



Published For Our Members And Friends

Volume 24 Issue 6



Big Sir's Notes Jim Burk

THEME FOR JUNE LUNCHEON MEETING

The "Theme" for our **June** Luncheon Meeting is "**Colorful Shirt Competition**" day. This is your chance to get a little crazy and spontaneous! Check out the garage and attic for the most wild and colorful shirt in your possession. The winners will be rewarded for their creativity.

ACTIVITIES FAIR

In **June**, the **Activity Chairs** wishing to communicate with you thus far are **TRAVEL (BOB SPELLMAN)**, and **FISHING (PAUL DUBOW)**. Stop by and ask them questions about how you might become involved in their activities. The **BOOK CORNER (KEN RICHTER)** will be back in **July**.

COMING ATTRACTIONS

- In **July**, **RAY KAN, Honorees Chair**, will be honoring four of our members for their significant contributions to our Branch.
- In the **July SIR CALL**, we will publish the Nominating Committee's proposed slate of **Officers for 2013**; and at the **August Luncheon Meeting** we will accept nominations from the floor, if any, and then elect our Officer team for next year.

Following the **July Luncheon**, we will carry out our annual "**Evacuation Drill**" under the leadership of **DIRECTOR BILL HOLLY**.

ADMINISTRATIVE LEADERSHIP POSITIONS

Little Sir **TERRY MARCHIONE** and I have been contacting our current Administrative Chairs to determine if they are going to continue in 2013. We will have a tentative status by our June 14 meeting. There will clearly be some openings for both new and long-term members to assume leadership positions in the year ahead. We will spend a good portion of the third quarter seeking members to fill any vacancies identified. For those of you who are not currently involved in the leadership of our Branch please give serious

consideration to this possibility and let me know of your interest.

VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS UPDATE

With respect to voluntary contributions to cover the administrative expenses of the Branch for 2012, we have received contributions from 245 members or 91% to date. For those who have not yet contributed and wish to do so, please contact Treasurer **DICK WOODMAN**.

GUESTS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME AT BRANCH 146 – INVITE SOMEONE TO JOIN US IN THE FUN ACTIVITIES AND FRIENDLY COMRADERIE!

Little Sir's Corner Terry Marchione



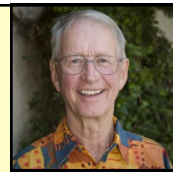
Our June speaker is **Mrs. Stephanie Asker** whose father was **Albert Einstein's** CPA and tax preparer. Besides being a CPA he was also an avid photographer who took several movies of his days with **Albert Einstein**. This relationship spanned 14 years and **Mrs. Asker** accompanied her father and mother on these outings. Be sure to attend this most personal view and recollections of the most influential scientist of the past century. **Stephanie** is a retired psychotherapist and marriage counselor and has been listed in Who's Who in the East and Who's Who of American women.

In July we are very pleased that **Jim Barnett** will speak to our group. Jim is a former NBA star and is the current broadcaster for the Golden State Warriors. In August, **Fred LaCosse** will be our speaker. You may recall **Fred** as an evening news anchor in the 70's and 80's and also as the co-host (with his wife **Terry Lowry**) of AM-San Francisco. **Fred's** talk is titled "Your American Freedoms—Protect Them or Lose Them". This talk has received standing ovations from many groups. Don't miss it.



Luncheon Attendance

Bob Mehus



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

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

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

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

Salad

Mixed Baby Field Greens
Red Onion, Crumbled Blue, Pine nuts and Citrus Vinaigrette

Entrees

Chris’ Famous Meat Loaf
Whipped Potatoes and Country Gravy
Or
Pan Seared Tilapia
Lemon – Caper Tarter Sauce, Rice Pilaf

Dessert

Chef’s Choice

SIR bringing a Guest

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

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

New Members and/or Sponsors

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



Duplicate Bridge Doug Eisner



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

We played 4 tables of duplicate bridge at **Jim Stedman's** home on May 14. **Bob Yolland** was on a roll and blew past all pretenders into first place with an excellent score of 46.0 pt. **Lynn Freeman** was also on his game with 43.0 pt and squeezed into second place over **Fred Kovar** who tallied 42.5 pt. Fourth place was won by **Jim Jackson's** 41.0 pt.

Our next game will be hosted by **Jim Jackson** on June 18 when we will play 3 tables.

Couples Duplicate Bridge Too Joe Barry

The Couples Duplicate Bridge 2 Group was hosted by **Dick** and **Christy DeVoe** on May 8. Guests were unusually kind in letting them win with 25.5 points. Unlike the 1st place winners, this month's 2nd/3rd/4th place finishers are used to bragging rights. **Ken/Elaine Richter** took 2nd with 23, **Terry/Sharon Marchione's** 21 points gave them 3rd, and **Lynn/Dasha Freeman** weren't far behind with 20. Next month we expect to see the Roman Key Card (RKC) Blackwood, Lebensohl, and Negative Double conventions being used. Or not...

Party Bridge Fred Bolton



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

Four tables of party bridge had a great time playing at **Lo McCarley's** home on Monday May 7th. There turned out to be some very high scores with **Bill Rees** taking first with 6560 points. Closely behind were **Jim Jackson** at 6480 and **Bob Yolland** at 6110. Fourth place ended in a tie between **Jim Brown** and **Carl Johnson** who both had 4940 points. Our next game will be played at **Bill Rees's** on Monday June 4th. Hope everyone can make it.

Couples Duplicate Bridge Lo McCarley



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

Carl and **Anne Johnson** hosted eight couples for a gala evening of duplicate bridge on May 16th. The group thanked **Jim** and **Ruth Adams** for substituting. **Bill** and **Margaret Rees** took first place with 42 points with a winning margin of 8 points. The other winners were in a tight bunch: **Carl** and **Anne Johnson** came in second with 34 points, **Jim Brown** and **Adrienne Morrison** took third with 33 points, and **Jim** and **Ruth Adams** with 32 came in fourth place. **Lo** and **Sue McCarley** will host the next bridge on June 20th.

Book Corner Ken Richter Jan Mar May July Sept Nov

The Book Corner will be open again at the July Luncheon. Just a reminder that the Corner has moved to the back bar area.

SIR Happenings Newsletter

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



Sir Jim Wyrick receiving the Senior Sir Presidents' Award from **Sir Jim Stedman** President Sons in Retirement



Sir Ray Weisz being presented Certificate from **SIR President Jim Stedman** and past **Big Sir Ray Kan** for 20 years of Dedicated Service

Area 2 Computers and Technology Group



Meetings of the Area 2 Computer and Technology Group are held the 3rd Thursday of each month (except June and December) from 9:00am to 11:00am at the Walnut Creek Elks Lodge, 1475 Creekside Drive. Whether you are a beginner or a seasoned user, we try to offer something for everyone.

We provide coffee, tea, & pastries and ask for a donation of \$5 to cover the cost of the hall rental and refreshments. All SIR members and their guests (spouses included!) are welcome.

As noted above there will be NO June Meeting.

Suggestions for future presentations are always welcome. For more information and copies of our prior presentations visit our web site at www.sirweb.org/computer/.



Ladies Day Speaker
Michael Hingson

Poker Club #1 Frank McNamee



Poker Club #1 met on Wednesday, May 9th at the **Don Del Bene** residence and the Occupy Movement proved to work to the advantage of **Dan O'Sullivan, Frank McNamee** and **John Lewis** in that order. There were no arrests, although there could have been for the beer spilling contest that transpired during the afternoon. Our next encounter will take place on June 13th at the home of **John Lewis**.

Frank



Poker Group #4 Chuck Bobinecz



Our June 25th session will be held by Sir **Garth Cummings**. We did not have a game in May. We had to spend all our poker money on gas for the Memorial Day weekend. Our July poker session will be hosted by Sir **Pete Gates** on July 30th.

Chuck

Cribbage John Pearl



Six of us gathered again at **Barney Meade's** home in Concord for our monthly cribbage contest to see who could extract money from whom. **Jim Passaglia** took first place money and set a new club record for "double runs." Host **Barney Meade** garnered second place, and **Art Ainscough** took third. We'll try it again in June.

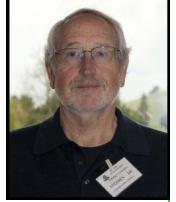
John Pearl
mcpearl@astound.net
934-6920



Vince and Bonnie Rettew



Garden Club Steve Dawkins



Even though it is not yet summer, June has the most daylight hours of the year. August may be the hottest month but plants require just as much water in June because of the longer growing days. If you like those dark blue hydrangea blooms now is the time to apply some aluminum sulfate to the plants. This makes the soil more acid which changes the color. If some of your camellias or gardenias have yellow leaves and you want to bring back that green waxy look try some iron sulfate. If you picked-up some chrysanthemum cuttings at the Ladies Day Luncheon you can put them in pots or in the ground in June. They require at least 6 hours of sun, preferably in the morning, and they will need to be staked and tied. Some will grow to over four feet, so if you want shorter plants cut them back to half their size on July 15th. I am off to Holland and one of the highlights of the trip is visiting the Floriade which is a garden show offered once every ten years. I will tell you all about it next month. Garden On!



Bowling Larry Mitchell



The short summer league started on May second and will continue through the end of August. The Branch 146 bowlers participating are:

Pierre Mebane, Jeff Davis, Ken Donnelly, Jim Wray and Larry Mitchell. After the first four sessions **Jim Wray's** team is in first place, **Pierre and Ken's** team is in fourth place and **Larry and Jeff's** team is at this point is ninth.

We have a few places open and now would be a good time to start bowling for those who may be holding back for some reason.

There are two tournaments coming up in June in Paradise and Pinole. For more information on these call me at 925-798-5440

Larry

Bocce Ball Martin Lyle



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

Our 2012 Bocce season is off to a great start. We are having good turnouts, including several members that have never played before. It's a simple game which is very easy to pick up.

Come and join us. Ladies are welcome.



Travel Opportunities

Bob Spellman



Oct 5-7, 2012 The Great Italian Festival.

Reno's Great Italian Festival is among the nation's largest and most famous events. Celebrate the food, culture, music and tradition of Italy. Free activities and entertainment highlight the festivals main focus. The cost is \$308.00pp and includes motor coach transportation, 2 night stay at the Eldorado with hosted seafood dinner and a show by the **Jersey Boys**. Contact **Bob Hager**, Br 8, and 934-7620 for more information.

Oct 6-21, 2012 Cruise to Hawaii from San Francisco.

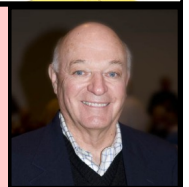
A 15 night cruise sailing round trip from SF on the Star Princess. Ports of call include, Hilo, Honolulu, Nawiliwili, Lahaina and Ensenada, Mexico. Cost is \$2100 to \$3590 depending on cabin which includes transfer to and from airport, all meals, fee and taxes, tips for drivers and skycaps. Contact **Harry Reiter** Br. 19, 709-2820 for more information.

Oct 26- Nov 11, 2012 Canada & New England aboard NCL Norwegian Dawn.

Beautiful scenery is always on display when cruising down the east coast during the peak weeks of autumn. Along the way visit an exciting array of east coast ports including Quebec City, Portland, Boston, New York, Key West and Tampa. Package price includes RT airfare, transfers, driver and stevedore tips, gov't fees, and taxes, all meals. Prices start at \$2335 to \$3475. Contact **Jim Lunn**



Membership Steve Sprague



Branch 146 Statistics:

As of our Executive Committee meeting on May 2nd, we have 270 active members including seven Honorary Life Members. This is a reduction of one from our April membership total.

Our applicant List: Two.

Our Inactive Members: Eleven.

May Luncheon Attendance:

A total of 231 members and guests enjoyed our Ladies Day Luncheon.

Status Changes:

Inducted: **Rich Allen**, Badge 172

David Cesio, Badge 126

Moved to Inactive List: **Wiley Gilvin**, Badge 277

Resigned: **None**

Deceased: **Ernie Dickson** passed away on April 15, 2012.

Bob Frankland passed away on April 20, 2012.

Dean Merritt passed away May 14, 2012.

Changes to the Inactive Roster:

Wiley Gilvin has been added as noted above. Our inactive roster therefore increases by one to eleven members.



BIRTHDAY BOYS JUNE



John	Hammond	1
Joe	Schild	2
Mike	Stephenson	3
Larry	Mitchell	7
Jim	Bogue	11
Ken	Donnelly	14
Ed	Malboeuf	15
George	Zunich	15
Ray	Garavaglia	16
Ron	Plachy	16
Rich	Allen	17
Bill	Danzig	18
Gene	Schulting	19
Bob	Skirvin	19
Leonard	Whorton	21
Dick	McElroy	24
Jack	White	24
Dick	Kincaide	25
Tom	Boltz	27
Al	Meier	27
Rich	Hanford	29
John	Wall	30



**Dennis & Elaine Dale and Pete & Ann Gates
at “Reel Blondes” Theatre in Danville in May**



**Ladies Day Luncheon at the Clubhouse Bar
Front L to R: Garth & Shirley Cummings & May & Ray Kan
Back L to R Vince Rettew, Lew & Carla Thompson & Marilyn & Ken Kratz**

Explore and Dine

John Pearl



Sunshine

Walt Busenius

945-0715

Busenius@astound.net



On our May outing of Explore and Dine we visited the Tao House in the hills above Danville where we had a great docent-lead tour. This was the home of author and playwright **Eugene O'Neil** when he wrote some of his best works, subsequent to receiving the Nobel Prize for Literature, and the only American to do so. We managed to fill all 18 seats on the National Park Service Van, the only way the public can access the site, which uses private roads to reach the National Historic Site. We enjoyed a nice lunch in a private room at Bridges following our tour.

Our next outing is now scheduled for Thursday, July 26. **Dave Pierce**, Assistant Explore and Dine Chairman, is arranging a docent-lead tour of the exhibit that focuses on the event-filled year 1968 at the newly-renovated Oakland Museum. We will be having our lunch at the museum. The museum is accessible from the Lake Merritt Bart Station.

Dave will send out more information as we get closer to the event.

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

We offer our condolences and prayers for Daphne and family on the passing of **Sir Dean Merritt**, Monday, May 14th.

Please keep the following Sirs in your thoughts and prayers as we hope for continued healing and look forward to their recovery to good health:

Sir Jack Calloway
Sir Rod Sharretts
Sir Bob Van Luchene
Sir Joe Schild
Sir Jim Helmick
Sir Chuck Bobinecz

Please try to contact a Sir in this report to offer support and encouragement during his illness. A friendly call is always welcomed.

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



Walter and Bonnie Schick



Couples Golf John Harrington



ROMEO (Retired Old Men Eating Out) Malcolm Hendry



Our Couples Golfers enjoyed a great day at Paradise Valley this month. Our event was hosted by **Ron** and **Anne Plachy**. Below are the results. Next month we play Rancho Solano and our sponsors will be **Terry** and **Sharon Marchione**. Come out and enjoy in the fun.

Couples Low Net

1 st	Lew & Carla Thompson	90
2 nd	Jim & Judy Baldrige	91
3 rd	John & Jean Harrington	93

Women CTP

1 st	Sharon Marchione	196" [16' 4"]
2 nd	Carla Thompson	280" [23' 4"]
3 rd	Barbara Korfhage	396" [33' 0"]

Men CTP

1 st	Jim Baldrige	22' 5"
2 nd	John Harrington	25' 8"
3 rd	Lew Thompson	32' 4"

Putts

Women	Sharon Marchione	22
Men	Lew Thompson	21

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

Come join us and experience a great dinner, while learning more about your fellow SIR and male guests, in a relaxed and friendly surrounding. Separate dinner checks are provided for your convenience.

"IL PAVONE"

The restaurant started in 1991, and prides its self on making delicious, mostly Tuscan style, homemade food. Loyal customers keep coming back because they love the quality and the sincere atmosphere when they walk through the door. A full bar and a large selection of Italian and American wines are available. Thanks to **SIR Bob Lipscomb** for his recommendation.

Location: 2291 Olympic Blvd., Walnut Creek (Parking lot in the rear)

Web Site: www.ilpavonerestaurant.com (menu, map) www.yelp.com (details, reviews)



Non-Responsibility Declaration

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



“Blondie” and “Elvis” meet Lew and Carla Thompson after the SIR146 “ Reel Blondes” Theatre party on May 25



"Hair splitting fun" was had by thirty-five SIRs and their ladies on May 25 for "Reel Blondes" at Danville's Village Theatre. Among them: Bill & Sandi Hansen, Garth & Shirley Cummings, and Bob & Althea Soldano.



FISHING REPORT PAUL DUBOW



Salmon has been king for the past two months and so long as the wind dies down, it will remain so through the fall. **Carl Moyer** trotted out for the season opener and he and two friends limited out with fish up to 13 lbs by noon. It was his best showing on opening day in years. **Carl** and his pals returned a week later and did even better. They limited out by 8:30am! Their biggest fish weighed in at 17 lbs. Next, a group of five anglers picked up eight salmon weighing up to 15 lbs.

However, as May waned, the winds rose, and the ocean just got a bit too rough for us old codgers. We therefore decided to concentrate on shore fishing at San Pablo Reservoir. Over various trips, **Joe Misicione, Gordon Linebaugh, Romano Gnusti, Carl Moyer, Tom Boltz, Terry Miller, Dick Thomson, John O'Brien, Barry Rauchle, and Pete Gates** caught limits or near limits up to 3 lbs. We also sought out a few other venues. **Romano** and **Carl** tried their luck at sturgeon off Pittsburg. They struck out, but did land striped bass up to 4 lbs. **Mario Moratorio** led a group to Lake Berryessa that included **Craig Walton, Harry Sherinian, Joe Misicione, and Barry Rauchle**. They caught some kokanee and rainbow trout. **Bill Landers, Paul Dubow, and Jack Waddell** ventured out to the Delta and caught and released about 20 largemouth bass. **Bill** also spent a weekend at Collins Lake and hooked over a dozen largemouth each day.

We have a number of trips planned for the summer and into the fall. These include delta trips for largemouth bass, stripers, and sturgeon; trout fishing at Shadow Cliffs and San Pablo Reservoirs; kokanee, trout, and bass fishing at Lake Berryessa; trout fishing at Lake Davis; and a mackinaw trip to Lake Tahoe. If you are interested, call **Paul Dubow** at 415-495-6504. Better yet, show up at our next meeting. It is scheduled for 8:30am on June 21 at the Legend Sports Bar and Grill at the Diablo Creek Golf Course, 4050 Port Chicago Highway, Concord. Breakfast is available at 7:30am.



Pete Gates and friend with trout caught at San Pablo Reservoir.

Mac User Group

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

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

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

HELP WANTED

Sirs146 is looking for help publishing our newsletter.

If your interested we will train you how to run the program and supply you with the software

**Contact Rich Ahlf 925-672-2514 or
rahlf@sbcglobal.net**



Table Pool

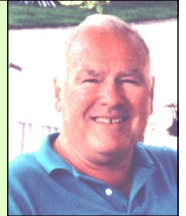
Bill Weinberg

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



**Walkers
John Lewis**

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



By Bob Madge

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

June 1 Alamo New Life Church So. Danville Alamo
Meet: Park in back of church
Walk: South On Iron Horse Trail
Coffee: Peet's Coffee (formerly Yellow Wood)

June 8 Walnut Creek Civic Center North
Meet: Civic Center parking
Walk: North on Iron Horse Trail
Coffee: La Scala Civic & Locust

June 15 Morello & Taylor Pleasant Hill
Meet: Shopping Center Parking
Walk: North along Contra Costa Canal
Coffee: Panera Bread Willows Concord

June 22 Bancroft Canal Walk West Walnut Creek
Meet: Bancroft parking near Panera Bread
Walk: West on Contra Costa Canal
Coffee Panera Bread Countrywood Center

June 29 Lafayette Trail east Lafayette
Meet: Lafayette Community Center
Walk: St Mary's RD toward Walnut Creek
Coffee: Terzetto Cuisine Moraga shopping

Area 2 Sums Investment Group



The Area 2 Sums Investment Group will meet on Wednesday June 27, 2012, 8:00am at the Diablo Creek Golf course, 4050 Port Chicago Highway in Concord. Our returning speaker will be **Brian Pretti** a Senior Vice President with Mechanics Bank Wealth Management team. **Brian's** presentation will cover **"The global (especially in Europe) and US economic problems that can negatively impact the US stock market and our investment portfolios. What precautions can be taken to insure stability for our investments? Where are we headed in 2012?"**

A copy of this presentation will be made available to all who attend. **Brian** is an exceptional speaker and is both a CFA (Chartered Financial Analyst) and a CFP (Certified Financial Planner). You will not want to miss **Brian's** talk. He spoke to the group June of 2011 with his talk **"You dream of Columbus- a commentary on the Global Economy** "The restaurant opens at 7:00am for those who would like to enjoy breakfast with your colleagues.

Co-chairmen:

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

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

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

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

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SIR CALL

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Newsletter

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



Sirs146 Ladies Day Luncheon
Left to Right; Elaine Richter, Josie Barry, Janet Yolland,
Bev Gorman, Gwenn Boero and Susan Borgman