



**Jim Stedman**

## Big Sir's Notes

Many kudos go to **Dave Obera** and **Barney Meade** for a wonderful program at the May Ladies Day luncheon.

The ladies showed their knowledge of the golden oldies of the big band era. **Pat**

**Helmick** named all 20 tunes correctly and received the first place prize. All of those who named 16 or more tunes received prizes. There were so many winners that we ran out of prizes. Additional prizes were purchased and delivered by **Dave Obera** after the luncheon. Thanks to **Rich Colombo** for his good work in organizing the event.

Now that summer is upon us it is time for a golf update.

The members of the Golf Committee are:

**Dick Richmond**, Chairman.

**Tom Gorman**, Tuesday Golf.

**Jim Baldrige**, Away Golf.

**Walt Barabash**, Golf Treasurer.

**Bob Wheaton**, Assistant Golf Treasurer.

**Ron Binder**, special golf activities.

**Jeff Baily** and **Rich Colombo** committee members.

They are planning a well rounded golf program. Let **Dick Richmond** or any of the committee members know if you would like to play or if you have any ideas and suggestions for the golf program. We have plenty of room for more golfers at all skill levels. The Branch 146 away tournaments, the Area 2 and State SIR tournaments are now posted on the [sir146.com](http://sir146.com) web site in the **Activities** section under "**Dick Richmond, Golf Tournaments**".

In addition to golf, we have many activities available to us in Branch 146. If you have a particular interest in an activity let the activity chairman know.

## Bocce Ball

### Bob Frankland



2nd and 4th Mondays at 9 am, April through November, at Concord Bocce Courts in Newhall Park, Concord, near the corner of Turtle Creek and Ayers Roads.

There will not be a game on Monday, May 28th.



**Tom Thompson** and his wife **Shirley** at the Ladies Day Luncheon.



## Cribbage

### Al Tufo

Cribbage was hosted by **Barney Meade** for the month of May. **Barney** is in a SIR cooking club and does a great job of watching our calorie intake. He made us a great Tofu Lime Pie that was out of this world. I was waiting to see if he was going to offer me a piece to take home. No such luck. The first tournament was won by no other than **John Pearl**. **Barney** took second. The second tournament was won by the Dublin Kid **Larry Reilly**. The **Italian Stallion** galloped into second. Next month, Cribbage will be hosted at the **Italian Stallion** residence starting at noon.

For your information we have two members in need of your prayers and good wishes. I really believe they help. **Bryant Fischback** has shown some improvement from his stroke, and **Langley Erickson** has started chemotherapy treatments as I write. CIAO, Tufo



**Jeff Baily**

## Little Sir's Corner

Our June speaker will be **Jerry Holcombe** who will talk about "Demystifying the Contra Costa County Grand Jury".



## Duplicate Bridge **George Zunich**

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

In May, Sir **Bob Yolland** hosted 4 tables of Duplicate Bridge at his home.

The results were as follows: **Fred Kovar** took 1<sup>st</sup> Place with 49.5 points. **Fred Bolton** came in 2<sup>nd</sup> Place with 43.5 points. **Jim Jackson** was in 3<sup>rd</sup> Place with 39.5 points and **Bob Donahue** came in fourth.

The next match will be held on June 18<sup>th</sup>.

Contact **George Zunich** @ 376-4439 for information.

We welcome interested members.

## Area 2 Computers and Technology Group

**PHIL GOFF**, Chairman, 831-3692, philgoff@yahoo.com

**DICK CURRY**, Asst. Chairman, 376-5541,

racorinda@pacbell.net

**We will not have a meeting in June.**

Please join us on July 19th for our next meeting. We are planning to have a presentation on the advantages and disadvantages of using Microsoft's new Operating System, Vista.

Whether you are a beginner or a seasoned user, we try to offer something for everyone. We serve coffee and pastries and all SIR members and their guests are welcome.

## SongSirs

**Harry Tutton**



The SongSirs were happy to welcome three new singers during the last several months.

They are: **Chuck Kistenmacher, Bob Lipscomb** and **Lynn Shafer**.

The SongSirs will sing a musical program for the Mt. Diablo Retired Teachers Association on June 6th at Boundary Oak Dining Room. We hope to give the teachers some ideas about how to enjoy retirement! If you would like to join up and sing along, please contact **Harry Tutton** to learn about the practice times and coming performances. Let's keep singing!

Meetings of the Area 2 Computer and Technology Group are held the 3rd Thursday of each month (except June and December) from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m., at the Social Hall of the Walnut Creek United Methodist Church, 1543 Sunnyvale Ave. (off N. Main, one block north of the Treat/Geary/N. Main intersection).

## Tuesday Golf **Walt Barabash**

*April 17 First Flight: Ron Binder, Jack Calloway and Ken Kratz. Second Flight: Joe Fitzsimmons, Jim Brown and Doug Cook. Closest to the Pin on Hole No. 2: Ken Kratz. Closest to the Pin on Hole No. 12: Jack Calloway. Low Gross: Jim Burk with 78.*

*April 24 First Flight: Joe Fuchs, Ron Binder and Al Zamolo. Second Flight: Ron Plachy, Mitch Mitchell and Joe Fitzsimmons. Closest to the Pin on Hole No. 2: Joe Fuchs. Closest to the Pin on Hole No. 12: Bill Hanson. Low Gross: Jim Burk with 81.*

*May 1 First Flight: Vince Rettew, Joe Fuchs and Jim Burk. Second Flight: Bill Weinberg, Stu Somerville and Bill Becker. Closest to the Pin on Hole No. 2: Ken Kratz. Closest to the Pin on Hole No. 12: Steve Dawkins. Low Gross: Jim Burk with 78.*

*May 8 First Flight: Bob White, Bob Mehus and Gene Diana. Second Flight: Bill Knapp, Bob Wheaton and Bill Hanson. Closest to the Pin on Hole No. 2: Joe Fuchs. Low Gross: Bob White with 80.*



## Sirmoncats **Jim Helmick**



The Sirmoncats are alive and well and planning to participate with the SongSirs at a gig for retired teachers on June 6. We still need some more players.

Call **Jim Helmick** at 376 6042.



## Bowling **Larry Mitchell**

There are two tournaments coming up in June which may be of interest. Both will have Singles and Doubles Events. The first is in Pinole at Pinole Lanes on June 6th and 7th. The second is in Paradise at Tall Pines Lanes on June 18th and 19th. For more details or to get a sign up form please contact me, **Larry Mitchell** at 925 798-

## Table Pool **Bill Weinberg**

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



### The Wisdom of Will Rogers

- If you're ridin' ahead of the herd, take a look back every now and then to make sure it's still there.
- Never kick a cow pie on a hot day.
- Never slap a man who's chewin' tobacco.
- Always drink upstream of the herd.
- The quickest way to double your money is to fold it over and put it back in your pocket.
- Never miss a good chance to shut up.
- If you get to thinking' you're a person of some influence, try orderin' somebody else's dog around.

## Garden Club

Chuck Bobinecz

1st Thursday at 9:30 am at the Walnut Creek Presbyterian Church, 1801 Lacassie Ave., in the Multipurpose Room, unless otherwise announced.



Our June 7<sup>th</sup> meeting will be at the Walnut Creek Presbyterian Church. The main topic will be on the dreaded “T” word. It is something we need to know about. It does not stand for terrorist but termites. Sir **Garth Cummings** has arranged for a speaker from a leading local termite company on this subject.

Our July meeting has been rescheduled to July 26<sup>th</sup>. There will be a BBQ (11am to 3pm) at the home of Sir **Chuck Bobinecz**. I will furnish the sausage and suds. Sir **Lew Thomson** is coordinating this event. Please contact him by July 23rd in regards to what you want to bring. Wives and guests are welcome.

*Garden tip of the month:* The heat is on. To water well, timing is everything. In warm weather, water in the morning to give the plants a chance to drink up before the hot sun or strong winds evaporate the moisture.



Fred Bolton and Jim Stedman

## Fishing

Sal Costanza

4th Thursday at 8:30 am. at Diablo Creek Golf Course (Legends Grill). North Port Chicago Hwy



The Lake Shasta trip netted 17 nice rainbow trout. The fly fishing trip to the Pitt River area had mixed results. The Pitt River was not productive but Duncan Lake produced a strong morning bite. Other areas fished were Hat Creek which fished well; Baum Lake was slow; Lake Margaret was productive but fish were small. Individual reports from Delta were mixed.

All SIR members are welcome and encouraged to participate in fishing trips as well as the monthly meetings. Next meeting, June 28th. Come, find out what's on the schedule.



## Health Matters Physical and Mental

The following articles were copied with permission from the *University of California Wellness Letter*. 1-800-829-9170.

*These articles are not intended to provide specific medical advice. That should be obtained from your physician*

### THE DATING GAME

Is it okay to use medication after its expiration date? Does it become ineffective or dangerous or is the date simply a marketing ploy to get you to buy more? There is disagreement even among professionals. Much depends on the specific drug and how it was stored.

Required on all drugs, expiration dates guarantee that a medication is potent and safe through that date. Most are one to three years after manufacture; some may be extended, up to five years. When medications are rebottled by the pharmacist, many states require that they get an automatic one-year expiration date. Expiration dates do not mean, however, that the medication is *not* effective or safe.

There is, after all, little incentive for manufacturers to test drugs to see how long they really will last, since longer expiration dates would cut down on sales.

“In many cases, drugs are stable longer than the expiration date,” says Dr. Todd Cecil at the U.S. Pharmacopoeia. “But that’s under ideal situations and consumers don’t store things under optimal conditions.” Government testing found that most drugs remained stable for an average of 5.5 years after expiration when sealed in their original packaging. Drugs begin to break down, however, after bottles are opened and when exposed to heat, humidity, light and temperature fluctuations. Many experts agree that it’s not worth taking a chance, especially when the drug is essential. And some essential drugs do degrade relatively quickly---nitroglycerin, insulin, and liquid antibiotics, for instance. Liquid medications and those that require refrigeration are generally less stable. There's no good evidence, however, that drugs become harmful past their expiration dates.

**Take or toss?** Store drugs in a cool, dry, dark place, like the pantry, away from the stove, not in the bathroom or in your car, and not in your pocket for extended periods of time. Refrigerate them, if indicated. Keep the silica packet, which helps remove moisture in the pill bottle. (The cotton only stops the pills from bouncing around during shipping.) It’s safest to discard expired medication, especially if it is essential for your health, and any that is discolored, has a strong smell, or has turned powdery. It may be okay to use pain relievers, cold remedies, sleeping pills, and topical skin creams that are out of date, even if they may be somewhat less effective.

**Keep in mind:** *You shouldn’t have many expired drugs anyway. Except for medication intended for occasional use, you either must finish a prescription (such as antibiotics) to fully treat a condition, or you take drugs every day, long term, which means no leftovers. And you shouldn’t self-treat with old medications you may have lying around unless you are certain that it is the right drug for your current condition.*



## Sunshine Otto Wilson

Phone: 825-1943

E-mail: [ottowilson@astound.net](mailto:ottowilson@astound.net)



While playing golf on May 2nd, Sir **Rod Sharretts** fell and broke his nose. Other than loosing his dignity, he is doing well but did not finish the game. Ask him if he counted the last hole on his scorecard.

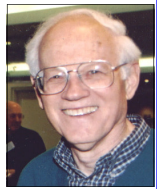
Sir **Lang Erickson** has started his chemo treatments on May 9th. He has lost a lot of weight but surely has a great positive attitude. We wish him a speedy recovery.

Sir **Doug Pederson** is now home but has developed pneumonia. He is expected to recover and be back into action soon.

Sir **Robert Van Luchene** is undergoing tests for throat cancer. He is one of our new members, inducted this April.

## Couples Duplicate Bridge Lo McCarley

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



**Lynn and Dasha Freeman** hosted Duplicate Bridge on May 16th. **Dean and Daphne Merritt** and **Carl and Anne Johnson** tied for 1st place with 34.5 points. **Bill and Margaret Rees** were 3rd with 34 points and **Jim Brown** and **Barbara Lundblade** came in 4th with 33.5 points.

**Carl and Anne Johnson** will host the next bridge on June 20th.



## Cooking Dave Johnson

1st Monday at various members' homes.

In May, we met at **Dave Johnson's** but dispensed with our annual dance around the May Pole and dined "al fresco" at the historic Stanley Dollar Mansion. The appetizer was a vegetable bruschetta mix on slices of bread. **Barney** assisted by cutting delicate slices of bread and the index finger of his left hand. This was followed by select, imported cold cuts of meats and a variety of foreign cheeses and fresh fruit. Dessert was chocolate biscotti and hot coffee (which our host neglected to bring). There were three cases of caffeine withdrawal but we toured the mansion anyway.



**Jim Jackson** and his wife, **Caroline** at the Ladies Day Luncheon



## Tres' Gourmet Lew Thompson

The April meeting of Tres Gourmet was held at **Bing Crosby's** in Walnut Creek where we wined and dined our significant others. The food, the wine, and the service were all excellent. The live band didn't use 10 kilo amp speakers, so the music was most enjoyable and their tempo even allowed some dancing. It was a great social evening for all. The next meeting is at **Mike Cavallo's** on Monday, May 21st.

## Investment\$

### Dave Munson

4th Wednesday, 8:00am (breakfast starts at 7am) at he Diablo Creek Golf Course (Legends Grill), North Port Chicago Highway and Highway 4, Concord

The June \$ums meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 27th at Diablo Creek Golf Course, Grill Room. Our speaker will be Mr. **David Gemmer**, Founder and Managing Principal of Gemmer Asset Management LLC. Mr. **Gemmer** founded the company in 1992 and it is currently located in Walnut Creek. You can learn more about the company and its investment strategies at their website: [www.gemmerllc.com](http://www.gemmerllc.com).

He will be speaking to the group about the importance of asset allocation in a well structured portfolio.

**Dave Munson**, Chairman, \$ums in Retirement, SIR Area 2 Financial Group.

## Theatre

### Bill Hansen



It is the Tony award winning play "A day in Hollywood, A night in the Ukraine". It is funny and even a bit outrageous. It is playing at the Willows in Concord. We have reserved tickets for June 28, 2007 at 7:30 PM. Tickets are \$25 each. Send your check to **Bill Hansen**, 3098 Manzano Drive, WC 94598, made out to Sir Branch 146. You'll love it.



## Social Don Nunn

The next Dinner Dance will be on Wednesday, October 3rd. Watch for sign-up forms in future editions of SirCall.

Editor, A group of concerned SIR believe we have the right to express our collective feelings about the proposed membership increase to our fellow SIR. Please run the following letter.

Thanks, **Don Nunn.**

*See below...Ed*

### **Response to another proposed Membership Increase**

SIR,

We do not favor an increase in membership. The purpose of this letter is to present the views of a number of concerned members regarding yet another approach to increase the level of Branch 146 membership.

As you are aware, last year our membership was increased by 30 members or 15%.

This was proposed to be the solution to keeping those on the waiting list too long. Now we are subjected to another increase to solve the “aging problem” of SIR in general and particularly of our branch.

Quoting from one of our members, **“Every Branch of SIR is a living, breathing entity unto itself depending on the energy and enthusiasm of its members. It is a natural and expected fact that not all branches survive---not because the state organizations failed them, but because they failed themselves. Most branches die of lethargy of the members. Our concern concentrates on one branch---Branch 146! Our concern can only concentrate on one branch---Branch 146!”**

Another ex-Big Sir states, **’what we managed to do over the years is develop our own 146 culture. It is, or was, a culture where everyone felt comfortable. Of late we have witnessed a slow erosion of that culture as we have expanded our membership. It is not just that is harder to move around or the new unfamiliar faces that now grace our hall. It is much more subtle. It is the sense of something missing, a certain coercive effort that seems to be eating at the organization, leading so many to say – “Find another way before it is too late.”**

The State Rule 75 clearly states **“Each branch shall establish a maximum membership which shall not exceed the capacity of the meeting place to comfortably accommodate the members, subject to the rules as established by the local law for such control.”**

Many have complained about the slow food service, the exclusion of some members at various functions and to move the Atrium bar to the Bistro bar.

This is a direct result of the recent increase in growth. If we continue, it is very possible that we will have to move from Boundary Oak to another and more expensive venue for our luncheons or change to a buffet style service.

Several members of the past Executive Committee have stated to us in writing that when they agreed to the previous increase of 30 members, “there would be a two year waiting period to properly fairly evaluate the increase”. The last member of that group was inducted in March of 2006, a little over one year ago.

The front page of our web page states-**“This branch is maintained at 240 – large enough to support many activities, yet small enough for men to forge lasting friendships and associations.”**

When does quantity start to override quality?

The membership should not be increased!

Please contact your Executive Committee members and inform them of your feelings.

To: All members of Branch 146

From: **Jim Stedman**, Big Sir and **Jeff Baily**, Little Sir

In the April SirCall we outlined the need to cap branch average age at 76.5 and to replenish our supply of younger members. Before developing a plan for implementation of policy that will control average age we talked with the former Big Sirs and other members for ideas. A plan emerged. It is to increase the maximum membership cap from 240 to 270 and induct about 3 new members per month for ten months each year. The increase in the membership cap will provide room for gradual growth so that we won't have to revisit an increase in membership cap in the near future. This plan is based upon the fact that over the last one and one half years we have inducted an average of 3 new members per month. The branch average age did not increase during that period and we inducted a good supply of new younger members---factors that are extremely important to the long term viability of our branch.

To test member support for this plan Former Big Sir **Dick DeVoe**, Little Sir **Jeff Baily** and Big Sir **Jim Stedman** have had conversations with 240 of you during the period April 22, 2007 to the present. We gave you the background information described above. One hundred and ninety of you (who represent 78% of our 245 members) support the above plan to increase the membership cap to 270 and to induct about 3 men per month. In addition, 6 of you support 260, 1 of you supports 250 and 8 of you are neutral.

Thank you for taking the time and effort to study and think about the aging issue. Your overwhelming endorsement of this plan is the beginning of the process to control branch aging and keep our beloved Branch vibrant and appealing to all men who may be deciding whether SIR Branch 146 is to become a part of their retirement lives.

## Away Golf

Jim Baldrige



**Los Positas/Pleasanton** is Thursday May 31. Cost \$40 SIR; \$38 Guests. 10:00am start.

As of this writing Las Positas is about half full. I put out an e-mail to our golfers and sent an invitation to the golfers in Br#19 who we carry on our Br#146 Index Roster in hopes of improving the turnout. I also told the course that I will continue to recruit players up until the day of play. I've asked **Ron Binder** (925-939-8073) to collect names and checks as I will be traveling from May 22 through May 29.

**Area 2 State Qualifier Franklin Canyon**, May 17.

This is the first level of qualification for the SIR State Championship that will be played at Poppy Hills/ Monterey on November 5. Br#146 had 13 players in this tournament. Seventy six players from 5 branches competed in the event. Congratulations to **Jim Stedman**, **Al Zamolo** and **Bob Mehus** who qualified to go on to the next tournament level that will be played at Boundary Oak on August 22. Players who win in August will go on the State SIR finals in November.

**State Reno Tournament:** 1st week 6/11/07; 2nd week 6/18/07. These are each a week long stay in Reno with a 3 day Scramble event each week. I understand this event is full. They may be taking wait list names to back fill any cancellations. **Dick Richmond** will be hosting one of the weeks.

**Hiddenbrooke/Vallejo**, Thursday, July 5. SIR \$47; Guests \$45 start 10:00am. The Boundary Oak Women's groups have played this course and highly recommend it. I will circulate a flyer at Tuesday Golf the first week of June and at our June Luncheon.

**Area 2 Team Scramble**, Friday, July 20 at Franklin Canyon, 7:30am Shotgun. Each branch in Area 2 sends teams of A,B,C & D players to this competition., **Dick Richmond** will put teams together for our branch.

**Blue Rock West/Vallejo**, Thursday, July 26; SIR \$33, Guests \$31. 11:00am start I will circulate fliers in early June.

Questions: **Jim Baldrige** 925-689-9232 or **Dick Richmond** 925-947-1167

### Pun of the month

A group of chess enthusiasts checked into a hotel and were standing in the lobby discussing their recent tournament victories. After about an hour, the manager came out the office and asked them to disperse.

"But why?" they asked, as they moved off.

Because, he said, "I can't stand chess-nuts boasting in an open foyer".

### Forget Your Anniversary?

Jim was in trouble. He forgot his Anniversary and wife was really angry. She told him, "Tomorrow morning I expect to find a gift in the driveway that goes from 0 to 200 in 6 seconds, AND IT BETTER BE THERE!"

The next morning Jim got up early and left for work.

When his wife awoke, she looked out the window and sure enough, there was a gift-wrapped box in the driveway.

Confused, the wife dressed, ran out to the driveway grabbed the box and opened it. In it was a brand new bathroom scale.

Jim has been missing since Friday!

Truly a Special Day! Ladies Day, May 2007



Big smiles from our Treasurer, **Bill Snyder** and his wife, **Donna**.



**George Knies** and his wife, **Anne**.  
What a great picture Rich.



Our photographer, **Rich Ahlf** and his wife, **Shirley**. Who took this one?



**Ruth** and **Jim Adams** shared some moments  
with **Wesley** and **Carla Hauschildt**.



**Mike Varner and his wife Sharon visiting with Ron and Anne Plachy.**



Having a great time!  
**Don and Madelyn Nunn with Al and Rosalie Milano.**



**Pete Gates and his wife Ann.**



**Bill Knapp and Corrine Martin.**



## Luncheon Attendance **Bill Root**



*SIR Luncheon is the 2nd Thursday of every month at Blake's Restaurant, Boundary Oak*

Call me by Friday noon prior to the Luncheon at 943-6194 if, for any reason, you are unable to attend. If I am not home, press 3 and leave your name, badge number and phone number. **Be sure you call!**

### Waiting List:

If you are going to attend, you must call by Friday prior to the Thursday Luncheon.

### SIR bringing a guest:

Call by Friday prior to the Thursday Luncheon and leave your name and the name of your guest.

Regular members missing 3 consecutive meetings without notifying their attendance chairman, giving a valid reason, or attending less than 6 meetings in the last 12 months shall be notified by letter of their pending membership termination. Certification of another Branch meeting will be considered as credit to attendance record.

## Luncheon Menu



\*House salad, freshly baked rolls and butter

\*Entrees including vegetables

- **Chicken Marsala with buttered noodles.**

- **Baked Mahi-Mahi with Pineapple relish and herb roasted potatoes.**

\*Daily dessert special, regular or decaffeinated coffee and tea.

## Membership

**Jim Jackson**



Branch 146 Statistics: Members 240, HLMs 5, Waiting List 13, Inactive 7.

May Attendance: Members 122, HLMs 2, Waiting List 1, Inactive 0, Ladies 125, Excused N/A, Unexcused N/A. Total May Attendance: 250.

### Status Changes:

Inducted: None

Added to Waiting List: None

Inactive: None

Current 15 Man Waiting List (prioritized): **Dan Costello, Ed Best, Jim Koeppen, Hugh Ferguson, John Pearl, Bob Lyman, Bill Hartman, Ken Costello, Louis Schrepel, Dick Woodman, Charles Clark, Benjamin Yeraka and Peter Bishop.**

- The nice thing about being senile is that you can hide your own Easter eggs.
- It's scary when you start making the same noises as your coffeemaker.
- Always try to be modest, and be proud of it!

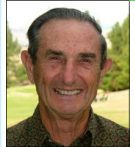
## Poker Club #1 **Frank McNamee**



**Jim "Chicago" Brown** replaced **Frank**, who was in China. Big winners were **Dan O'Sullivan** and **Bill Cammerer**.

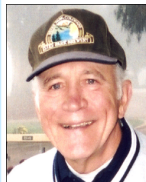
**Frank McNamee** is the next host.

## Poker Club #2 **Al Zamolo**



The Poker 2 Group met in April at **Al Zamolo's**. For the past several sessions the host has been the big winner and **Al** was no exception. Let's hope at the next session, on May 21st at **Jim Brown's**, that the string will be broken.

## Poker Club #4 **Chuck Bobinecz**



Poker Club #4 will not meet in May but we plan to resume in June at the home of **Sir Skip Thomas**.



**Ray Yonce, Jeff Baily, Donna Yonce and Janet Fredrickson** enjoyed a visit at the May Luncheon

### **More Wisdom of Will Rogers:**

- Don't squat with your spurs on.
- Good judgment comes from experience, and a lot of that comes from bad judgment.
- There's two theories to arguin' with a woman. Neither one works.
- When you give a lesson in meanness to a critter or a person, don't be surprised if they learn their lesson.
- If you find yourself in a hole, the first thing to do is stop digging'.



## Party Bridge **Fred Bolton**

*1st Monday at 10 am at various members' homes. Contact Fred Bolton for details. Bring a lunch.*

We played 4 tables of bridge at the home of **Bill Rees** on May 7th. First place went to **Carl Johnson** with 5120 points, second to **Bob Donahue** with 4820, third to **Dick Johnson** and fourth to **Fred Kovar**. Our next game will be hosted by **Rich Ahlf** on June 4th.

## Travel Opportunities

### Bob Spellman



**June 20, 2007--SIR DAY with the Oakland A's.** Join your fellow SIR members for a fun day at the old ballpark. The A's will be playing the Cincinnati Reds with the game starting at 12:35pm. Friends are welcome. Ticket cost is \$24.00 for Field Level (shade) and \$21.00 for Plaza Level Infield. Pick up order forms at our monthly luncheon or contact **Bob Spellman**, 934-8428.

**June 27-29, 2007--Boulder Creek Golf.** Our annual trip to Boulder Creek Golf and Country Club includes 2 nights lodging, 3 days of golf, and dinner on Thursday night. Cost \$205 for a golfer and \$135 for a non-golfer. Contact **Charlie Kiser** at 274-1575.

**July 11, 2007--Angel Island Day Trip.** We will travel by Motorcoach to Pier 41 where we will board the ferry to Angel Island for a fascinating journey with docent, into Angel Island's military history and cultural past on a 5 mile Tram Tour. We will have a hosted lunch at the Angel Island Cove Café. After lunch we will depart the island and cruise back to Pier 41. There will be free time when we return to visit Pier 39 to shop and browse before returning home. Cost \$75.00 per person. Contact **Bob Spellman** 934-8428. Don't miss out. Get your reservations in, first come first serve.

**Aug. 9, 2007--SIR DAY with the San Francisco Giants.** Watch the Giants battle the Washington Nationals at 12:35pm. Bring your family and friends. SIR will be celebrating the SIR 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary at the ballpark. Cost for lower Box Seats \$34.00, View Box Seats \$28.00, View Reserved Seats \$20.00 and Leftfield Bleachers \$18.00. Pick up order forms at the next monthly luncheon or Contact **Bob Spellman** 934-8428

**Sept. 6-17, 2007--Russian Waterways.** A 12-day adventure cruising from St. Petersburg to Moscow. Explore beyond tourism's reach in towns such as Uglich, Yaroslavl and Mandraga. Pre-cruise option to Helsinki and Tallinn also offered. Tour includes airfare, luggage handling, transfers, all meals, sightseeing tours, entrance fees, and tips for guides and drivers. Cost is \$3555 to \$3855 p/p d/o. Contact **Bob Spellman** at 925-934-8428.

**Sept. 29-Oct. 14, 2007--Cruise the Panama Canal.** Ports of call are Cabo San Lucas, Puerto Vallarta, Acapulco, Cartagena, Puerto Limon and Key West. Trip includes transportation to airport, round trip air fare, all port charges and government fees, drivers, skycaps and an on board cocktail party. Price start at \$2140 pp/do. Sponsored by Branch #8. Call **Bob Hagler** at 934-7620.

**Apr 3-15, 2008 --The Islands of Hawai'i.** Our 50<sup>th</sup> SIR

Anniversary trip is back again, better than ever. We will fly to Honolulu and enjoy two nights at a deluxe hotel before boarding Norwegian Line's new ship, the *Pride of America*. After cruising the Islands for 7 days we cruise back to San Francisco, passing under the Golden Gate on the morning of April 15. Pick up a Flyer at the next meeting to learn more about the many features of this great trip. Contact **Bob Spellman** for more info at 934-8428.

**Oct 6-19, 2008 Danube Dream.** Glide past fairy-tale castles and medieval villages aboard the MS Switzerland II riverboat traveling the second longest river in Europe. Take in views of the Czech Republic, Germany, Austria, Slovakia and Hungary. Enjoy a 2 night stay in Budapest followed by a 7 night cruise on the Danube and 3 night stay in Prague. Cost \$3415 to \$3660. Sponsored by Branch 8. Call **Bob Hagler** for more information at 934-7620.



## Wine Tasting ... Dale Haukland

### June 20<sup>th</sup>, 2007 A Healdsburg Wine and Dine Adventure

**Note Date Change 7 spaces left!**

We will taste wines at Hawley winery, a delightful family owned winery. We will also have a box lunch at their facility. Then it is on to the tasting rooms of Rosenblum Cellars and lastly some free time in Healdsburg before heading home. The total per person for the bus trip, tasting and lunch is \$40. If you have any questions, please call me at 820-0189. Meet at the Park and Ride on Mitchell Dr. in Walnut Creek at 8:30 A.M. Bus to leave promptly at 8: 45 A.M.

See you on the bus.

**Make your check payable to SIR Branch 146** and mail to **Dale Haukland**, 148 Santiago Drive, Danville, Ca. 94526 by June 7,2007.

	Lunch	Selec- tions	And num- ber
Names	Ham	Turkey	Veggie

# of people \_\_\_\_\_ X \$40 = \_\_\_\_\_ (amount enclosed)

SIR State Officers		
State President	<b>Tom Ross</b>	
Region Director	<b>Glen Schimelpfenig</b>	
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Big SIR	<b>Jim Stedman</b>	932-1636
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Director	<b>Harry Tutton</b>	933-9658
Director	<b>Al Zamolo</b>	932-7924
Activities Coord.	<b>Dick DeVoe</b>	932-5546
Attendance/Lunch	<b>Bill Root</b>	943-6194
Audit	<b>Tom Thomson</b>	945-6337
Badges	<b>Ken Richter</b>	689-6217
Bocce Ball	<b>Bob Frankland</b>	284-7222
Bowling	<b>Larry Mitchell</b>	798-5440
Bridge-couples	<b>Lo McCarley</b>	935-3939
Bridge-duplicate	<b>George Zunich</b>	376-4439
Bridge-party	<b>Fred Bolton</b>	932-1580
Candy Sales	<b>Mitch Mitchell</b>	686-0537
Chaplain	<b>Chuck Eichten</b>	673-7215
Cooking	<b>Dave Johnson</b>	945-8636
Cooking Too	<b>Rich Hanford</b>	933-9237
Tres' Gourmet	<b>Lew Thompson</b>	686-6880
Cribbage	<b>Al Tufo</b>	798-4129
Fishing	<b>Sal Costanza</b>	689-7647
Gardening	<b>Chuck Bobinecz</b>	939-8740
Golf	<b>Dick Richmond</b>	947-1167
Golf Scheduling	<b>Tom Gorman</b>	685-9721
Golf Treasurer	<b>Walt Barabash</b>	935-2964
Away Golf	<b>Jim Baldrige</b>	689-9232
NCGA-Handicaps	<b>Dick Richmond</b>	947-1167
Greeters	<b>Ed Mendelsohn</b>	935-0592
Historian	<b>Jack Calloway</b>	933-7998
Honorees	<b>Dick DeVoe</b>	932-5546
Membership	<b>Jim Jackson</b>	687-7052
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Asst. Editor	<b>Jim Jackson</b>	687-7052
Mailing	<b>Bill Cammerer</b>	932-7887
Photographer	<b>Rich Ahlf</b>	672-2514
Nominating	<b>Garth Cummings</b>	820-0745
Pianist	<b>Dave Obara</b>	932-2584
Poker Club 1	<b>Frank McNamee</b>	672-3443
Poker Club 2	<b>Al Zamolo</b>	932-7924
Poker Club 3	<b>Ron Plachy</b>	932-6072
Poker Club 4	<b>Chuck Bobinecz</b>	939-8740
Social	<b>Don Nunn</b>	934-5214
SongSirs	<b>Harry Tutton</b>	933-9658
Director	<b>Rod Sharretts</b>	372-6566
Sirmoncats	<b>Jim Helmick</b>	376-6042
Sunshine	<b>Otto Wilson</b>	825-1943
Table Pool	<b>Bill Weinberg</b>	682-0962
Theatre	<b>Bill Hansen</b>	939-4951
Travel	<b>Bob Spellman</b>	934-8428
Asst Travel	<b>Charlie Kiser</b>	274-1575
Veterans	<b>Lynn Freeman</b>	691-1186
Walkers	<b>John Lewis</b>	825-3561
Webmaster	<b>Jeff Baily</b>	906-0521
Wine Tasting	<b>Dale Haukland</b>	820-0189



## Walkers John Lewis

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



- June 1 Cowell Park Trail East**-Meet at Cowell Park Parking in Concord. Paved - Level - No Shade  
Coffee at Sweet Affair, Ygnacio Plaza.
- June 8 Pleasant Hill West** - Meet at Shopping Center Parking Lot near intersection of Morello and Taylor. Trail starts across Morello. Paved - Level - Some Shade  
Coffee at Starbucks (Pleasant Hill Plaza).
- June 15 McCarley's Mile** - Meet at Arbolado Park. Walk is towards Ygnacio Valley Road, alongside the golf course. Paved - Level - No Shade  
Coffee at Sweet Affair, Ygnacio Plaza
- June 22 Walnut Creek Ygnacio Plaza East** - Meet at Ygnacio Plaza Parking at Ygnacio and San Carlos, across the street from Heather Farms. Paved - Level - Some Shade  
Coffee at Sweet Affair, Ygnacio Plaza.
- June 29 Walden Park West** - Meet at Walden Park on Oak Road, north of Ygnacio Valley Road. Paved - Level - No Shade  
Coffee at La Scala, Civic Drive and Locust Street in Walnut Creek.

Thanks to **Bill Cammerer**, **Bob Madge** and **Jim Hanck** for folding and labeling, to **Rich Ahlf** for photography, to **Bill Cammerer** for mailing, and to a fellow SIR for proofreading.

### Past Big SIR's

1989 Charles Unfried  
1990 Gill Rhodes  
1991 Gene Hackett  
1992 Walt Entelman  
1993 Kap Kaprielian  
1994 Joe Jansen  
1995 Bob Walton  
1996 Dick DeVoe  
1997 Warren Boero  
1998 Don Nunn  
1999 Dave Valladao  
2000 Jack Calloway  
2001 Bill Hansen  
2002 Fred Kovar  
2003 Bob Yolland  
2004 Doug Cook  
2005 Ray Kan  
2006 Garth Cummings



### Curious about how this SirCall bulletin is prepared? It's as easy as 1,2,3...and 4.

- Articles are sent to the Editor by individual activity Chairs and others. These are generally sent by e-mail and are "copied and pasted" into the master program, Microsoft Publisher. Publisher is a very user friendly platform. Photos by **Rich Ahlf** and others are also handled electronically and pasted in.
- After proofreading, the Publisher file is easily converted to an Acrobat file and e-mailed to a print shop and also to the Webmaster, **Jeff Baily**, for posting on our Website.
- The printer runs the appropriate number of copies (usually about 260) and delivers them to **Bill Cammerer** for folding and labeling. **Bill** then takes them to the Post Office for Bulk Mailing.
- Whoops, forgot about the labels! Membership Chair, **Jim Jackson** provides the changes to our list. From that, it is reasonably easy to run the labels.  
*Would you like to learn how it's done? We are looking for some people to train as back-ups to the Editorial Team. I am certain that you would enjoy it and learn a whole lot about this great Branch 146. Give me a holler. "If I can do it, anybody can do it."*  
*Pete Gates, Editor*

# SIR CALL *Newsletter*

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Pleasant Hill, CA 94523

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<http://www.sir146.com>

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Time Value Mail  
Please deliver as  
soon as possible.



The Cooking Too Group enjoyed a short cruise to Vancouver, B.C. and were joined by the Baldridges. Pictured above (left to right) are: **Judy Baldrige, Bill Cammerer, Margot Somerville, Bernice Cammerer, Ken Richter, Elaine Richter, Stu Somerville, Jeff Baily (kneeling), Sandy Wagner, Rich Hanford and Alicia Baily**