



## Big Sir's Notes

Walt Busenius

The May Ladies Day luncheon was once again a very successful two thumbs up event thanks to the hard work and energy of **Steve Ybarra** and his number one amigo **Steve Dawkins**. The **Two Steves**, with the help of their wonderful wives, did another bang-up job of organizing this event and arranging the hall. Little Sir **Alan Elnick** offered us a unique entertainment twist this time with Comedienne **Sandra Risser**, the wife of our own Sir **Mike**. Shopping for me will never be the same again.

Fellow Sirs, the good news is that we return to the Clubhouse at Boundary Oak for the June 9<sup>th</sup> luncheon, and the rest of our 2016 luncheons and beyond, on the second Thursday of the month. Once again, this means that you have to notify our luncheon chairman no later than Noon on the Friday before the Thursday luncheon if you are unable to attend or if you plan to bring a guest. Please see the **Red Ball**

June is our annual colorful shirt competition and the first prize is a free lunch!!! Rummage through your closets; hit the bargain sales or charity shops to find the most audacious, wildest shirt you can find; and wear it to the luncheon. You can win the grand prize. Don't be bashful.

Our blue ribbon nominating committee consisting of **Bill Holly**, **Doug Eisner** and **Terry Marchione** have presented an outstanding slate of nominees for the 2017 officer and directors positions. Their names will be published in the July newsletter and they also will be introduced at July's luncheon. Of course, nominations will be accepted from the floor prior to the election at the August meeting.

Over the next few months, Little Sir **Alan Elnick** and I will be contacting all administrative chairmen to determine their interest in remaining in their positions for 2017. We already know a few key positions that need to be filled, so you may be contacted by one of us to seek your assistance in managing our branch next year. Please

Luncheon – June 9<sup>th</sup>  
At the Boundary Oak Clubhouse

Guest Speaker:  
Peter Bauer  
Center for Medicare Services

Contest: Annual Colorful Shirt Competition

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

Bringing a guest or can't attend?  
Email: nolunchbranch146@gmail.com  
Telephone message: (925) 979-5146  
By noon Friday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

Left to Right, **Steve Ybarra**, **Sherry Hockenbrock**, **Steve Dawkins**, **Christy DeVoe**, **Dick DeVoe** and **Walt Busenius** hat-ted up courtesy of **Jonathan Korfhage**, to welcome everyone to the May 2016 Ladies Day Luncheon

remember that we are an all-volunteer organization. Our meeting doors are always open to guests who are prospective members for branch 146. The summer months are an excellent time to invite a friend, a neighbor, or an acquaintance as your guest to one of our luncheon meetings at Boundary Oak.

***Our Annual Colorful Shirt Competition is conducted at the June Luncheon. Wear a wild, colorful shirt and you will have a chance to win a free Lunch.***



These are the winners from last year, so you newer members, be prepared for some fierce competition!



### **Little Sir's Corner** **Alan Elnick**

The ladies bring out the best in us as evidenced at our May Ladies Day lunch. I barely recognized many of you as you cleaned up so well. The ladies were all beautiful. A splendid time was had by all. We were entertained by **Sandra Risser**, a comedienne of note in the Bay Area and wife of our very own **Mike Risser**.

We are back to our normal schedule of second Thursday lunches at Boundary Oak. On June 9th we will get another round of Medicare information as our speaker will be Peter Bauer. Peter is the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) - San Francisco Regional Liaison to the State Health Insurance Information Counseling and Assistance Programs. CMS provides health coverage for over 100 million people through Medicare, Medicaid, and the Children's Health Insurance Program. The Medicare program is the nation's largest health insurer, handling more than 1 billion claims per year. And with health insurance reforms and health care exchanges, CMS is improving health care and ensuring coverage for all Americans.

Looking ahead our July luncheon will be on the 14<sup>th</sup> at Boundary Oak. Please make sure to call or email before the deadline if you will be unable to attend. Our commitments on the number of meals to prepare are difficult to project if we cannot get a reliable count on attendance. All active members, no matter your membership status, should honor this call-in request. See you at the luncheon or on the links. Bring a guest to learn of the wonderful activities and camaraderie SIR has to offer. See you then.



### **Membership** **Ben Gleason**

#### Branch 146 Statistics

Because of the Ladies Day Luncheon, we did not hold a BEC meeting in May and, therefore, no new members were inducted. However, **Art Ainscough** passed away and **Jerry Crumpler** resigned as he is moving out of the area. We now have 281 active members. **George Zunich** has asked to become inactive and **Darlo Boone** has indicated that he is returning to the Bay Area after spending the summer away and will become active again in June. Both of those requests will be confirmed at the June BEC meeting. Keep up the good work in bringing guests and making an effort to meet and greet the new members. Remember, the new guys are the ones with the yellow badges. Please make them feel welcome.

Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

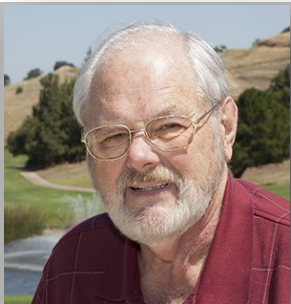


**Fran Mathews and Ron Louis at the May Luncheon**

Photo by Richard Hockenbrock



**Jim and Marian Pfohl at Ladies Day**



## Theatre Gary Schaub



Baseball, summer and a family in crisis come together in *Fences*, a powerful drama by the winner of the Pulitzer Prize for drama in 1987. A SIR 146 theatre party of *Fences* is scheduled for Wednesday, July 20<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 pm at the open-air California Shakespeare Theatre in Orinda.

### **August Wilson's Pulitzer Prize Winning Drama is SIR 146 Theatre Party for July**

*Fences* by August Wilson is a stunning dramatic work that has won critical acclaim. Not only did *Fences* win the Pulitzer Prize but, also, the 1987 Tony Award for Best Broadway Play, starring James Earl Jones. The Broadway play was later made into a film starring Denzel Washington. The focus is on Troy, a 53-year-old former baseball player in the 1950's, who was unable to break into the Major Leagues in his younger years. He now lives a menial, though respectable life, collecting trash with his wife and son in an Eastern industrial town.

The play centers around a father, his wife and teen-age son, and his brother, and the challenges they face in their lives with the place in society that has been given to them.

August Wilson is one of a handful of America's most prolific and respected playwrights. His productions of *Ma Rainey's Black Bottom*, *The Piano Lesson* and *Joe Turner's Come and Gone* joined *Fences* in winning critical acclaim. *Fences* is part of Wilson's Century cycle of exploring the evolving African-American experience. The playwright died in 2005.

A limited number of discount tickets have been set aside for SIR 146 members and guests. Deadline for ordering is June 15<sup>th</sup>. Tickets are \$49.50 each and may be reserved with a check payable to SIR 146, and mailed to Sir **Gary Schaub**, 1400 Canyonwood Court, #8, Walnut Creek 94595. Questions? Call **Gary** at (925) 938-5454.



# THE CLUBHOUSE

AT BOUNDARY OAK

SIR 146 Luncheon  
June 2016

### Salad

#### **Caesar Salad**

Hearts of Romaine, Garlic Croutons, Shaved Parmesan  
Cheese  
Creamy Caesar Dressing

### Entrees

#### **Herb Marinated Mahi Mahi,**

Confetti Rice Pilaf, Sautéed Vegetables  
Green Apple Cucumber Relish

Or

#### **Chicken Parmesan**

Rice Pilaf, Seasonal Vegetables  
Tomato Basil Sauce

### Dessert

#### **Pineapple Upside Down Cake**

Crème Anglaise, Chantilly Cream

### **SIR Happenings Newsletter**

*SIR Happenings is the statewide SIR newsletter. Click on the link in the SIR 146 webpage to read the current issue. You may enjoy reading about the activities of other branches.*

Tickets will to be distributed at the California Shakespeare Theatre ticket office in Orinda at 7:00 pm on July 20<sup>th</sup>.

A reserved group picnic area for SIR attendees adjacent to the theatre is an ideal place to meet before the play. Bring a picnic or purchase food at the food plaza. A pre-show lecture begins around 7:15 pm.

California Shakespeare Theatre is located off Hwy 24 just west of Orinda at the Wilder Road exit (Exit 7B). Parking on-site is free.



## Couples Dining Out

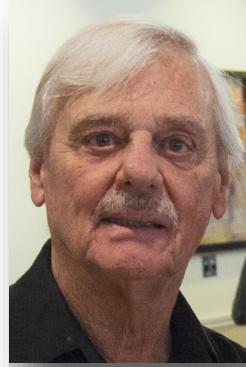
**Bruce Borgman**

The Couples Dining Out group had a great evening out on May 16<sup>th</sup> – we went to Lemongrass Bistro in Martinez. This Asian Fusion cuisine restaurant presented us with an extensive menu which included chicken skewers and avocado roll for appetizer, a green salad, coconut soup, and, for the main course, lemongrass fried rice, garlic prawns, mango chicken and Pad Thai; for dessert we had fried bananas. Many of our diners took home “people bags” – it was too good for our doggies - as the servings were very generous. We had 45 diners in attendance which was a comfortable number to allow us to socialize and enjoy the meal. All this for just \$40, a very good value!

Late breaking news! We have already selected the restaurant for our July outing. This will be a truly different kind of experience as we have negotiated a wonderful menu with Faz Restaurant in Danville on Tuesday, July 19<sup>th</sup>. The cuisine of this restaurant is inspired by Persian and Mediterranean flavors and the menu will be one that you are sure to enjoy. Even better, we will be dining in the Redwood Gallery – a small private dining room overlooking the patio, which is surrounded by a grove of redwood trees. This setting is truly one of the best of the many restaurants we have enjoyed in the last several years. For our social hour we will enjoy the separate Fireside Lounge which will have ample room for you to enjoy chatting with old friends and new.

The menu will include Caesar salad, then a choice of three entrees – Roasted Pomegranate Chicken, Sicilian Style Pot Roast, or Wild Mushroom Ravioli, with a chocolate Pecan Torte for dessert. The all-inclusive price will be \$47 per person. Send your check made out to SIR 146 with entrée choice to **Bruce Borgman**, 3611 Winchester Pl, Walnut Creek 94598 to secure your place as we will likely reach our capacity of 56 diners! Email **Bruce** at [bgborgman@aol.com](mailto:bgborgman@aol.com) with any questions!

George Bernard Shaw to Winston Churchill ...  
"I am enclosing two tickets to the first night of my new play; bring a friend .... if you have one."  
Winston Churchill, in response...  
"Cannot possibly attend first night, will attend second, if there is one."  
"He is a self-made man and worships his creator."... Anon  
"His mother should have thrown him away and kept the stork"  
... Mae West



## SIR 146 Hiking

**Rich Ahlf**

*Spouses always welcome*

On June 10<sup>th</sup> we will be hiking Redwood Regional Park. This is an easy 5 mile out and back hike in the deep redwoods along the Stream trail. Hiking time is about 3 hours. Bring a lunch and water. Trail surface: Wide dirt trail. Exposure: Shaded in the canyon.

Take hi-way 13 to Redwood Road, turn left and drive about 4 miles to the Redwood Gate and park in the first lot on the left after the Fishway interpretive center. Redwood Regional Park, 7867 Redwood Road.

If you wish to carpool, meet at the turnoff at St Stevens Rd off HI-way 24 at 9:30 am, Turn right and park on El Nino Rd where there is plenty of parking. I have room for two. *Hike starts at 10:00 am*

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Please join us Friday June 24<sup>th</sup> for a nice cool hike through the redwoods of Oakland. We will be hiking the French Trail loop at Redwood Regional Park. This is a 6 mile single track moderate loop hike that hits all the highlights of this well-shaded park nestled in the Oakland hills. This is a peaceful, hidden bowl of coastal redwoods with a creek at the bottom. Notice this hike is rated as moderate so I am allotting four hours with plenty of breaks and a lunch stop. Hiking poles are recommended as the first section is a steep uphill, after that will be a mostly level hike through the redwoods.

Take Hi-way 13 to Redwood Road, turn left and drive about 4 miles to the Redwood Gate and park in the first lot on the left after the Fishway interpretive center. Redwood Regional Park, 7867 Redwood Road.

If you wish to carpool, meet at the turnoff at St Stevens Rd off Hi-way 24 at 9:30 am, turn right and park on El Nino Rd where there is plenty of parking. I have room for two. *Hike starts at 10:00 am*

Rich Ahlf

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

Cell (925) 550-4967

SIR Call Newsletter Group

Editor

Assistant Editors

Proofreaders

Internet Posting

**Richard Hockenbrock**

**Jeff Baily & Rob Melrose**

**Jeff Baily, Cal Tucker**

**Jonathan Korfhage, & Pat Lucia**

**Ron Plachy**



## Fishing Report

Paul Dubow

With the arrival of spring weather, fishing activity picked up. Normally, the most important event in the spring is the opening of the salmon season and so far the results have been spotty. **Stan Wong** and

**Carl Moyer** went out of the Golden Gate on a party boat. **Stan** caught one salmon, but it weighed 18 lbs. and he earned back the cost of the trip by winning the fishing pool. **Carl** caught one less than **Stan**. **Raleigh Davis** fished twice on the Wacky Jacky and limited (two fish) both times. **Lee Clark** of Branch 146 also fished for salmon but he has been secretive about the results.

In the Delta, **Karl Droese** and **Dick Thomson** had limited success fishing for stripers, but **Mike Corker** released a big sturgeon on another outing. **Mike** and **Tom Kostik** also did well fishing for black bass in the Delta.

In the trout department, **Pete Gates** and **Tom Boltz** of Branch 146 had a good day at Los Vaqueros Reservoir, fishing with **Jack Waddell**. **Reggie Fromm** and **Gene Schulting** of Branch 146 caught some trout fishing from the shore at San Pablo Reservoir. **Paul Dubow** of Branch 146 and **Carl Moyer** and **Joe Gillis** fished in **Carl's** boat at San Pablo and didn't get a bite. So they did the next best thing by motoring back to the dock to enjoy a shore lunch. They did decide, however, to make a few casts from shore before eating. The trout were also hungry so the fishermen's lunch was delayed as they landed eight trout in about thirty minutes. **Carl** was inspired by this event and returned a few days later and limited out. However, on his next outing, with **Ray Pixton**, the trout refused to bite.

Our semi-annual fish fry was held in **Carl Moyer's** backyard. 25 of us enjoyed lying to each other while we consumed rockfish, ling cod, and cabezone.

Several trips were made outside the Bay Area where **Paul Dubow** went the farthest distance, to the Florida Keys, and he and his companions were rewarded with a catch of approximately 100 yellow tailed snappers. Most were released, but a few were kept and cooked for lunch at a local restaurant. **Pete Gates**, **Tom Boltz**, and **Rich Fiscina** of Branch 146, accompanied by **Joe Karg**, limited out on stripers up to eight pounds at New Hogan Reservoir. **Ernie Wong** and **Don Mittelstadt** fly fished for cutthroat trout at Pyramid Lake. **Ernie** hooked 51 but only landed 28. **Don** hooked 17 and landed 11. Twelve members of our group, including **Paul Dubow**, **Rich**

**Fiscina**, and **Tom Boltz** of Branch 146, journeyed to Lake Almanor for two days and caught 30 rainbow and brown trout and five black bass. **Paul** caught the largest fish, a six pound brown trout.

Our next meeting will be Thursday, June 23<sup>rd</sup>, at the Legends Sports Bar and Grill at the Diablo Creek Golf Course, 4050 Port Chicago Highway, Concord. The meeting begins at 8:30 am, but please join us for breakfast, beginning at 7:30 am. For further information, contact Big Fish **Paul Dubow** at (415) 495-6504.



Photo by Monte Smith

**Rich Fiscina, Joe Karg, Tom Boltz, and Pete Gates** display their striper catch at New Hogan Reservoir.

Its easy to make a small fortune in the stock market

Start with a large fortune



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

**Bruce Borgman & Susan Sheldon** at the Ladies Day Luncheon



**Table Pool**  
**Bill Weinberg**

*We meet every Monday at 11:30 am at Masse's, 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 Masse's gives SIR members. You can also play at other times during the day for the same \$5. Just tell them you are a member of SIR. We play mostly two man teams of eight ball, or a unique three-player game, called "Crazy Eights", depending on the number of participants. We usually play about 2 hours but not everyone stays for the final curtain. All Sirs in Area 2 are welcome.*



**Photography Group**  
**Richard Hockenbrock**

The next meeting of the photography group is shown below. I put forth a few ideas on subject matter and two people have suggested portrait photography. If you have any interesting photos, bring them to share with the group as well.

**Richard Hockenbrock**  
Email: rhock@pacbell.net  
Cell: (925) 324-1713  
Home Phone: (925) 935-7464

Next Meeting

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

**Subjects:** Will be announced in an email to photography members before the meeting

**When:** June 24<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am



**Travel Opportunities**  
**Milt Smith**

Longer Trips

**September 13–27, 2016:**

**Essence of the Elbe - Prague to Berlin**  
This trip begins with 2 nights in Prague, then 7 nights aboard the M/S Allegro in an outside cabin and, finally, 3 nights in

Berlin. Included are 29 meals with wine and beer served aboard the Allegro at lunch and dinner. There will be 10 exclusive tours with personal headsets and Discovery Series events. Cost starts at \$3,595 pp plus air. Contact **Milt Smith** (Br 146) at (925) 280-0328 or email [miltsmith549@gmail.com](mailto:miltsmith549@gmail.com)

(Editor's Note: **Walt Schmidt** has been very active in organizing this trip and is available to answer any questions you may have about the trip. You can contact him at (925) 943-1741 or email: [waltnmis@aol.com](mailto:waltnmis@aol.com) )



**Cooking Lunch and Wine**  
**Frank Rockwell**

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

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



**Sir Call Editor**  
**Richard Hockenbrock**

Looking for more Ladies Day Luncheon pictures? Click on this link to see all the pictures from the luncheon. [http://www.sir146.com/ladies\\_day\\_may\\_2016.html](http://www.sir146.com/ladies_day_may_2016.html)



**Pete and Carole Miller at Ladies Day**

Photo by Richard Hockenbrock



## Cooking II

**Bob Yolland**

**Dennis Hallett** hosted our May 9<sup>th</sup> lunch and did an outstanding job. He started with a variety of cheeses, some great pate, a truffle mousse, and olives plus a selection of crackers and fresh bread. For the main course **Dennis** fixed an Italian Brunch Torte, made with a super filling of spinach, mushrooms, eggs, ham, salami, provolone cheese and red peppers wrapped in a pastry made from crescent rolls. He served the torte with asparagus spears and a specially dressed kale salad. With the wine you can see that the lunch was very healthy. For dessert, **Dennis** made a Hawaiian Festival Cake with coconut and chopped nuts. Thank you **Dennis** for an excellent meal. As usual, we had an ample supply of good wine and lots of conversation. Our next event will June 13<sup>th</sup> at **Bill Cammerer's** home.



## SongSirs

**Bruce Borgman**

The SongSirs presented a program for the VIP group at Walnut Creek Presbyterian Church on May 4<sup>th</sup>, which was very well received. We had a good group to do the performance with just a few out of town. **Steve Dinning**, our pianist was one who was traveling so we performed a cappella – which really worked out fine. Our quartet sang three songs – ‘When You Wore a Tulip’, ‘Let Me Call You Sweetheart’, and ‘My Wild Irish Rose’. The whole group sang a series of songs which included our ‘city songs’, as well as ‘It’s a Lovely Day Today’, and ‘Always’. As usual, we entered and exited to ‘Stouthearted Men’ – it was a rousing performance and kudos are due to all of our group who participated and sang without the piano accompaniment. We were grateful to **Lynn Shafer** for getting us started with the initial chord.

Now, we will be starting a new repertoire utilizing some songs we have done before, while also learning some new songs from **Steve Dinning's** extensive music collection. Our first rehearsal will be on Wednesday June 1<sup>st</sup> at 1:30 pm at Walnut Creek Presbyterian Church. This would be a good time for those of you who like to sing to join us – try us out!



Several of the Cooking II group are enjoying their company and toasting their good fortune. **Bill Roberts, Corrie Oranje, Dennis Hallett, Steve Dawkins, and Ken Richter**



**Bill Holly** center, with **Walt** and **Bobbie Schmidt** at the May Luncheon



**Pete Miller, Mike Varner and Lynn Shafer** leave the Walnut Creek Presbyterian Church pleased with their performance



**Luncheon Chairman  
Max Hinkle**

CONFIRMATION OF YOUR OPT OUT NOTICE: You may, if you like, request confirmation of your luncheon opt out notice though there is no need to do so. All such notices are routinely confirmed whether a request for such is made. If, therefore, you have not received confirmation of your notice within two days of its submission you should assume that it was not received. It is then in your best interest to telephone me with an inquiry. My phone number is (925) 408-6004. The vagaries of the internet are such that sometimes messages are not successfully transmitted.

Opt Out Deadline for June Luncheon: Please remember that your deadline to opt out of the June luncheon is NOON FRIDAY JUNE 3. We will e-blast a reminder of this deadline Friday, May 27<sup>th</sup>, and a second reminder on Tuesday May 31<sup>st</sup>. Nevertheless, you would do well to mark it on your calendar right now. If you are unable to attend, please send an e-mail message to "nolunchbranch146@gmail.com" before that deadline ("no show deadline"). Please provide your badge number in that message. If you do not have convenient access to a computer please call (925) 979-5146 before the no show deadline and follow the prompts given there. A non attending member who without good cause fails to meet this deadline is required by our rules to reimburse the branch for the liability we will incur for his meal, in this case \$26. We appreciate the "Advance Payers" who timely notify us that they cannot attend a luncheon. This courtesy results in an economic benefit to our branch. A REMINDER TO ADVANCE PAYERS: BE CERTAIN TO CHECK IN.

Confirmation of No Show Notices: My intention is to confirm the receipt of each "no show" notice via the same mode in which it was received. If you have not received such confirmation within a day or two after communicating your notice please call me at (925) 408-6004. This is important because there have been times when emails, for a variety of reasons, were not displayed or not timely displayed in the "no lunch" Inbox.

Bringing a guest or a visitor: If you intend to bring a guest or a visitor please so advise via an e-mail to "[nolunchbranch146@gmail.com](mailto:nolunchbranch146@gmail.com)" on or before the no show deadline. If you do not have convenient access to a computer please call the no lunch phone number stated above and follow the prompts given there. PLEASE



**Acoustic Musicians  
Carl Tilchen**

You are invited to the next meeting of The Acoustic Musicians Group at 2 pm on Thursday, June 16<sup>th</sup> at 2177 Ward Drive, Walnut Creek. Directions from 680 going North: (I'm sure you can figure this out from other areas) exit Rudgear Rd, continue on South Broadway, Right on Newell, straight to San Miguel Dr., right on Blackwood, slight left stay on Blackwood, sharp right on Ward. **Alan's** home is on the left. If you get lost, call (925) 864-2641 or (925) 786-7909.

Our Acoustic Musicians Group welcomes all guitar, banjo, mandolin, bass, etc. The objective is to enjoy our music. All levels of musical skill are welcome.

Spouses and singers are also encouraged. Please bring your instrument and any songs you enjoy.

I am a singer/songwriter with an active musical career. I have facilitated many musical groups, and enjoy leading this group. **Alan** and I welcome your suggestions to make our group comfortable and fun for all.

REMEMBER TO SPELL THE FULL NAME OF YOUR GUEST OR VISITOR DURING THAT CALL. If your guest decides to come after the deadline don't let that stop you. So advise in the same way. We will always accommodate a guest, timely advised or not.

Special Requests: If your guest desires a vegetarian meal or a special diet or if, for medical reasons, he cannot eat lunch please so advise before the no show deadline in the manner as described above.

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





## Mexican Train Dominoes Group 1 (UNO)

**Jerry Kaplan**

The Mexican Train Group One's most recent game night was held on May 13<sup>th</sup> at Sir **Frank Ascatigno** and his wife, **Marie's** inviting home in Concord. **Marie** continued her good play and was the first place winner, followed by **Alicia Baily**, Sir **Jeff's** wife, with third place going to Sir **Jerry Kaplan**.

The May game night was the last month of the first half of 2016 where the group awards three top prizes based on the best scores over the first five months. **Sue Oranje**, wife of **Sir Corrie**, had the lowest average over the five months (at 18.1) and takes home \$43.00. **Jeff Baily**, who has been an active substitute in this group, had the second best score at 19.0, worth \$22.00. **Jeff's** wife, **Alicia**, who also has substituted with the original MTD group several times during the first half of 2016, took third place with an average score of 19.9, and she was awarded \$7.00 (still better than a poke in the eye).

The second half playing for the yearly pot will start in June and go for 6 months, ending in November, since the group opted out of playing in December.

The group will miss Sir **Terry Marchione** and wife **Sharon**, who are moving out of the area.



## Mexican Train Dominoes Group 2 (DOS)

**Dick Woodman**

**Ron and Anne Plachy**

provided us with a beautiful evening weather-wise for our game night on May 27<sup>th</sup> as well as a great setup and delightful treats. Almost everyone took their break on the **Plachy's** patio to enjoy their backyard and the beautiful weather.

The games have gotten more and more competitive with a new record of completing 12 games total on one of the three tables. Our hostess, **Anne Plachy**, walked away with first place for the evening. **Rich Ahlf** won second place for the evening and **Etta Dodson** and **Dick Woodman** tied for third place.

We completed the five month pot for January-May 2016. **Rich Ahlf** won first for the five months pot with the cumulative average game score of 15.6. **Phyllis Meehan** took away second place (19.1) and **Ismini MacLean** won third place (19.7).

Congratulations to all of our winners!

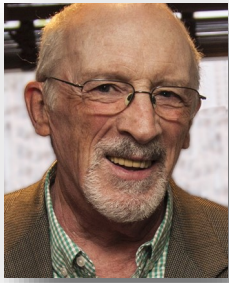
Our next game night, June 24<sup>th</sup>, will be at **Dick and Janice Woodman's** home.

Photo by Dick Woodman



## The Mexican Train Dominoes Dos Group

From left to right: **Ismini MacLean**, **Rich Ahlf**, **Mary Denney**, **Bill Cammerer**, **Janice Woodman**, **Al Twyford**, **Nancy Pearl**, **Phyllis Meehan**, **Etta Dodson**, **Anne Plachy**, **Ron Plachy**, **John Pearl**, **Don Dodson**, **Chuck Denney**, **Jim Meehan**, **Helene Twyford**, and **Dick Woodman**. *Picture taken April 22, 2016*



## Mexican Train Dominoes Group 3 (TRES)

**Jeff Baily**

The evening at **Jeff** and **Alicia's** home started with **Linda Brown, Janet Abrams** and **Alicia Baily** off to an impressive start at each of the 3 tables. **Linda Brown** came in with zero 3 times and 6 once. She held an impressive lead until the halfway break but was edged out in the final tally. **Alicia** had low scores such as 3 zeros, a 3 and a 1 to take 3rd place. **Charlie Abrams** was able to stay low with 2 zeros and an average of 17.6 to take 2nd place money but **Jeff Baily** took first place with only 1 zero but an overall average of 14.3.

**Alicia** treated all to a delicious array of fresh fruit sticks, home-made brownies and lemon squares as well as an assortment of other munchies. The June 24<sup>th</sup> games will be hosted by **Charlie** and **Janet Abrams**.



## Mexican Train Dominoes Group 5 (CINCO)

**Jim Burk**

Our group met the evening of May 19<sup>th</sup> at the home of **Steve** and **Sally Sprague**. Pregame snacks and drinks provided support to lively conversation, but at 7:30 sharp, play began.

Ten players were in attendance. It became apparent that our group is the newest and least experienced, as our two substitute couples quickly took charge. Desserts served at the mid-game break did not change the inevitable. At game's end, the first four positions were held by our guest substitutes! Cash winnings were distributed to **Jan Ondeck** for first place, **Judy Baldrige** for second place, and **Jim Baldrige** for third place.

We are now practicing to prepare for the next meeting, scheduled for June 16<sup>th</sup> at the home of **Doug** and **Patti Eisner**.

*Written by Steve Sprague*



Photo by Sally Shafer

**Alicia** and **Jeff Baily** along with **Charlie Abrams** unashamedly flashing their stashes of filthy lucre

These glorious insults are from an era before the English language got boiled down to 4-letter words...

"He has all the virtues I dislike and none of the vices I admire." - Winston Churchill

"In order to avoid being called a flirt, she always yielded easily." - Charles, Count Talleyrand

He loves nature in spite of what it did to him... Anon



## Mexican Train Dominoes Group 4 (El Quattro)

**Jim Pope**

We met on April 15<sup>th</sup> with 8 couples. The refreshments that the women put together were fantastic and wine from the men set the proper mood. The women dominated the tables as they were the winners. The next El Quattro Mexican Train Dominos meeting will be June 24<sup>th</sup> at the home of the **Popes**. Gracias



## Cribbage John Pearl

Seven of our group made the trek to **Barney Meade's** home on our usual play date, the fourth Wednesday of the month, in this case the 25<sup>th</sup> of May. It was a rollicking good time when all was said and done, and money again changed hands. Our host, **Barney Meade** ran away with the high score while the two newest members of our group, **Howard Nemir** and **John George** were second and third respectively. We meet again on June 22<sup>nd</sup>, the fourth Wednesday of the month.



## Couples Duplicate Bridge 1

**Lo McCarley**

Six couples had a great time playing duplicate bridge on May 18<sup>th</sup> at **Jim Brown's** home. Everyone enjoyed playing bridge along with **Jim Brown's** and **Adrienne**

**Morrison's** snacks, dessert and wines. For the bridge results, **Margot Somerville** and **Daphne Merritt** came in first with 23.5 points. **Bill** and **Margaret Rees** were second with 20.5 points. In third place with 20.0 points were **Jim Brown** and **Adrienne**. **George Zurich** and **Susi Cherry** will host the next couples duplicate bridge on June 15<sup>th</sup> at **Susi Cherry's** home.



## Men's Duplicate Bridge 1

**Doug Eisner**

The Men's Duplicate Bridge Group 1 celebrated returning to our usual 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday by playing 4 tables at **Bob Yolland's** house on May 16<sup>th</sup>. And an amazing game it was, too...

The morning session ended with sub **Mike Whitaker's** 15.5 pts barely edging out **Dave Pierce's** 15.0 pts for 1<sup>st</sup> place. Runners up were **Max Hinkle** and **Jim Jackson** with 14.5 pts and 14.0 pts, for 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> places, respectively. Rarely have we seen such close scores at the lunch break. In fact, the also-rans feared they'd be left in the dust at the end of the day. However, that was not to be. Three players charged from out of nowhere in the afternoon session to upend the earlier order of things – no doubt attributable to the stellar play of their partners. **Doug Eisner** captured 1<sup>st</sup> place with a score of 43.0 pts, while sub **John Boyan** squeezed into second place ahead of **Jim Brown** with a score of 41.5 pts to 41.0 pts. **Dave Steinberg** and **Jim Jackson** tied for 4<sup>th</sup> place with 39.0 pts.

**Max Hinkle** will host our June 20<sup>th</sup> game. This game will be for 3 tables only.



## Couples Duplicate Bridge 2

**Dave Pierce**

When **Ken** and **Elaine Richter** hosted us May 10<sup>th</sup>. It was wonderful to have all the regulars together for the first time this year. In a close match, the **Richters** were rewarded with 3rd place with 21.5

match points, barely behind **Joan** and **Dave Pierce** at 22 points. Congratulations to **Dick** and **Christy DeVoe**, who were 1st with 24 points for a 60% game.

Sadly, but fondly, we bid adieu to **Terry** and **Sharon Marchione**, with thanks for **Terry's** service as this activity's coordinator for many years. We wish them safe travels and great cards wherever they play next.

## Party Bridge

**Fred Bolton**

We played three tables of bridge at the home of **Jim Stedman** on May 2<sup>nd</sup>. First place went to **Jim Jackson** with 4750 points, second to **Jim Brown** with 4690 and third to **Max Hinkle** with 4420 points.

Our next game will be at the home of **Bill Rees** on June 6<sup>th</sup>.



## Men's Duplicate Bridge 2

**Dick DeVoe**

Our May 6<sup>th</sup> Duplicate Bridge 2 event was graciously hosted by **John Boyan**. **Brad Hatcher** brought his "A" game from the outset, ranking high in both the

1st & 2nd halves and taking 1st overall. His super 32.5 point count was only 0.5 points below the highest (**Tony Greco's** 33.0 last month). Congratulations, **Brad!**

**Bill Schultz** took a relatively low 1st half score, and combined it with a great 2nd half to finish 2nd overall with 28 pts. **Max Hinkle** slipped into 3rd with 26.5 pts., just above host **John Boyan's** 26 pts. and 4th place.

**Fred Bolton**, **Brad Hatcher**, and **Dave Steinberg** each had 10 boards that earned the maximum two points each, while **Bill Schultz** had only one zero in 24 boards, tying for lowest ever with **Dave Pierce** and **Bob Yolland**. Great job, guys!



## Couples Party Bridge

**Dave Pierce**

The Warriors and the Sharks were both in semi-final playoff games on May 3<sup>rd</sup> when **Doug** and **Patti Eisner** hosted all the regulars. Excitement was unusually high, but our scores were low, perhaps because the TV was on all evening. In a very tight match, **Terry** and **Sharon Marchione** had a hot start, 2140 in the first two rounds, and hung on for **3rd** (2450); **Dick** and **Christy DeVoe** (having escaped the Ecuador earthquake unscathed) were **2nd** (2520); and our hosts with a strong 4th quarter were rewarded for their wonderful hospitality and sweet cherry pie with **1st** (2770). The Warriors, not to be outdone by the **Eisners**, came from behind to win as well. Who among us will win in June?



## Men's Duplicate Bridge 3

**Sid Landman**

The May 20<sup>th</sup> Duplicate Bridge 3 event was nicely hosted by **Charlie Abrams**. 1st Place: **Harvey Oxman** brought his "A" game that day for both the 1st and 2nd halves. He scored 17 & 15 pts. (1st & 2nd), resulting in a strong 32 pts. overall. Congratulations, Harvey!

2nd Place: **Max Hinkle's** 16 and 14.5 pts. (2nd & 3rd) totaled 30.5 pts.

3rd Place: **Charlie Abrams** was the most consistent with two halves of 14.5 pts. (3rd & 4th), totaling 28.5 pts.

4th Place: **Jim Jackson's** 16 pts. in the 2nd half (1st) overcame his much weaker 1st half of 10 pts. (9th), resulting in 26 pts. overall.

Most Two's: **Harvey** had 10 two's, helping significantly to propel him into 1st place overall.

Least Zeros: **Harvey and Max** tied with only 3 zeros each in 24 boards.

Comeback Kid: **Bob Yolland's** and **Jim Jackson's** 2nd halves were both 6 pts. more than their 1st halves, confirming that "it's never over 'til it's over!"

Nice going, guys!

*Submitted by Dick DeVoe*



Friends gather at Ladies Day...L to R, **Mike Varner, Alicia Baily, Nancy Burchett, Sharon Varner, Max Burchett** at the back and **Sue Busenius**.



**Ardith and Max Hinkle** at The May luncheon



**Kathy and Joe Nelms** enjoying the luncheon

DREAM CAR. A man walks into his psychiatrist's office and says, "Doc, you've got to help me. Every night I dream that I'm a sports car. The other night I dreamed I was a Trans Am. Before that I was an Alpha Romeo. Last night I was a Porsche. What does it all mean?" "Relax," says the doctor, "You're just having an auto-body experience.,,"



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

**Rita and Roger Thornton** at Ladies Day luncheon



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

**Steve and Sue Loftin** with **Marlys and Tom Boltz**



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

**Kaaren and Ron Binder** at the May Ladies Day



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

L to R, **Cindy Greco, Joan and Davis Pierce** and **Tony Greco** enjoying Ladies Day with a great view from the Clubhouse Restaurant at Boundary Oak



## Book Group

### Chuck Campbell

Eight Sirs met at the Greenery Restaurant on May 23rd to discuss *Plot Against America* by Philip Roth. The plot starts with the assumption that Charles Lindbergh defeats Roosevelt in the 1940 presidential election. The book focuses on a Newark Jewish family and how they cope with the Lindbergh racial policies.

We all found the book interesting but slow reading. The family and neighborhood probably resembles Roth's life as a young boy. The book seems to slow down in the middle but comes to a quick end as if Roth has run out of things to say. We all found the postscript most interesting in providing the actual history of the historic characters (Lindbergh, Roosevelt, Winchell, La Guardia, and others).

For our next book we choose the classic *Grapes of Wrath* by John Steinbeck. We will meet again at the Greenery restaurant Monday, July 8<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 am. Breakfast is optional. All Sirs are invited.



## Sunshine

### John Pearl

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

**Jim Bogue**

**Tom Gorman**

**Roy Luoma**

**Bob Walton**

**Lynn Freeman**

**Bill Hansen**

**Ken Richter**

I am sorry to report the recent deaths of long-time SIR **Carl Johnson**, one of our Branch's Charter Members, **Sir Bob Darius**, **Ginnie Meyer**, wife of Sir **Louis Meyer**, and **Sandy Mehus** wife of Sir **Bob Mehus**. Please include their families in your thoughts and prayers.

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

Also, please take a minute to sign the get-well cards that are near the sign-in tables at our monthly meetings.

If you are aware of an ill Sir, please let me know by e-mail or phone so that our Sir membership can be advised.



## Bocce Ball

**Martin Lyle**

NOTICE

Our beginning sessions for the 2016 Bocce meets have turned out well. We had a good turnout of the regular players, and welcomed several new players who picked up the game quickly. This game creates many laughs and good cheer and is simple to learn. Ladies are welcome.

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

## Walking Group

**John Lewis**



*Every Friday at 9:30 am at various locales.*

*Call **John** for current walk.*

*Rain cancels any walk.*

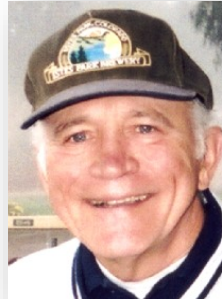
*Ladies Welcome*



## Poker Group 1

**Dan O'Sullivan**

Poker Group #1 met at **Don Del Bene's** home on May 11<sup>th</sup>. The "BIG-BIG-BIG" winner was **Al Zamolo** who said it was the most he ever won. So that tells you how the rest of us did. Our next meeting will be at home of **John Lewis** on June 8<sup>th</sup>.



## Poker Club 4

**Chuck Bobinecz**

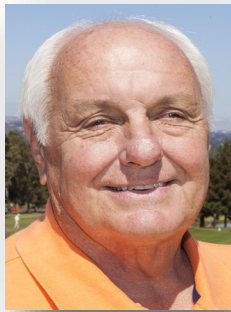
In the last SIR Call I stated that our next session on May 23<sup>rd</sup> will be hosted by Sir **Pete Gates**. Well we have some changes. **Pete** had some prior commitments, so we did some shuffling and Sir **Chuck Bobinecz** will host the May 23<sup>rd</sup> session and Sir **Joe Stengel** will host the June session. Sad to report that Sir **Rich Hanford** has a case of the shingles and he could not attend the May session. Ouch !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!



## Poker Group 2

**Al Zamolo**

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



## Poker Group 5

**Bill Roberts**

*Poker Group 5 meets the Wednesday prior to the SIR luncheon. **Bill Roberts** is the permanent host for our event. The regular players going forward are **Bill Roberts, Bob Spellman, Charlie Koeber, Terry Marchione, Doug Eisner, Ken Richter, Frank Rockwell, and Paul Dubow.** Subs are sometimes needed due to travel and the like. Play begins at 4 pm and ends around 8 pm with time out for dinner.*

Photo by Richard Hockenbrock



**Jeff and Alicia Baily** at the May Ladies Day Luncheon



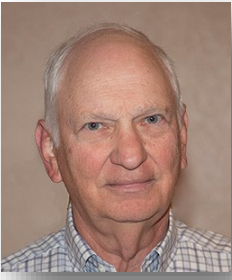
## Old Money Poker

**Group 6**

**Al Twyford**

Group 6 did not play in May for lack of players. We also have changed our regular monthly game to the first Thursday of each month at the same time 12:30 - 3:30 PM. Our next game is scheduled for Thursday June 2<sup>nd</sup> at **Al Twyford's** home in Walnut Creek.

We also added a new member as an alternate for future games, **Howard Charlop**. He joined the game at **Harvey Oxman's** home in March this year.



## GOLF

### Ed Marlovits

Golf is one of our most popular activities with over 100 registered golfers. We play Tuesdays at Boundary Oak. Our players are randomly paired and scheduled.

Starting tee times are emailed to all players Sunday evenings. We encourage guests. Come and check us out! Let us know you are coming and we will pair you with a member of the golf committee. Our members have handicaps ranging from 10 to 40 so you will fit right in.

In addition to regular stroke play, we have many Tuesday Tournaments specially set up for a change of pace. In the summer we also have "away golf" at nearby courses. Members are eligible for fun events sponsored by State SIR Golf at interesting courses from Reno to Solvang and points in between.

There are also two competitive championship events sponsored by State SIR Golf... The 2016 State Individual Championship event will be held on October 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> at Laguna Seca. Area qualifying dates are not yet announced but will be held in July. The SIR State Team Championship qualifying event for our Area was held May 26<sup>th</sup> at Deer Ridge Golf Club in Brentwood. The Team Championship will be August 8<sup>th</sup> at Poppy Ridge in Livermore.

Three Branch 146 teams competed for the 2015 Team Championship and one member, **Mike Whitaker**, qualified for the individual championship.

On May 17<sup>th</sup> we held our annual shotgun start, luncheon and annual meeting at Boundary Oak. We had a great turnout for both golf and the luncheon as well as great participation in the discussion at our after-lunch meeting.

Since we have so much going on, we circulate a weekly golf email (GEM) outlining upcoming events and results from past events. If you would like to be included in the distribution, please contact us at [sir146golf@gmail.com](mailto:sir146golf@gmail.com). If you would like to join Branch 146 Golf, also contact us at [sir146golf@gmail.com](mailto:sir146golf@gmail.com).



## Book Nook

### Hank James

No Book Nook in June, but it will be open in July.

Some members have a reading list that they bring to the Book Nook, so you may want to use your time

between now and the July meeting to develop yours. Also, survey your home bookcases and book shelves for all those books you have already read and probably will never open again. Bring them to the Book Nook in July and share them with other SIR members. That way you make space at home for all the interesting and exciting books you pick up at the July Book Nook.



## Couples Golf

### Paul Masta

The SIR Couples Golf Group planned kick off of its 2016 season on April 27<sup>th</sup> at Rancho Solano was rained out. We play at local courses on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of each month April thru

October. Monthly Tournaments are planned by volunteer coordinator couples who schedule the golf course and choose the tournament format. Emphasis is on fun contests involving both players' contributions. We enjoy the awards session and socializing after every tournament.

We are actively seeking new members, so please contact **Paul Masta** if you are interested in joining the group at (925) 933- 3612 or [pamasta03@yahoo.com](mailto:pamasta03@yahoo.com).



## Nine Hole Golf Group

### Verner Laursen

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

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

## Area Two Events

### Mac User Group (MUG)



*The Mac Users Group (MUG) meets the first Monday of each month from 12 noon until 2 pm at the Thurman G. Casey Ygnacio Valley Library, 2661 Oak Grove Road, Walnut Creek, CA 94598.*

*Max Burchett and Verner Laursen are the leaders and we are available to help Mac, iPhone and iPad users with their questions. Please note that Mac users do not have problems. We do have suggestions on software and where to get the best deals on Mac related products. We will also demonstrate various software products.*

*If you have or may have an interest, please contact us and we will put you on our mailing list. If you are on the list, you will receive an email from time to time about items that are of interest to Mac Users.*



**M J and Syd Whalen** at the Ladies Day Luncheon

### Area 2 \$ums Investment Group

The Area 2 \$ums Investment Group will meet at 8 am on Wednesday, June 22<sup>nd</sup> in Legends restaurant at Diablo Creek Golf Course, 4050 Port Chicago Highway, Concord. Legends opens at 7 am, so come early and have a leisurely breakfast with your colleagues prior to the meeting. Plan to attend this meeting and bring a prospective SIR.

The speaker will be SIR member **David Munson** of Branch 174. His topic will be "Investment Resources for the Individual Investor".

**Dave** spent 33 years in international banking with assignments in Istanbul, Tokyo, London and Honolulu. Primarily developing relationships with non-US residents and high net worth individuals, he traveled extensively in Asia and the South Pacific. He will be discussing investment resources for picking stocks that can be held over time (say 2-4 years) rather than for short term trading.

Co-Chairmen: **Tom Henry** (Br-174) (925) 284-5724

**David Sutton** (Br-8) (925) 686-0158

### Computers and Technology



PCs



The Area 2 Computer and Technology Group announces that there will be no meeting in June. This means our next meeting will be on Thursday July 21, 2016 at 9:30 am at the Walnut Creek Elks Lodge, 1475 Creekside Drive – so arrive earlier to chat with friends and enjoy the coffee and cookies. We ask for a donation of \$5 to cover the cost of the hall rental, coffee and cookies -- but some months are free, so come and see if this meeting is another one of those! All SIR members and their guests (spouses included!) are welcome to attend. See you there.

The presentation topic will be announced in the next newsletter, so watch this space.





Photo by Bill Schultz

L to R, Dick DeVoe, Rich Ahlf, Fred Bolton, Max Hinkle, Brad Hatcher, John Boyan (host), Charlie Abrams, Jim Brown, David Steinberg, Bob Yolland, and Tony Greco at their monthly game Men's Duplicate Bridge 2 Game, Friday May 6<sup>th</sup>, 2016



Photo by Bill Schultz

Paul Masta, Doug Eisner, Pierre Mebane, Steve Sprague, Ben Gleason, Alan Elnick, and Ken Donnelly discuss their round of golf at Deer Ridge



Photo by Bill Schultz

Corrie Oranje & Jim Browning in the cart line waiting to begin play on #1



Photo by Bill Schultz

Dan Holland, Max Hinkle, Mike Whitaker, and Steve Ybarra trying to decide who's paying for the drinks



Jeff Baily, Bill Laws and Jim Burk enjoying some refreshments



Photo by Bill Schultz

Joe Fuchs, Ray Spears, Rich Hanford and John Alexander collect scorecards following away-golf at Deer Ridge



Photo by Bill Schultz

Players in their carts prepared to head for their assigned tees for the shotgun start at away-golf at Deer Ridge



Photo by Bill Schultz

Paul Masta, Ken Donnelly, Sal Costanza and Steve Olsen in their carts ready to head to the first tee off at Deer Ridge



Photo by Bill Schultz

Captain Larry Gray, George Mon, Dick McElroy and Jim Saavedra ready to tee off in the SIR Area Scramble Qualifier at Deer Ridge



Photo by Bill Schultz

Jim Passaglia, Bob Mehus and Guy Rudberg discuss the results of their scramble round at the SIR Area Qualifier



Photo by Bill Schultz

Golfers Pierre Mebane, Ken Donnelly and Joe Fuchs enjoying an apres golf lunch at Deer Ridge



Photo by Bill Schultz

Steve Sprague, Doug Eisner, Terry Marchione and Frank Rockwell set to go at Deer Ridge.