.

The Branch Executive Committee will meet on July 7<sup>th</sup>. The meeting is open to all members. If you wish to attend, please e-mail Jerry Kaplan. He will make sure you receive the invitation to the Zoom BEC meeting.

See you at the luncheon.

Stay safe – be well!

ZOOM Virtual Luncheon Meeting  
Thursday, July 9<sup>th</sup>

Guest Speaker

Dr. Sara Levin—Deputy Health Officer  
Contra Costa County Health Department  
“Current Status of COVID-19 in the County”

Breakout Rooms Gathering: 11:30 am  
Speaker Presentation: 12 Noon

Invite a guest to attend the meeting—use the email address below

Email: [attend146meeting@gmail.com](mailto:attend146meeting@gmail.com)  
Telephone Message: (925) 979-5146

## 2021 Branch 146 Officers and Directors

Big Sir.....	Richard Hockenbrock
Little Sir.....	Jerry Kaplan
Secretary .....	Larry Kaye
Assistant Secretary .....	Rich Lyon
Treasurer .....	Ross Abbott
Assistant Treasurer .....	Open
Director 2nd Term .....	Paul Beretz
Director 2nd Term .....	Brian McCarthy
Director 2nd Term .....	Peter Plante
Director 1st Term .....	George Mon
Director 1st Term .....	Bob Wilkenfeld
Director 1st Term .....	Paul Masta

## SIR Mission Statement

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



### Little Sir's Corner

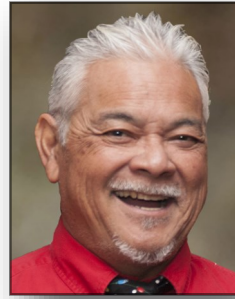
**Richard Hockenbrock**

Branch 146 is open — at least virtually! For the foreseeable future, it looks like meeting via ZOOM is the best answer to holding our monthly membership gathering with you. With this in mind, I want

to describe some of the changes we need to implement.

- 1) As was mentioned recently in **Brad's** Big Sir eblast, the State SIR has purchased a number of ZOOM licenses for all SIR branches to use. These licenses will allow each branch to have up to 500 participants online at the same time. Ideally, we hope you can join us each month on a computer or smartphone; however, you don't need a webcam nor do you need a computer or smartphone. You can call into the meeting on a regular phone and just listen to the meeting.
- 2) We intend to have discussion areas set up, called Break Rooms, to provide the opportunity to have congenial discussions with your friends much like the discussions you had at your tables when we were holding actual luncheons prior to eating our meals.
- 3) We will continue to have interesting speakers come to our meetings via Zoom. In fact, Zoom allows us to invite speakers from anywhere in the world. It will take some time to adapt to this expanse, but the opportunity is left to our imagination.
- 4) We need to make sure no one is left behind in the transitional stage. Here is where we need your help. We know some members are going to be impacted by these necessary changes but we need your feedback on how we can mitigate your specific concerns. Email any of us on the BEC. We are here to make your experience an enjoyable one.
- 5) I promised to set up some training sessions prior to our meeting on July 9<sup>th</sup>. Three optional meetings are planned to test your ability to log into Zoom like it would be on the day of the meeting. Look for an eblast from me and log in at any one of the appropriate times.

I look forward to seeing everyone at the meeting on the 9th.

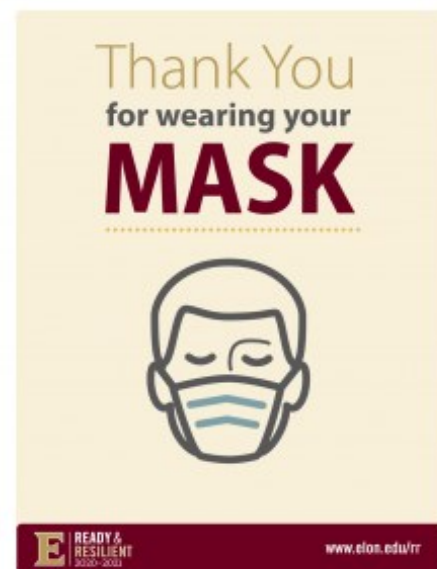


### Membership

**Ron Lew**

The BEC approved 2 new members during our June Zoom Board meeting. We welcomed **James Pettit** of Martinez and **Duane Einhorn** of Concord who joined SIR through people who are already associated with SIR prior to this Covid-19 Stay Home. Put your name on the branch SIR cards when you pass them out to people you know who may have interest in joining. Continue talking about SIR with family, friends and people who are ready to get out and do things. Many of us are still in contact with our friends and family members through technology like ZOOM, Facebook or Skype.

We are having a Zoom branch meeting in July. Hopefully, you can bring others into this organization of SIR 146 via Zoom, while making friends for life. Many of us from SIR 146, have had a chance to meet informally on occasion, while respecting our social distancing and washing and wiping down everything. I hope you had a nice Easter and be safe.





## Couples Dining Out

**Bruce Borgman**

The news of late of the surge in the spread of the Covid-19 virus has slowed our efforts to re-start our Dining Out activity.

The BEC has currently approved starting our Couples Dining Out activity for patio dining. While there are some restaurants with facilities to allow such a dining experience, we have decided to not select one of these at this time. Nor have we sent out a trial email to our mailing list to see if there are enough diners who would like to take advantage of this. I had thought to wait until July 1<sup>st</sup> when presumably the local regulations would allow inside dining with the appropriate social distancing and other guidelines. With the present statistics of the number of new cases, we have decided to hold off until there is some abatement of the statistics, and firm change in the guidelines with respect to inside dining.

This is a disappointment. I had hoped to get started at least with a smaller group of diners. But, hope springs eternal, and we are anxious to find some type of Couples Dining Out form that will keep us safe, as well as have us see one another again in a pleasant dining experience.

Stay tuned!



## Sunshine

**Brian McCarthy**

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

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

- **Hugh Ferguson**
- **Joe Hunt**
- **Tom Boltz**
- **Vince Rettew**
- **Stan Stricherz**
- **Rick Morgan**

One of the main ways we learn of a SIR who is having health problems is when they "opt out" of the monthly luncheon. Since the in person luncheons have been cancelled (at least for the time being) and we all are "sheltering at home" this can be a great opportunity to connect with your luncheon buddies, your golf buddies, your poker or bridge buddies, etc. to see how they are doing. If you learn that a fellow SIR is going through an illness, send me an email so that we can let the membership know. This way the membership of Branch 146 can keep the SIR who is ill in their thoughts and prayers.

This is a difficult time but with the support of family and friends this journey will be easier.

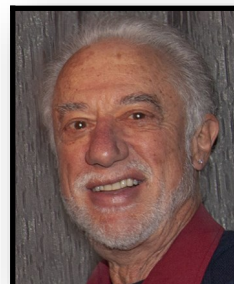
Stay Healthy.

**Brian McCarthy**

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



*"I just spent a ton of money on accessories for my RV. So, I'd like to order some water and 10 baskets of your free bread."*



## RV Wanderers

**Bob Lucido**

The RV Wanderers are back and ready to hit the road. Our next trip is scheduled for the KOA in Manchester which is in Mendocino. We would like to start on July 20<sup>th</sup>, but the site is not taking reservations until July 3<sup>rd</sup>. I will get up at 6:00 in the morning and be the first to make a reservation, unless I fall asleep at the computer.

**Bob Lucido**

(925) 899-0974

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



## AREA 16 Fishing Report

**Paul Dubow**

We are back in business, but things are not quite normal yet. We have received permission from state SIR to resume activities. We will follow the restrictions imposed by the jurisdictions in which we fish and meet. Consequently, we will not resume our monthly breakfast meetings for a while. Instead, we will continue to meet on Zoom. Our next meeting is at 8:30 am on July 24. If you wish to join us, please send an email to Big Fish **Ron Lew** and he will supply you with a sign-in link. Alternatively, you can call me at (415) 495-6504.

Permission to resume activities has meant resuming fishing, but again with the COVID 19 restrictions. Some of us have fished on party boats with half loads and increased prices. Some freshwater lakes have opened up with restrictions and most launch ramps for bay and ocean fishing have opened. **Bob Stein, Brion Beetz, Raleigh Davis, Stan Wong, and Carl Moyer** caught quite a few halibut fishing on the Huck Finn just outside of the Golden Gate. **Stan** also caught a beautiful limit of two salmon while fishing much further out in the ocean. After he cleaned the fish, he still had 41 lbs. of delicious eating. **Duane Einhorn**, a new member of both the fishing group and Branch 146, also caught limits of salmon and halibut fishing on the ocean. **Chuck Vanoncini** resumed his regular trips to Lake Almanor where he and his friends caught quite a few rainbow trout. **Brion Beetz** joined **Carl Moyer** on his boat and they landed rockfish, cabezon, and ling cod on the ocean. **Ernie Wong** had an awesome time fishing for shad on the Yuba River, where he caught and released 125 on a single day's outing. **Tom Kostik** once again set out to do regular semi-weekly black bass and striper fishing in the Delta, but on one adventure, he landed a halibut and some rockfish. **Gordon Linebaugh** and his grandchildren fished Round Valley Lake near Greenville, where they caught and devoured about fifteen bluegills.



## Activities Coordinator

**Bob Lucido**

The different local area SIR Activity chairmen are discussing ways to share activities among branches. We had a Zoom meeting last month to decide how we should proceed.

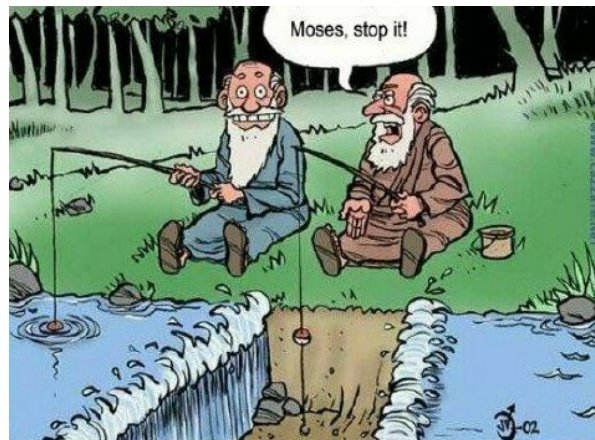
My microphone was not working, so they couldn't hear me and they didn't pay attention to me or all my suggestions. Maybe that was a good thing. Also, they couldn't hear all the swearing I made to my computer.

Sometimes when a new activity is started, the chairman needs a little advice on how to make it successful. It would be very helpful if a chairman from any local branch could be contacted for information.

A request was sent out to all the B146 chairmen to find out if their activity was open to other branches when the activities were started again. So far the vote was two chairmen responded "not at this time", seven responded "no," and eleven responded "yes." I am still waiting for further responses.

At this time, we have Cooking II, Fishing, Golf-18 hole, Golf - 9 hole, Hiking, and RV Wanderers approved to restart. More requests for restarting will be reviewed by the BEC.

When the virus restrictions were first in place, I thought I would have nothing to do as Activities Coordinator. Boy was that a mistake.



**Joe Miscione** and his son caught stripers in Montezuma Slough, while **Phil Scimonelli** and **Mario Moratorio** caught stripers fishing from the Martinez pier.



## Photography Group

**Richard Hockenbrock**

I want to thank **Moose Kelly** for helping to host our last Photography meeting on June 19<sup>th</sup>. We covered a lot of interesting topics including a half hour class on taking great pictures.

We decided to continue holding Photography meetings every other month on ZOOM. The next meeting will be August 21<sup>st</sup> at 9 am.

Email: [RLHOCK@outlook.com](mailto:RLHOCK@outlook.com)

Cell/Text: (925) 324-1713



## Pinochle

**Charlie Kahsen /  
Jeff Morrow**



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

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

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

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

If you plan to come, please let us know ahead of time so we can let Rocco's know you plan to have lunch with the group. **No Scheduled Games until Further Notice**

**Charlie Kahsen**

**Jeff Morrow**

(925) 943-1750

(925) 944-7009

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

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

### 2020 Branch 146 Officers and Directors

Big Sir.....	<b>Brad Hatcher</b>
Little Sir.....	<b>Richard Hockenbrock</b>
Secretary .....	<b>Jerry Kaplan</b>
Assistant Secretary .....	<b>Larry Kaye*</b>
Treasurer .....	<b>George Mon</b>
Assistant Treasurer .....	<b>Ross Abbott</b>
Director 2nd Term .....	<b>Milton Smith</b>
Director 2nd Term .....	<b>Brian McCarthy</b>
Director 2nd Term .....	<b>Ron Lew</b>
Director 1st Term .....	<b>Paul Beretz</b>
Director 1st Term .....	<b>Open*</b>
Director 1st Term .....	<b>Peter Plante</b>

#### RAMP – Chair Members

Recruitment .....	<b>Paul Beretz</b>
Activities .....	<b>Bob Lucido</b>
Member Relations .....	<b>Tony Greco</b>
Publicity .....	<b>Peter Plante</b>

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



### SIR Happenings Newsletter

[http://www.sirinc.org/  
sirhappenings](http://www.sirinc.org/sirhappenings) is the

statewide SIR newsletter.

Click on the link to read the current issue. You may enjoy reading about the activities of other branches.





## Travel Milt Smith

We have two trips scheduled for 2021.

### 2021 Grand Baltic Sea Voyage

June 5<sup>th</sup> 2021 departure...

**Denmark:** Copenhagen, Bornholm **Poland:** Gdansk

**Sweden:** Visby, Stockholm **Latvia:** Riga **Estonia:** Tallinn

**Russia:** St. Petersburg **Finland:** Helsinki

**Pre-trip: Denmark:** Copenhagen

**Post-trip: Sweden:** Stockholm

**Countries: 7**

**Cities: 9**

**Days: 14**

**10** nights aboard our privately owned **89-PASSENGER**  
*M/V CLIO*

Average group size: **22** travelers

SIR 146 has 11 signed up for this trip now, still room for more... Price approx....\$8,500pp. A great Trip!

Call **Milt Smith** directly for more information at (925) 285-2897. This cruise was originally scheduled for this year, postponed one year.

**2021 Narsai David Cruise.** Narsai David is the renowned Bay Area restaurateur and also serves as the KCBS Food & Wine Director. Several SIR branches are putting this cruise together. **It has been postponed to the same time next year...late September, exact dates yet to come.**



Narsai David  
KCBS Food and Wine Editor

- Eight nights North American Treasures Cruise aboard the Crystal Serenity. September 28<sup>th</sup>—October 6<sup>th</sup>, 2020
- Quebec City to New York City
- On this hosted cruise Narsai will share his numerous years of expertise in California Cuisine.

- Port Stops: Quebec City, cruising the St. Lawrence, cruising the Bay of Fundy, St. John, Bar Harbor, Boston / Newport, NYC.
- Crystal Cruises is now all inclusive. All beverages, gratuities, enrichment classes.
- Double occupancy from \$3,683 pp to \$7,283 pp depending on cabin. Airfare not included.

*This trip is filling fast so if you intend to go better sign up now by calling Alamo Travel at (925) 837-8742. Be sure to mention SIR Br. 146. Let me know, too.*

Not much more to report. All trips have been cancelled or postponed. The Baltic Capitals and the Quebec City to NYC Crystal Cruise are postponed one year...more to come on both...

I am looking at international travel for 2021 - 22 to the Mediterranean, Africa and South America. Also looking at USA trips and Panama Canal. Please contact me if you are interested in any of these or have other ideas with which I can help.

In the meantime, below and on the next page are some photos you might enjoy.

### Milt Smith

(925) 285-2897

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



Photo by Milt Smith

Giraffe in Zimbabwe

Please see further travel photos on pages 7-8.



Photo by Milt Smith

Unannounced traffic stop in Zimbabwe



Photo by Unknown SIR Traveler

SIRS at Machu Picchu



Photo by Milt Smith

Dutch Windmill



Photo by Unknown SIR Travel-

The Majesty of Machu Picchu

Please see "Dutch Shoes" photo on next page also



## Ping Pong

**Ron Afdal**

We are anxious for everything to get back to reasonable normalcy and find a permanent time for "drop-in" ping pong to be played at the ARC at the United Methodist Church in Alamo.

Many thanks to **Jim Burk** for coordinating the use of the United Methodist Church for our Ping Pong Activity. The church is currently closed, but once it reopens we will plan when we can first meet.

We have secured 3 tables for our use and are really looking forward to starting this activity. Play will either be on a singles or doubles basis, and could be both if that is what is desired by the players at any given time. Stay tuned!

**Ron Afdal**

(925) 825-4809

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



Photo by Milt Smith

Dutch Shoes from travel trip to Holland



## Pickleball

**Jim Burk**

*The ARC located at the United Methodist Church in Alamo has been shut down since Monday, March 16<sup>th</sup>, due to the Covid-19 virus. We are going to err on the side of caution as to when we will*

*open our doors again. We will look to the science personnel as to when we should consider opening. No date has been set at this point.*

*When we do open, look for "drop-in" Badminton and Ping Pong to be added to our offerings of sports activities, in addition to our highly successful Pickle Ball. All of these will be excellent sports activities for our branch as well as other branches in the Area.*

*We will keep you and our Activities Chair, Bob Lucido, advised as to what date looks to be safe for everyone. Thank you for your patience and understanding.*

**Jim Burk**

(925) 946-1192

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



## Luncheon Chairman

**Rich Lyon**

*I hope everyone is playing it safe and staying healthy! The Branch will publicize the details when it is permitted to resume the monthly luncheons. Please stay tuned for details.*

*Once the monthly Luncheon is restarted, friends who are interested in joining should be invited for a one-time "free lunch" per friend.*

*In addition to the many Branch activities, the Luncheon provides a great opportunity to reconnect with friends and meet new people with whom you may already have something in common.*

*We don't know when the Luncheons will resume or under what rules and restrictions but, sometime after the shelter in place order is lifted.*

*In the meantime, play it safe and stay healthy.*

**Rich Lyon**

Luncheon Coordinator

### SIR Call Newsletter Group

Editor

**Richard Hockenbrock**

Co-Editors

**Walt Busenius, Rob Melrose & Bob West**

Photographer

**Henry Thatcher**

Proofreaders

**Jim Barry, Jonathan Korfhage**

**Ron Polivka, and Calvin Tucker**

Internet Posting

**Ron Plachy**





## SongSirs

### Bruce Borgman

We had planned to re-start our practices June 17<sup>th</sup>, but it was pointed out that singing does produce a greater amount of aerosols and that there actually is no safe way for singers to rehearse and perform. Experts have indicated that it is really hard to think of a way that groups could safely perform and sing together currently.

We have therefore withdrawn our request to re-start this popular activity since our first and foremost concern is for the health and safety of our singers and our audiences. Practicing in a virtual setting is probably the only way to continue to practice. This requires some coordination and technical wizardry, which we have started to investigate.

We may be down, but we are not out. Big Sir **Brad Hatcher** has requested that we lead in the singing of "God Bless America" at the end of the July 9<sup>th</sup> virtual luncheon meeting, and several of the SongSirs are investigating the appropriate settings in Zoom to enable this to occur. We have had two Zoom meetings with a smaller group and will be trying this process for the entire SongSirs group on June 26<sup>th</sup>. We'll see how it goes!

**Update:** we tried to sing God Bless America as a group and it turned out that due to varying internet providers and computer equipment, there are timing differences in how our voices come across. It may work with a single voice singing, or with just the piano playing. You will want to attend the July meeting to see if we were able to pull it off.

In the meantime, we continue to practice at home, in the shower, or wherever else we can sing without endangering the rest of the population. Good health and safe hygiene to all of you!

(925) 932-3961

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



## Member Relations

### Tony Greco

I have good news to report! Since last month's SIR CALL article I've received my first Suggestion Box input! It was an inquiry on status, with some recommendations, of our ongoing effort to improve our SIR 146 Directory. This effort started last year and is nearing completion. With improvements to software, re-formatting, and the adding of new member information to the directory, we are hoping to make the directory more useful and more user-friendly.

While we operate under current COVID-19 restrictions with no luncheon gatherings, and limited face-to-face activities, we must rely on virtual interaction such as Zoom meetings, emails, phone calls, text, etc. An improved SIR 146 Directory will make it a little easier to do that. With that in mind, it is important to check your information in the directory for accuracy. Any needed updates or errors to your information should be communicated to us so we can stay as current as possible.

To make it easier to reach your fellow members we are hoping to add additional information to the directory such as a second line for phone numbers so we can identify both your land line number and your cell number, as appropriate. Increased accessibility to fellow members will greatly improve branch operations, communications and member relations.

In this COVID-19 environment, the SIR 146 Directory has become increasingly more important in maintaining good member relations. Keep it handy through our website or print a hard copy for yourself.

Happy trails to you until we meet again.

**Tony Greco**

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

Helvetica and Times New Roman walk into a bar.

"Get out of here!" shouts the bartender. "We don't serve your type."

Why do we tell actors to 'break a leg'?

Because every play has a cast.



## SIR 146 Hiking

Mark Curtis

We will be walking/hiking at East Bay Regional Park at Point Pinole on Friday, July 10<sup>th</sup>, starting at 10 am. This is a loop hike of about 4.5 miles and minimal elevation gain. If the day is warm elsewhere, you will find this walk to be very pleasant as it is very close to the bay and marshlands, even with the normal 5 to 10 mph breeze. If 4.5 miles is too much for some, it's very easy to shorten the loop for a return to the parking lot. There should be a few opportunities to observe water fowl near the pier or on the bay side of the point. And we may walk about 1,000 feet to the end of this fishing pier. Most of this walk is shaded via fairly mature eucalyptus trees.

On a historical note, this property was formerly used to make dynamite by Giant Chemical in the 1850's and then later by Atlas Chemical until the early 1900's. There is 1 piece of equipment on the Marsh trail donated by Hercules Chemical that formerly was used to manufacture dynamite.

Yes, I realize that some or most of you still have concerns regarding exposure to COVID. But walking out doors is, in my opinion, much safer than going to the grocery or drug store. During the walk/hike we will be maintaining the recommended minimum 6 foot spacing. And if we cannot do that, please bring a face covering to actually wear in the event that appropriate spacing isn't possible. All restrooms have been open for the last month or so, and I don't expect that to change. However, the water fountains are still turned off, so bring an appropriate amount of water, and maybe snacks, for your own needs.

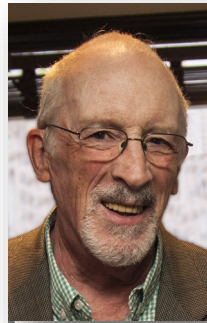
We will meet in the Giant parking lot which is accessible via Atlas Road. From I-80 westbound, take Richmond Parkway toward Richmond bridge, after about 3 miles, take a right on Atlas Road. At the 4 way stop intersection take a left and go about 1+ miles to the Giant parking lot. Please plan on arriving at the Giant lot between 9:45 and 10:00 am.

I look forward to seeing at least a few of you. My wife will most likely also participate so I know there will be two!!

**Mark Curtis**

Cell (925) 360-3449

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



## Mexican Train Dominoes

### Group 3 (TRES)

Jeff Bailly

No Events Planned.



Photo by Jeff Bailly

A few members of Mexican train dominoes 3 group gathering socially but not as a Sir function at Heather Farms. Clockwise from 7 O'clock: Sally Shafer, Lynn Shafer, Alicia Baily, Linda Siljestrom, Steve Siljestrom, Sharon Varner, Judy & Dick Richmond, Pat Salizar, and Walt & Sue Busenius.



## Mexican Train Dominoes

### Group 7 (Siete)

Bob Lucido

We all continue to get together with Zoom once a month on the same date as our MTD game.

We still have fun keeping in touch while keeping virtual distance.

**Bob Lucido**

(925) 899-0974

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

NOT A JOKE:  
WASH YOUR HANDS!



## Bocce John Kendrick

### ATTENTION ALL BOCCE PLAYERS!

I am very sorry to report that the 2020 Bocce season has been cancelled. Our hands were forced on this issue because the Bocce Federation has suspended all play this year at both the Newhall, and Baldwin Courts. As such, your Branch 146 BEC, in a special meeting on May 26<sup>th</sup>, voted to suspend all play for us at the Newhall Courts where we hold our Bocce activity.

In addition, our primary concern is for the health of our players and at this time it is not certain that we can provide a playing environment which will sufficiently protect everyone from the COVID-19 virus. **We will make every effort to ensure play will resume in 2021.**

See you then!

*Under normal circumstances, we play the 2nd and 4th Mondays, through September/October at 8:30 am at the Concord Bocce Courts in Newhall Park, Concord, near the corner of Turtle Creek and Ayers Roads.*

*If you are interested in playing Bocce when we resume play again with your fellow SIR members and guests, please e-mail me [jmkendrick23@gmail.com](mailto:jmkendrick23@gmail.com) and I will add you to the roster. This is especially important if you did not participate with us last year.*

*Rain Cancels Play.*

*Ladies are welcome.*

*Come and join us.*

**John Kendrick** (925) 827-0585  
[jmkendrick23@gmail.com](mailto:jmkendrick23@gmail.com)



## Editor's Note Richard Hockenbrock

Last month I reported that I will be running a series of test meetings for you to try out your system and get comfortable with running ZOOM which you will have to install on your computer or smartphone in order to attend our Branch Luncheon on July 9<sup>th</sup>. The ZOOM test meetings are set up for the following times and you only need to login to one of these meetings to test out your connection.

Click on the Zoom meeting link you want to test.

### Tuesday, June 30<sup>th</sup> at 10-am.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86960616831?pwd=VnN3MzMyUjNsc2JwcUkzOUU0eERtUT09>

Meeting ID: 869 6061 6831

Password: 146146

One tap mobile

+16699006833,,86960616831#,,,,0#,,146146# US (San Jose)

### Wednesday, July 1<sup>st</sup> at 1 pm

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83903875647?pwd=TzM0UWcVU2VFM3pEVm9yRGxRU1pVUT09>

Meeting ID: 839 0387 5647

Password: 146146

One tap mobile

+16699006833,,83903875647#,,,,0#,,146146# US (San Jose)

### Thursday, July 2<sup>nd</sup> at 10 am

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89241325923?pwd=VWE3eGk3d0VYRVpCSDdYaDhvWUwXQT09>

Meeting ID: 892 4132 5923

Password: 146146

One tap mobile

+16699006833,,89241325923#,,,,0#,,146146# US (San Jose)

I also will be sending an eblast to the membership announcing these dates. Remember the date and time of the actual meeting is July 9<sup>th</sup> at 11:30.

**Richard Hockenbrock**—Editor SIR CALL  
Cell / Text: (925) 324-1713

**I PLAY  
BOCCE.  
WHAT'S YOUR  
SUPER POWER?**





## Cooking Lunch & Wine

Paul Dubow

We are planning to restart our group, but on a low-key basis. We held our second Zoom meeting on June 17<sup>th</sup> and six of us discussed various recipes. We printed and distributed them among our members and each of us plan to try the recipes to determine which was the best.

We now will resume face to face meetings, with the first one scheduled for **Bob Spellman's** home. But we will not follow our usual path for the time being. Instead, we will each bring our own food to the meeting and maintain social distancing. But it is an opportunity for us to get together for the first time since January and continue to solve world problems.



## Table Pool

Bill Weinberg / Jim Barry

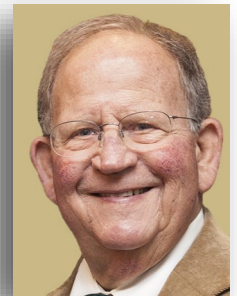
**Pool Play on Hold!**



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

Reported by **Jim Barry**

My Cooking is so fabulous..  
Even the smoke alarm  
cheers me on!



## Explore & Eat **Black Diamond Mine** **Tour**

**Cancelled Now**

(To be rescheduled when the County opens their tours)

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





## Cycling Group

### Larry Kaye

May 29<sup>th</sup>: The boys in Spandex are back. **Ron Lew** our resident BIG FISH, **Bob Lucido** our Activity Chair, **Michael Wolfson** Team Doc, **Bill Ross**, Team Doc, and **Larry Kaye**, today's ride leader, assaulted the Windmills on the Altamont Pass today. We rode our rigs from downtown Livermore thru the back roads of town heading toward the country. After navigating the farm roads, hills, ranches, and the occasional truck full of bales of wheat we saw today's goal—The Windmill Farm.

Climbing into the clouds we traversed some god-awful hills and upon cresting the last nasty, a rattlesnake greeted us. Coiled and ready to spring. Talk about a shock. While our hearts were still in our mouths we managed to get by. **Ron**, being the food guy had already mentally prepared a meal from the snake and formulated a tie from the skin.

Onward we rode. Passing the windmills and hearing them turn was a treat. Down we flew over the pass into what was the actual Altamont pass. Windy as always. Carefully navigating the hills and turns we eventually returned to the flats. The sighs of relief were very audible.

Taking the new roads back to our cars we passed the "LAB." **Bob** cried as it was his last home. The trip ended with a socially correct yak session on the streets. The snake was the subject and it grew as we spoke. Another great SIR ride in the books.

June 4<sup>th</sup>: The man said "heat". So off we went anyway. Today we rode thru Danville noticing all the boarded-up shops. Sad. We rode thru Blackhawk into Diablo and, for some fun, took the El Pintado Loop thru Danville's older areas. Great ranches and huge homes. This was at one time pure ranch and farm. Now.... homes. Big and glossy.

Returning to Alamo before the really big heat settled in. **Moose**, **Michael Wolfson** and **Larry Kaye** partook of this mini-venture. 18 miles of somewhat rolling hills.

June 18<sup>th</sup>: Trying to beat the forecasted heat wave, 7 of us took off early today. **Bill Ross**, **Michael Wolfson**, **Bob Wilkenfeld**, **Bob Lucido**, **Ken Studer**, **Moose Kelly**, and **Larry Kaye**.

This was to be a flat, short ride. We wanted to allow some of our brother SIR guys to return to cycling slowly. This ride accomplished that. 20 flat, somewhat

warm miles and a cup at Peets to finish it off. A nice ride with some good brothers.

June 26<sup>th</sup>: Reading all week about the impending heat wave due we decided to ride early. 7 hearty souls showed up today. **Ron**, **BIG FISH Lew**, **Perry Allen** (new 146 member), **Ken Studer**, **Moose**, **Michael Wolfson**, **Jim Nelson**, and **Larry Kaye**.

Off we went on a 20-miler full of back streets, turns and, of course, some hills. The weather was super, cool, and breezy. We cruised thru Alamo, Diablo, Blackhawk, and Danville. Following the gentle breeze that pushed us along near effortlessly we climbed the hills. On entering a back trail, kept quiet from others, I recalled last year when we did this, some loud nasty sent my way. Today, with a year under the Spandex guys' legs, not a whimper. **Ken** mentioned that the hill was almost "not there". Training and hills, do it.

Back thru Alamo's back roads we flew. Finally, as the day warmed, we completed the cruise.

Another great SIR ride with some terrific guys.





## Book Group

John Pearl

Six members of the SIR 146 Book Group convened via Zoom on Monday morning, June 15th. Thanks to **Mike Farrar** who shared his wife's Zoom application that does not have the 40-minute time

limit.

We discussed one of John Steinbeck's major works, *East of Eden*, which describes the path that two families, the Hamilton's and the Trask's, took to the Salinas Valley and their lives both before their arrival and after, and all their interactions. The author's descriptions of the scene were very complete and, in some ways, magnificent. The valley itself was described beautifully, both the geography and the geology, as well as its history. We also learned that it extends a significant distance to the south of Salinas.

The families included immigrants from Ireland and a farming family from Connecticut. The author's descriptions of his characters were absolutely amazing, both in the physical and mental aspects. There were connections to the Bible, with a "Cain and Abel" situation between two half-brothers that did not end well. The author, born and raised in Salinas, appears as a minor character in one of the main families. An important character turns out to be a person of Chinese descent who is a long-time servant of one the families and serves as the glue helping to raise the two brothers and hold the family together. He is a bit of a philosopher and an educated person.

An important character is the wife of the leader of one of the main families, who turns out to be an evil person. She leaves after giving birth to twins to become a fallen woman. Her boys are twins, but not identical, and the boys are quite different, and are also a bit of a "Cain and Abel" pair.

All these characters are extraordinarily complex, and the author weaves them in and out of the story, showing his amazing writing abilities. There are lots of surprises and unexpected endings, but a feeling of completeness when the reader finishes.

There is a movie built around the second half of the book, but it certainly is not true to it. One gets the general scenes and plots presented in the book, but not the details put down by the by the author. It does show what happens to the Trask family during this period.



## Cribbage

John Pearl

The Cribbage group continues its presence in the on-line world, using the "Cribbage Pro" application, which has both single and multi-player options.

Again, a special thanks to our "Chief Technical Officer and Tournament Facilitator" **Jim Nelson**. Another great job is being done to help keep our group together and functioning during this difficult time. Our on-line tournament No. 4 is in the books! We had 12 members of our group that participated in this round.

The Winners Bracket tournament winners were **John Kendrick**, first place, and **Jim Nelson**, second place. The Consolation Bracket winners were **John Pearl**, first place, and **Roger Rivers**, second place.

We play about every two weeks, and as the month of June ends, we are embarking on tournament No. 5, this time with 14 entrants!

John Pearl

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

For those who are interested in John Steinbeck, there is the Steinbeck Museum and the Steinbeck house in Salinas that are well worth visiting. The Steinbeck house serves a nice lunch. We also learned that the main San Jose Library has a Steinbeck Room, which is devoted to the author.

We meet again, on Zoom, on Monday, July 13<sup>th</sup>, at 8:15 am. Our book will be *Just Mercy*, the story of an imprisoned African American and his lawyer who finds he has been improperly put in jail. This book is No. 7 on Amazon's Top 15 Best Sellers. There is also a movie of the same name available on Amazon Prime.

John Pearl, Interim Chair

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



## Sir 146 MEN'S Hearts

**Bob West**

Well, we have played 10 weeks in a row. Our next online games if you are interested will be Friday, July 3<sup>rd</sup> at 1pm.

### YTD Statistics Summary:

- Still leading in YTD wins are Ray Bland in 1<sup>st</sup> with 18.5, and 2<sup>nd</sup> is **Steve Ybarra** with 15.5, and 3<sup>rd</sup> is **Bob West** with 15.

**Ray Bland** has won an amazing 44% of the games he has played, followed by **Bob Finlayson** at 34% and **Bob West** and **Steve Ybarra** at 31%.

I have added another statistic for "Most Improved Player". This statistic shows the 2020 winning percentage divided by the 2019 winning percentage or "WIN % 2020/2019 Avg". **Frank Lucas** is 1st with 277% as he won 28% of his games in 2019 and 10% in 2020. 2nd is **Steve Ybarra** with 217%, as he won 31% in 2020 and 14% in 2019. 3rd is **Ray Bland** at 154%, as he won 44% in 2020 and 29% in 2019.

**Bob West** leads for most seconds at 16.5. **Steve Ybarra** is 2nd with 15.5, and **Ray Bland** is 3rd with 12.5.

Our YTD average low score leaders are **Ray Bland** with 63.2 points followed by **Bob West** with 69 points and

**Bob Finlayson** with 69.9.

I have added a new comparison, dividing the 2020 Avg score by 2019. YTD best improved in scoring is **Brian McCarthy** who is 80% of his 2019 average. In 2nd are **Frank Lucas** with 82% and 3<sup>rd</sup> is **Ray Bland** with 84%.

We now have a new leader in "shooting the moon" with **Ray Bland** having done it 19 times. **Frank Lucas** is 2nd with 14 and **Rich Lyon** 3rd with 12. The 3 of them were tied with 12, 2 weeks ago, but since then **Ray Bland** has STM 4 times on 6/12 and 3 times on 6/19.

I have also added another YTD stat that is "YTD STM % of games". Total STM divided by games played. Be aware of these statistics and pass and watch carefully when you play those with good ones.

In 1st is **Ray Bland** who "Shoots the Moon" in 45% of games played. 2nd is **Jim Nelson** with 44% and 3rd is **Rich Lyon** with 36%.

**Steve Ybarra** leads the most games played this year at 50, followed by **Bob West** at 49 and **Ron Polivka** at 48.

Please call me at [\(925\) 518-8472](tel:9255188472) or email [robtawest@aol.com](mailto:robtawest@aol.com) if you have any questions or would like to be added to our group's email list, or want to play some Friday at 1 pm.

Note: Results of last 4 meetings are on next 2 pages.

SIR 146 Men's Hearts Statistics														
Date	Group	Game	Bob Finlayson	Bob West	Brian McCarthy	Frank Lucas	Jim Nelson	Rich Lyon	Ron Polivka	Steve Ybarra	George Sabbagha	Ed Smith	Ray Bland	# hands
YTD AVG			69.9	69.0	72.2	76.3	89.3	78.5	86.4	71.6	80.2	73.1	63.2	9.8
2020/2019 Avg			136%	103%	80%	82%	108%	131%	93%	103%	n/a	n/a	84%	
YTD STM			3	4		14	4	12	3	5	1		19	
YTD STM % games			8%	8%	0%	30%	44%	36%	6%	10%	3%	0%	45%	
YTD WINS			12.5	15.0		13	1	7	6	15.5	7.5	1	18.5	
WIN %			34%	31%	0%	28%	11%	21%	13%	31%	23%	25%	44%	
WIN %: 2020/2019 Avg			59%	110%	n/a	277%	50%	25%	13%	217%	n/a	n/a	154%	2020 Most Improved
YTD 2nds			10.5	16.5	1	10.5	4	4	12	15.5	7.5	1	12.5	
Games played			37	49	2	47	9	33	48	50	32	4	42	
Game Key Chart			Avg hands in game				Steve Y. won 4 of 5 games on 6/5, 1st 4 time winner							
1st			Classic hearts				Ray B. won 3 of 3 on 4/24							
2nd			Jack Diam -10 opt				Bob F. won 3 of 3 on 5/15							
3rd			Records of year											

Above is a snapshot of the 2nd page of our hearts statistics summary, which is further discussed above.

May 29th: We had two teams.

Group 1: Participants were **Ron Polivka, George Sabbagha, Ray Bland**, and group leader **Rich Lyon**.

Game 1: **Ray Bland** and **Rich Lyon** were tied thru the 5<sup>th</sup> hand with 19 points. **Ray** was still solidly ahead thru the 9<sup>th</sup> hand with 25 points less than **George**. However, **George** "shot the moon" in the 10<sup>th</sup> hand and then was 1 point ahead of **Ray**. **George** won in the 11<sup>th</sup> hand with 66 points. **Ray Bland** and **Ron Polivka** were tied for 2<sup>nd</sup> with 83 points.

Game 2: **George Sabbagha** was solidly ahead thru the 11<sup>th</sup> hand and was ahead of **Rich Lyon** by 27 points. However, **Rich** "shot the moon" on the 11<sup>th</sup> hand, subtracting 26 points from his score. **Rich** then won the 13<sup>th</sup> and final hand with 53 points. **George** was 2<sup>nd</sup> with 68 points.

Game 3: **Ray Bland** "shot the moon" in the 3<sup>rd</sup> hand and was solidly ahead thru the 5<sup>th</sup> hand with only 19 points. But in the 6<sup>th</sup> hand **Rich Lyon** "shot the moon", however it was not enough. **Ray** won in the 8<sup>th</sup> hand with 46 points. **George** was 2<sup>nd</sup> with 70 points.

Game 4: It was a close game until the 5<sup>th</sup> hand when **Ray Bland** "shot the moon". He handily won in the 7<sup>th</sup> hand with 19 points. 2<sup>nd</sup> was **Ron Polivka** with 44 points.

Game 5: **Ron** and **Ray** were tied at the end of the 8<sup>th</sup> hand. In the 9<sup>th</sup> hand **Rich** "shot the moon" making it practically a 3-way tie. **Rich** won in the 16<sup>th</sup> hand with 73 points. **Ray** was 2<sup>nd</sup> with 78 points. This was our longest game ever at 16 hands.

Group 2: Participants were **Frank Lucas, Steve Ybarra, Bob Finlayson**, and group leader **Bob West**.

Game 1: It was a tight game all the way between **Steve Ybarra** and **Bob West**. So much so that in fact at the end of the 7<sup>th</sup> and final hand both **Steve Ybarra** and **Bob West** were tied for the win with 15 points each. This was only the 2<sup>nd</sup> time winners tied.

Game 2: Game 2 through 11 hands was tied between **Bob West, Frank**, and **Steve**. But **Bob West** won in the 12th hand with 62 points and **Steve** was second with 66 points, **Frank** coming in third with 69 points.

Game 3: **Bob Finlayson** only had 25 points at the end of the seventh hand. In the 8<sup>th</sup> hand **Frank** shot the moon. **Bob West** ended up winning in the 12th hand with 78 points and **Bob Finlayson** came in second with 81 points.

Game 4: It was **Bob Finlayson** all the way who won in the 13th hand with 54 points. **Frank Lucas** came in second with 71 points.

June 5<sup>th</sup>: We had two teams.

Group 1: Participants were **Steve Ybarra, Jim Nelson**, and group leader **Ron Polivka**.

Game 1: **Jim Nelson** and **Steve Ybarra** were tied in the 7<sup>th</sup> hand, but **Steve** pulled out a win in the 9<sup>th</sup> hand with 55 points. **Jim** was 2<sup>nd</sup> with 77 points.

Game 2: **Steve** only had 17 points thru the 6<sup>th</sup> hand. **Jim** "shot the moon" in the 7<sup>th</sup> hand, but it was not enough, and **Steve** won with 78 points in the 9<sup>th</sup> and final hand. **Jim** was 2<sup>nd</sup> with 81 points.

Game 3: **Jim Nelson** was ahead thru 4 hands, but **Steve** pulled ahead and won in the 7<sup>th</sup> hand with 47 points. **Jim** was 2<sup>nd</sup> with 50 points.

Game 4: The game had a 3-way tie thru the 3<sup>rd</sup> hand, when **Ron Polivka** "shot the moon" in the 4<sup>th</sup> hand. **Ron** was still ahead in the 8<sup>th</sup> hand, but **Steve Ybarra** won in the 9<sup>th</sup> hand with 74 points. **Ron Polivka** was 2<sup>nd</sup> with 82 points. At this point, **Steve Ybarra** had won the 1<sup>st</sup> 4 games. He is our first 4 game winner in one event.

Game 5: **Jim Nelson** was ahead thru the 8<sup>th</sup> hand, but in hand 9 **Ron Polivka** pulled ahead by 8 points. However, in the next hand **Jim** retook the lead and won with 88 points. **Ron** was 2<sup>nd</sup> with 101 points.

Group 2: Participants were **Frank Lucas, George Sabbagha, Ray Bland**, and group leader **Bob West**.

Game 1: **George** only had 11 points thru 7 hands. He was able to hold off all challengers thru 14 hands and won with 77 points. **Bob West** was 2nd with 85 points.

Game 2: **Bob West** only had 12 points thru 5 hands, but **Ray Bland** ran the last two hands ending the game by winning with 35 points in the 7th hand. **Bob West** was 2nd with 64 points.

Game 3: It was very competitive and went 14 hands. **George** was ahead with only 43 points in the 11th hand but garnered quite a few in the next 3 hands. However, **Frank** gathered hardly any and held him off winning in the 14th hand with 72 points. **Ray Bland** was 2nd with 93 points. **George** had to leave for games 4&5.

Game 4: **Frank** was ahead throughout, winning in the 10th hand with 47 points. **Ray Bland** was 2nd with 75 points.

Game 5: **Ray Bland** and **Bob West** were tied in the 10th hand, but **Frank** shot the moon in the 13th hand, subtracting 26 points from his score. This left **Bob** ahead of **Frank** by only 1 point in the 12th hand, but **Bob** added 3 points in the 13th and last hand leaving him 2 points behind **Frank**. **Frank** won with 49 points, and **Bob** was 2nd with 51 points.



SIR 146 Men's Hearts Games continued from prior page.

June 12th: We had two teams of 3 each play.

Group 1: Participants were **Steve Ybarra, Frank Lucas,** and group leader **Bob West.**

Game 1: We pretty much had a 3-way tie thru the 10th hand, but **Steve** won in the 12th hand with 85 points. **Frank** was 2nd with 96 points.

Game 2: **Frank** was ahead most of the way and won in the 11th hand with 85 points. **Bob** was 2nd with 90 points.

Game 3: **Steve** was ahead all the way but added icing to the cake by "shooting the moon" in the 8th and final hand. **Steve** won with 24 points. **Bob** and **Frank** were tied for 2nd with 85 points. This was the 1<sup>st</sup> ever tie for 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Game 4: **Frank** was ahead all the way and won in the 6th hand with 20 points. **Bob** was 2nd with 36 points. The 6 hands tied for shortest game of the year, also achieved on 4/24 and 5/1.

Game 5: **Frank** "shot the moon" in the 1<sup>st</sup> hand and was ahead all the way with only 11 points thru the 6th hand. **Steve** made it more interesting by "Shooting the Moon" in the 7th hand. **Frank** won in the 9th hand with 34 points. **Steve** was 2nd with 54.

Group 2: Participants were **Ray Bland, Bob Finlayson,** and group leader **Ron Polivka.**

Game 1: **Ray** was ahead all the way, and to add further pain he "shot the moon" in the 2<sup>nd</sup> hand thereby shortening the game to 6 hands, which he won with 16 points. **Bob Finlayson** was 2<sup>nd</sup> with 47 points. The 6 hands tied for shortest game of the year, also achieved on 4/24 and 5/1 and today also in Group 1.

Game 2: This was a close game between **Ron** and **Bob Finlayson,** but **Bob** pulled out the win in the 9<sup>th</sup> hand with 59 points. **Ron** was 2<sup>nd</sup> with 64 points.

Game 3: **Bob Finlayson** was ahead throughout winning in the 7<sup>th</sup> hand with 24 points. **Ray** was 2<sup>nd</sup> with 44 points.

Game 4: **Ray Bland** was again, ahead the whole way and "shot the moon" in the 5<sup>th</sup> hand. **Ray** won with 35 points in the 7<sup>th</sup> hand. **Ron** was a distant 2<sup>nd</sup> with 96 points.

Game 5: **Bob Finlayson** was ahead throughout winning with 32 points in the 7<sup>th</sup> hand. **Ray** was 2<sup>nd</sup> with 46 points.

Game 6: This was the closest match of the day with **Bob Finlayson** and **Ray Bland** duking it out. **Ray** "shot the moon" in the 2<sup>nd</sup> hand and was ahead in the 8<sup>th</sup> hand by 9 points. However, in the 9<sup>th</sup> and final hand, **Bob** was able to pull ahead and won with 78 point. **Ray** was 2<sup>nd</sup> with 79 points.

Game 7: **Ray** was ahead throughout, and "shot the moon" in the 6<sup>th</sup> hand. **Ray** won with 19 points. A very distant 2<sup>nd</sup> was **Bob Finlayson** with 84 points.

June 19<sup>th</sup>: We had two groups today.

Group 1: Participants were **Steve Ybarra, Bob Finlayson, Frank Lucas,** and group leader **Ron Polivka.**

Game 1: It was a close game between **Steve, Bob and Ron,** thru hand 8. **Ron** ran the 9<sup>th</sup> and final hand winning with 34 points. **Steve** was 2<sup>nd</sup> with 61 points.

Game 2: **Steve** was ahead thru the 9<sup>th</sup> hand, until and 10<sup>th</sup> and final hand when he stopped **Bob** from running, and in repayment **Bob** gave **Steve** the queen of spades. **Ron** won with 47 points, and **Steve** was 2<sup>nd</sup> with 49 points.

Game 3: **Frank** and **Ron** were ahead thru early hands but by hand 8 all were close. **Bob** was ahead in the 10<sup>th</sup> hand by 8 points when **Steve** "shot the moon" and won with 57 points in the 11<sup>th</sup> hand. **Bob** was 2<sup>nd</sup> with 75 points

Game 4: **Bob** was ahead all the way and won with 26 points in the 10<sup>th</sup> hand. **Steve** was 2<sup>nd</sup> with 53 points.

Game 5: Thru 6 hands it was awfully close, but after that **Steve** gradually pulled ahead and had only 33 points in the 9<sup>th</sup> hand. **Frank** "shot the moon" in the 10<sup>th</sup> hand. **Steve** ended up winning with 72 points. **Bob** was 2<sup>nd</sup> with 76 points.

Group 2: Participants were **George Sabbagha, Ray Bland,** and group leader **Bob West.** We finished early at 3:15.

Game 1: **George** was ahead all the way and won in the 8th hand with 21 points. **Bob** was 2nd with 27 points. **George** received 13 points in hand 1, but only 8 points in the next 7 hands.

Game 2: **Ray** ran the 5th hand, and only had 3 points at the end of the 6th hand. However, he had 3 bad hands later. He was ahead thru the 10th hand but lost to **Bob** who won with 66 points in hand 12. **Ray** was 2nd with 74 points. After **Ray** ran the 5th hand, **Bob** only had 12 points thru the next 7 hands.

Game 3: **Ray** ran the 1st hand, and was comfortably ahead the rest of the way, winning in the 9th hand with 43 points. **George** was 2nd with 67 points.

Game 4: **Bob** was ahead all the way and won in the 8th hand with 20 points. **George** was 2nd with 33 points.

Game 5: **Ray** again ran the 1st hand again (did it also in game 3), and the 3rd run today. However, he got a few points shortly thereafter. This might have been the closest game and was nearly tied thru the 5th hand. **Ray** was still ahead of **Bob** thru the 8th hand by 13 points. However, in the 9th and final hand **Ray** added 15 points and **Bob** 2. Therefore, **Ray** and **Bob** tied for 1st and 2nd with 58 points each. This was the 3rd tie for 1st over 2019/2020.



**Men's Duplicate  
Bridge 1**

**Dave Pierce**

No Games Scheduled

**Dave Pierce**  
932-3877



**Couples Duplicate  
Bridge 2**

**Dave Pierce**

No Games Scheduled

**Dave Pierce**  
932-3877  
[dwpi@astound.net](mailto:dwpi@astound.net)



**Couples Party Bridge**

**Tony Greco**

*Couples Party Bridge continues to be placed on-hold and will not re-start until national, state, county and city governmental COVID -19 safety guidelines have been established for home based social activities such as bridge. Once guidelines are established and are considered maintainable and enforceable by Couples Party Bridge, a request to re-start will be submitted to Branch 146 BEC for approval.*

**Tony & Cindy Greco**  
(925) 934-0395  
[almanorwest@sbcglobal.net](mailto:almanorwest@sbcglobal.net)



**Men's Duplicate  
Bridge 2**

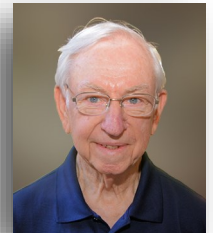
**Bill Schultz**

No Games Scheduled



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

No Games Scheduled



A Catholic guy who is a fanatic bridge player goes to his priest and asks, "Father, I have to know.... Is there bridge in heaven?"

The priest says, "You know, I've never been asked that before. Let me research it and I'll tell you next week."

Next week: "My son, I have good news and bad news.

The good news is, there is bridge in heaven. The bad news is you're playing in a Swiss team tomorrow."



JuicyQuotes.com

THE BEST JOKES TO SHARE





**Poker Group 1**  
Dan O'Sullivan

No Games Scheduled



**Old Money Poker  
Group 6**

Brad Hatcher

No Games Scheduled

Brad Hatcher

Tel: (925) 935-1571

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



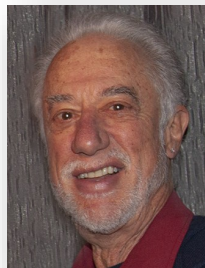
**Poker Group 2**  
Bob Royster

No Games Scheduled



**Poker Group 3**  
Sig Kalteis

No Games Scheduled



**Poker Group 7**

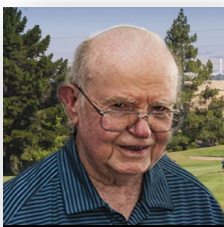
Bob Lucido

No Games Scheduled

*Poker Group 7 meets on the  
third Monday of the month at Bob  
Lucido's house at 6:30 pm*

(925) 899-0974

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



**Poker Group 4**

Rich Hanford

No Games Scheduled



**Poker Group 5**

Bill Roberts

No Games Scheduled





## GOLF

### Ed Marlovits

As noted in the June Sir Call Tuesday Golf item, Boundary Oak is not accepting club reservations at this time. It seems they, like the other courses in the area, are essentially sold out with 300+ rounds a day. The same seems to be true for other area courses. However, in late-breaking news, still not official, it is possible that we can start again on or about July 7<sup>th</sup>.

**Mike Roach** just sent notice that the Green Valley outing planned for July has been canceled. Green Valley is in a different situation from Boundary Oak and Mike relates that they are just not able to get back to business as usual. Looking forward to an outing there in 2021.

### And now a little golf humor:

So, this old married couple goes to marriage counseling. The doctor says to the guy "do you ever tell your wife you love her? Do you ever give her a compliment? Do you ever kiss her passionately?"

So, then the doctor comes around his desk and plants a passionate kiss on the wife's mouth. Then he says to the guy now "Could you do this three times a week?"

So, the guy thinks and says, "possibly. I can drop her off on Monday and Wednesday but not Friday mornings because I always play golf."



## Nine Hole Golf Group

### Verner Laursen

#### **No Play Scheduled until Further Notice**

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

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

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

GOLF



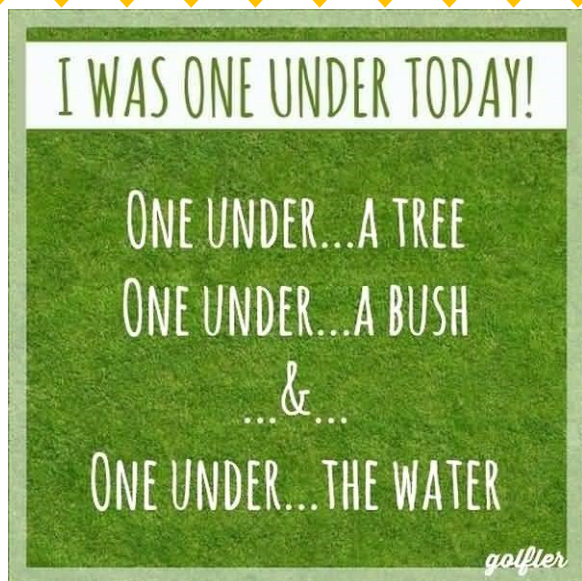
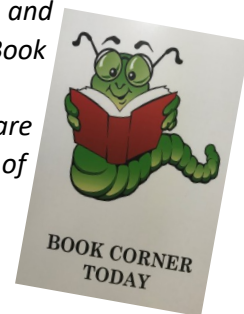
## Book Corner

### Peter Plante

*We hope everyone is getting a chance to read all the books you took out the last time we met.*

*On behalf of Book Corner stalwarts **Dick McElroy, Gary Brown, Frank Barton, Hank James** and myself, we wish you good health and happy reading until the next Book Corner.*

*All contributions are welcomed and we have plenty of books for your next installments.*



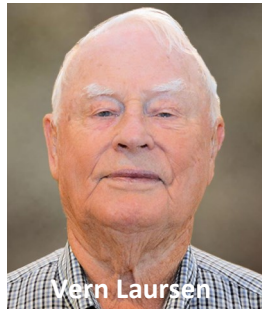
Librarian to customer: I'm sorry, all of our books on Houdini have disappeared.

## Area 16 Events

### Mac User Group (MUG)



Max Burchett



Vern Laursen

Max Burchett and Verner Laursen are long time Mac users (1978) and members of the Diablo Mac User Group. We are available to help you with your Mac questions and problems. If we cannot help you, we will direct you to someone who can help with your Mac questions. If you are planning to buy Apple products, we can provide information on what and where to buy.

In the past we have had meetings at the Thurman Casey library, but the attendance was sparse, so we discontinued those meetings. Then came Zoom and we are now planning to have meetings using Zoom. We do have a list of Mac users within SIRS and we will use that list to inform members of the date and time of Zoom meetings. If you wish to be added to our list, please let Verner know of your desire. We do have attendees from other SIR groups. We plan to announce our meetings to all member of SIR 146.

**Verner**, in the past, led a genealogy meeting at DVMUG that was disbanded for a lack of attendees but is going to start that up again with the use of Zoom. (His family in My Heritage has over 30,000 names.) If you are interested in genealogy and want to be added to that group, please let **Verner** know

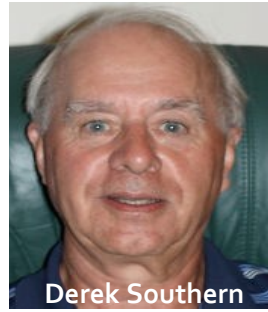
Verner Laursen [Vlaursen@astound.net](mailto:Vlaursen@astound.net)  
Max Burchett [Meburchett@astound.net](mailto:Meburchett@astound.net)

### Area 16 \$ums Investment Group

No Meeting until further notice

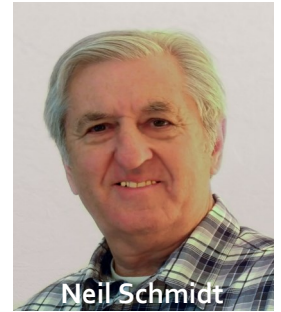
Chair - **Tom Henry** - Br 174 [tomhenry925@gmail.com](mailto:tomhenry925@gmail.com)  
Co-chair **Dave Sutton** - Br 8 - [davesutn@comcast.net](mailto:davesutn@comcast.net)

### Computers and Technology



Derek Southern

PCs



Neil Schmidt

*The next meeting of the SIR Area 16 Computer and Technology Group will be via Zoom on Thursday, July 16<sup>th</sup> starting at 9:30 am. SIR from all branches and their guests, including spouses, are welcome and invited to attend. Plan to join a little early to chat with friends.*

*The July presenter will be Evan Corstorphine, founder and President of Portable CIO, a local IT Design Implementation, management, and support company. Evan has made presentations to our group in the past on topics such as Computer Security, Amazon Alexa products, Internet-based backups using iDrive, etc. His presentations have always been very interesting and enjoyed by our members. It has been a couple years since he has visited us so we have invited him back to give us the latest updates on a variety of computer related topics.*

*Always check out our CAT website at "[a2cat.sirinc2.org](http://a2cat.sirinc2.org)" for information about our meetings and for info on past presentations. **Note that you need to be on the Computer & Technology mailing list to receive the necessary Zoom weblink to attend the meeting.** Send your request to join our mailing list to: [sirarea16cat@gmail.com](mailto:sirarea16cat@gmail.com)*

