



Published For Our Members And Friends



Volume 24 Issue 3



Big Sir's Notes Jim Burk

At our Luncheon Meeting in February, we tried a new approach designed to allow our members to become more familiar with specific Branch activities. The concept is to encourage our activity chairs to set up a "booth" in the hallway as you enter the Clubhouse. **Bob Spellman, Travel Chair**, became the first chair to trial the approach by setting up a table with handout information on some of his and **Ken Richter's** upcoming travel trips or events. **Ken** has volunteered to set up space in that hallway for his "**Book Exchange**" which is scheduled for our March Luncheon. Any of our Activity Chairs are welcome to set up a table and staff it so as to educate our members on what their activity is about and how one can become involved. We will hope to grow the number of Activity Chairs who wish to share information with our members in the months ahead.

Some of our members have expressed **interest in having more information on what items of business the BRANCH EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (BEC) is discussing** at the meeting that precedes each Monthly Luncheon. There are a number of possible ways to fulfill this desire. One is to **attend the BEC Meeting in person**. The meeting starts at 9:00 a.m. in the Lakeview Room in The Clubhouse at Boundary Oak and you are always welcome. Second, you can **read the minutes of each meeting as they are posted on the Branch website** following their approval. Third, **I will make it a point to give a brief overview of key discussion items and votes that have been taken in the meeting earlier that morning during my remarks at the luncheon**. Further, if you hear or read something reported on which you have interest in pursuing in more detail, please follow up with me or any of our BEC members. We are happy to respond to your questions.

With respect to voluntary contributions to cover the administrative expenses of the Branch for 2012, we have received contributions from 231 members or 85.8% to date. For those who have not yet contributed, please see or contact Treasurer **Dick Woodman**.

Finally, as you drive up Valley Vista Road, note that CourseCo, at our suggestion, has cleared the weeds and debris to the right as you approach the "Boundary Oak Golf Course" sign thereby making room for overflow parking should that become necessary in the future.

Little Sir's Corner Terry Marchione



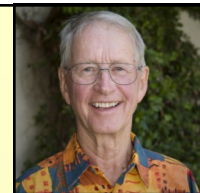
In March, we will learn about the Road Scholar (formerly Elderhostel) program from **Ann White** who has been an ambassador for the program for the past 10 years. In addition to working with the Road Scholar program, **Ann** and her husband **Bill** have travelled extensively throughout the world. **Ann** is a former first grade teacher and currently works as a tax accountant during tax season.

Our April speaker will be **Tom Davids** from **Filoli**. Located 30 miles south of San Francisco, **Filoli** is an historic site of the National Trust for Historic Preservation and one of the finest remaining country estates of the early 20th century.

You won't want to miss our Ladies Day speaker in May-- **Michael Hingston**. **Michael** and his guide dog **Roselle** were on the 78th floor of tower #1 on 9/11/2001 when it was struck by American Airlines flight #11. Working as a team, **Roselle** led **Michael** and others on their floor down the darkened stairwell moments before the building collapsed.



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.

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.

St. Paddies Day Menu

Salad

Wedge of Baby Iceberg Lettuce
Hard Boiled Eggs, Cherry Tomatoes and Thousand Island Dressing

Primary Entree

Classic Braised and Glazed Corned Beef
Potatoes, Carrots and Cabbage

Notify Bob Mehus only if you prefer the Alternate Entree

Pan Seared Farm Raised Salmon
Mediterranean Cous Cous, Seasonal Vegetables
Fire Roasted Red Bell Pepper, Almond and Olive Oil Coulis

Dessert

Chef's Choice

Special Luncheon Requirements

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*

John Demos, one of our super substitutes, hosted 4 tables of duplicate bridge on Feb 13. **Jim Brown** was on top of his game and breezed into first place with an excellent score of 46.0 pt. **Doug Eisner** was a distant second place with 41.5 pt while **Bob Donahue** secured third place with 40.0 pt. **Bill Snyder** took the fourth place prize with 38.5 pt.

On Jan 26 the branch's bridge players and spouses were treated to an hour long lesson by **Larry Miller**, a local bridge teacher and game director. **Larry** has offered a second lesson to the group and we have begun to make arrangements for this lesson in the near future. I will notify the bridge players by email of the details when they're available.

Our branch is interested in participating in a SIRs area-wide tournament which would be sponsored by Branch 8. Arrangements are being worked on now and I will notify our bridge players when the details are available.

Our next game will be hosted by **Lynn Freeman** on Monday, Mar 12.

Party Bridge Fred Bolton



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

We played four tables of bridge at the home of **Bob Yolland** on Feb. 6. First place went to **Carl Johnson** with 4700 points, second to **Bill Snyder** with 4640 and third to **John Demos** with 3310.

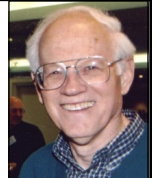
Our next game will be at the home of **Lynn Freeman** on March 5.

Couples Duplicate Bridge Too Joe Barry

The Couples Duplicate Bridge Too Group met at host **Jim and Ruth Adams'** home on Valentine's Day. What a change from the recent past! First of all, substitutes **Ben and Helen Yeraka** prominently **shellacked** the rest of the group, winning by 8.5 points with 29 points total. **Jim and Ruth** grabbed 2nd place headlines by 1.5 points, while **Terry/ Sharon Marchione** and **Joe/Josie Barry** slipped quietly into a 3rd place tie.

The other two couples reasoned that they had gone to a bridge class since the last event and thus were in a "transitory state". Hmmm. Are Nevada and Oregon considered transitory states? Maybe their heads will be back in CA by next month's tourney...

Couples Duplicate Bridge Lo McCarley



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

Bob and Janet Yolland hosted eight couples for a gala evening of duplicate bridge on February 15th—everyone had a great time. We had the most substitute bridge players than we ever had. The group thanked **Jim and Ruth Adams, Joe and Josie Barry**, and **Fred Bolton** for filling in. **Carl and Anne** took first place with 35 points and **Bob and Janet** were close behind with 34 points. **Lo and Sue McCarley** took third with 33 points and **Jim Brown** with his bridge partner, **Fred Bolton**, came in fourth place with 32 points. **Jim Brown** and **Adrienne Morrison** will host the next bridge on March 21st. Watch this space to see the future bridge results

Book Corner Ken Richter Jan Mar May July Sept Nov

The BOOK CORNER will return at the March SIR Luncheon. Thanks to all SIRS who have contributed books to this project.

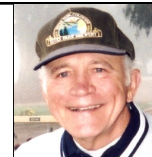
If you are a reader that likes the modern tough-guy novels that aren't over-the-top violent, you might consider the following authors. **Lee Child, Robert B. Parker, Clive Cussler, Stephen Hunter, David Morrel, Andrew Vachass or Joe R Lansdale.**

COUPLES PARTY BRIDGE

Dave Pierce
932-3877



Poker Group #4 Chuck Bobinez



Dick and Christy DeVoe hosted three tables on February 8th. **Doug and Patti Eisner** followed their huge January by coming in third at 2600, but they were just back from a cruise and a heavy bout with an onboard virus or they might have done even better. Our gracious hosts **Dick and Christy** earned the silver medal with 3810, and **Dave and Joan Pierce** barely nosed them out for top money at 4070. Everyone is now looking forward to the hope we associate with the coming of spring.

Sir **Rich Hanford** is hosting are February game and providing the snacks, etc. with his winnings from our January session. Sir **Skip Thomas** will have the honor of hosting the March 26th game.

Some of our new branch members have expressed an interest joining a poker group. Maybe it's the time to form a new poker group? Note to other poker groups, I have been notified that of a couple of new members are interested. Let me know if you need a sub.

New Duplicate Bridge 2 Dick DeVoe



The Duplicate Bridge 2 Group was held at **Bill Schultz's** home- 3 tables, 12 players, and 24 boards. **Carl Johnson** won handily with 29 points, followed 3 points behind by **Dick DeVoe**. **John Demos** slid into 3rd, with **Bill Schultz** and **Jim Jackson** tying for 4th place.

In the 3 events to date, winning has taken 28.5-29 points, 2nd has needed 27-27.5 except last time at 25, and last place has been 9.5 points behind 1st. Those with the most boards earning maximum points won this time, but sometimes it's the most consistent player throughout who take home the winnings. The next event is at **Jim Brown's** on April 23. See you there!

Poker Club #1 Frank McNamee



Poker Club #1 met on February 8 at the home of **Dan O'Sullivan** and he proved to be the most benevolent and generous host in the history of Poker Club #1. The benefactors of his generosity were in order; Guests **Al Zomolo** and **Don Del Bene**, followed by members, **Don Martin** and **John Lewis**. That left **Frank McNamee** and **Bill Cammerer** as the other losers. Our next meeting will be on March 7th at the **Bill Cammerer** residence to see if he can be as generous as our last host, **Dan O;Sullivan** was.



Bowling Larry Mitchell



We witnessed a near perfect game on Monday 2/20 by **Mike Hooper** of Branch 19. He rolled 11 strikes in a row, then on his last ball in the tenth frame left the 7 pin for a score of 299. His last ball was right in the pocket, but it was not to be! I was on the opposing team when he did this but still felt bad for him, but not for long. His team did take all four games from us.

Our Branch 146 Annual Dave Valadao Tournament is coming up soon. This is a two day affair to be held on March 19th and 20th. It will be a Singles, Doubles tournament with optional All Events and Scratch competition. I would encourage all bowlers to participate. Come and win some of the prize money at stake. I am the tournament manager of this event and will be happy to provide entry forms and answer any questions you may have. Call me, **Larry Mitchell** at 925-798-5440.



Musical Review is on tap for SIR 146 Theatre Party on May 25



A Rollicking Cabaret – Prelude to the Fall Campaign!

The East Bay's longest-running cabaret show is back!

"Reel Blondes" (not to be confused with "Legally Blonde") is set for a performance for SIR members and guests on Friday, May 25 at 8:00 p.m. at the Village Theatre in Danville.

In the style of "Beach Blanket Babylon," this review is non-stop, robust and a bit risqué.

Not one to miss out on the upcoming fall election season, Blondie is running for President in 2012. As usual, the hair stylist and salon owner receives advice from a hysterical cast of celebrities and political figures. The long-running musical comedy series features live music, incredible dancing, and, of course, zany belly-aching comedy!

If you've never been to one of these, you're in for a real treat. The series began in 1981 with "Bleach Blondes" at Vicki Brook's hair salon in Danville. It has now moved to Danville's Village Theatre. Many long-time SIR members will recall attending about ten years ago.

A limited number of tickets has been set aside for SIR members and guests for this very popular attraction. Reserve your seats by sending a check for \$30 for each ticket, payable to SIR 146, to Gary Schaub, 1758 Candelero Court, Walnut Creek 94598. Deadline for reservations is May 10.

Tickets will be distributed at the door of the Village Theatre, 233 Front Street, Danville at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, May 25. (Directions: I-680 South to Diablo Road exit, west to 233 Front Street. The Village Theatre is on the right, near two free parking areas.)

Questions? Contact Gary Schaub at 938-5454.



Garden Club Steve Dawkins

In February we had our best rose pruning event ever. We had a great turnout and were able to complete the whole row of climbing roses. This is the first time we were able to finish the project in one day. In fact, we did such a good job we decided to have our April meeting at The Gardens of Heather Farms so we could enjoy the fruits of our labor and view the roses when they are in full bloom. We will meet at our regular time 9:30am on April 26th and **Patrice Hanlon**, the manager of the gardens, will give us a tour of the rose garden. If you have never seen the roses in bloom this is a great opportunity to do so.

Even though we have had some really nice days, it is still winter and we need to have the soil warm up before we can start any serious planting. However, now is the time to give everything some high nitrogen fertilizer. One of my favorite late Spring flowers is the sweet pea. They come in all sizes, 1ft. tall called Bijou, Knee-highs that get about 3 ft. tall and climbers that grow 6 ft, tall or more. Most big nurseries should have cell packs already started. Give them a try. Happy Gardening.



Travel Opportunities

Bob Spellman



Apr 16-21, 2012 Springtime in Branson. Tour includes r/t transfers to SF airport, and r/t airfare to Branson. Five nights accommodations in Branson, deluxe motorcoach throughout stay. Five hosted breakfasts and dinners. In addition touring performances by Jim Stafford, the Presley's Country Jubilee, Yakov Smirnoff, Baldknobbers Jamboree, Brett Family Morning Show and Shoji Tabuchi. Tour price is \$1695pp. Contact **Harry Reiter** Br 19,709-2820 for more information.

Apr 20, 2012 SIR Day at the Races. It's that time again for the horses to start running at Golden Gate Field. If you are looking for an enjoyable day doing something different, give this a try. The cost is \$27.00 pp which includes Admission, Reserve Parking, Daily Race Program, Buffet lunch, Tax & Tips. Contact **Bob Spellman**, 934-8428.

May 25-28, 2012 Sac Jazz Festival & Jubilee. This is a top Music Festival in the country with over a 100 groups to entertain you. Beyond the traditional Jazz, there's blues, western, ragtime, salsa, rydeco and big band music. Something for everyone. Cost is \$35 for Friday, \$45 for Saturday or Sunday and \$94 for all 4 days. Contact **Bob Spellman** 934-8428.

May 19-Jun 3, 2012 Romance of the Rhine & Mosel. Cruise aboard a private Grand Circle river ship starting in Basel, Switzerland ending in Antwerp, Belgium. The ship will make stops at Strasbourg, France, Speyer, Baden-Baden, Boppard, Koblenz, Cochem, Bernkastel, Trier, Bonn, Germany, Nijmegen, Kinderdijk and Antwerp. The price starts at \$3895 to \$5295 plus air. The trip includes, 12 exclusive guided sightseeing tours plus personal headsets, Captains welcome dinner, 42 meals with complimentary wine with dinner. Contact **Ken Richter**, 689-6217. Pre and post trips are also available to Lucerne, Switzerland and Bruges, Belgium. Rooms will be available on a first come first serve basis.

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 \$308.00 pp 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, 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** Branch 8 @ 925-551-3329 for more information.

Explore and Dine John Pearl



Explore and Dine Travels to Berkeley on Thursday, March 22. We meet at the Berkeley City Club at 11:00 AM, located at 2315 Durant Street, where we'll have a one-hour docent-guided tour. The Berkeley City Club was designed by the well-known architect **Julia Morgan**. The tour is free, but a donation of \$5 a person is recommended.

Lunch will follow the tour, and be on the premises in our own room.

More information at <http://berkeleycityclubhotel.com/background>.

RSVP to **Dave Pierce**, Assistant Chair
dwpi@astound.net 925-932-3877

John Pearl



MARCH BIRTHDAY BOYS



1 DONAHUE, BOB

19 BURK, JIM

2 MUNAYER, AL

DENNEY, CHUCK
WOODMAN, DICK

5 STEINBERG, DAVE

20 TUTTON, HARRY

6 GILVIN, WILEY

21 AHLF, RICH
BORGMAN, BRUCE
KNIES, GEORGE

8 OLSON, JIM

10 HOLLY, BILL
JONES, BRUCE
SNOW, STEVE

24 ROYSTER, BOB
SUTA, JOE

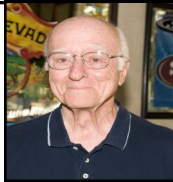
15 COOK, DOUG

25 BINDER, RON

17 LUCIA, PAT

26 BIASOTTI, JOHN

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

It won't be long before the Bocce Courts will be cleaned up from the winter rains. A number of new potential players have shown interest, so watch this space to read of the opening play in May.

Check back page for Bocce Group outing.

Martin

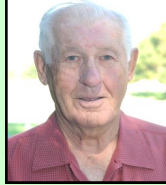
NINE HOLE GOLF GROUP John Denham

Sir **Jim Burke** met and lunched with the SIR 146 Nine Hole Group on Thursday 16 February at Diablo Hill Golf Course. The three groups of SIR players had finished their round at noon and met in the Greenery Restaurant for libation and cheer. **Jim** unexpectedly was waiting for them and listened to the days adventures on the challenging par 34, thirty two hundred yard course.

The NINERS play starting at 0930 on the first and third Thursday of each month. Contact Sir **John Denham** if you'd like to join this fun group. The course has allocated three tee times for us, therefore we are limited at this popular and busy course. Our only handicap is the woods and irons.



Tuesday Golf Ray Weisz



The first two months of 2012 has been great for the Sir Branch 146 Golfers. We have only had one rain-out on Tuesday. However four of our newer members did not allow a little rain stop them from playing a full round. These brave golfers were **Pete McNeil, Bill Schultz, Jack Baldassari, and Pat Lucia** who finished completely soaked.

We had a Three Man Scramble in January and a Two Man Alternate shot Team Event in February. According to all reports these new formats have been very successful. The Committee has scheduled additional events for each month.

With over 65% of our Golfers enjoying playing from the Gold Tees, we are having some unbelievably low scores. SPECIAL CONGRAULATIONS GO to two of our Golfers. On January 31 **Gene Diana** shot a 79 for one stroke under his age 80. Not to be out done on February 21 **John Demos** shot 87 for two strokes under his age 89. This is some great golf. Both of them will be awarded the Sir Feather in the Cap award. Who will be the next to win this Award?

Additional News:

All Sir Branch 146 golfers will be receiving weekly E-Mail updates on Friday. These E-Mails will include the Weekly Winners, future events and the latest Golf information.

When checking the weekly Pairing Web page, also check the following links for the latest revisions.

Golf Calendar
Branch Local Rules and Guidelines
State Golf

The State Golf Web site has all the information for future State Tournaments and Sir Golf Rules. Be sure to click the link for Feather in the Cap awards. This link lists the yearly winners of this award. The Feather in the Cap award is given for a Hole in One, and also for shooting your age. There are a number of Branch 146 golfers listed for the past few years.



ROMEO (Retired Old Men Eating Out) Malcolm Hendry



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.

“SWAD INDIA”

Located in the heart of downtown Lafayette, this small restaurant features a large and diverse menu with outstanding authentic Northern Indian Cuisine. The fresh and natural ingredients are prepared daily on the premises with no additives or preservatives.

Location: 3602 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Lafayette, Ca 94549 (Parking lot in the rear)

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

Phone: 925-962-9575

Please let me know no later than Tuesday, March 13th, that you will join us.

You suggestions are welcomed

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.



SIR Day at the Races

Where: Golden Gate Fields

When: April 20, 2012

Time: Doors open at 11:00am Be there by 11:15am

All SIR Area 2 members and guests are welcome

COST: \$27.00 PER PERSON INCLUDES: ADMISSION, RESERVE PARKING, DAILY RACE PROGRAM, BUFFET LUNCH, TAX & TIPS.

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Make your check payable to SIR Branch #146 and send to: Bob Spellman 3524 Perada Dr. Walnut Creek CA. 94598.

of tickets @ \$27.00 _____ Total \$ _____

Signed _____

Please include a stamped, self addressed legal size envelope for your return ticket

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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 and its branches do not assume any responsibility for the well being or safety of the participants or their property, in any matter pertaining to said activities.



MONTEREY MASHERS GOLF TOURNAMENT

March, 25—28, 2012

You are invited to attend the Monterey Mashers Golf Tournament, a SIR Branch 146 event open to all members.

March 25, 26, 27 – Best Western Monterey Inn. Complimentary breakfast provided each morning.

March 26 (Monday) – golf with cart at Rancho Canada Golf Course (West Course).

Traditional heavy hors d'oeuvres/dessert party in the evening at the Inn. BOYB.

March 27 (Tuesday) – golf with cart at Laguna Seca Golf Course. Gala Awards Banquet with wine at Rancho Canada Golf Club. No host bar before dinner.

March 28 (Wednesday) – Breakfast at the Inn and departure for home, outlets, etc., etc.

Since we are limited by the number of rooms, number of tee times, and space for the Monday night party, we may have to invoke a first replied – first served policy. Do not delay!! Reply by February 17, 2012. A complete package of information including room assignments and tee times will be sent to you at a later date.

-----Cut Here-----

Name _____ Companion _____

Approximate cost per couple, subject to final pricing confirmations:

Couples package- Two Golfers: \$592.00 _____

Room, Banquet, and Golf for two both days.

Couples package- One Golfer: \$501.00 _____

Room, Banquet for two and Golf for one both days

Companion will play golf Monday only: add \$45.00 _____

Companion will play golf Tuesday only: add \$46.00 _____

Total enclosed _____

Banquet Choices

Filet Mignon with Fresh Vegetable Medley, Chef's Choice Starch, Rolls & Butter _____

Baked Salmon Fresh Vegetable Medley, Chef's Choice Starch, Rolls & Butter _____

Vegetarian _____

Make checks payable to: SIR Branch 146 – Monterey Mashers

Mail to: **Dick Richmond**, 2608 Fox Circle., Walnut Creek, CA 94596 No later than
February 25, 2012.

SPRING CANDY SALE

It's time to order your See's Candy for the 2012 Easter season! This year Easter is April 8 so don't delay in ordering candy certificates for your wife, significant other, children, neighbors, friends, or even yourself.

The price this year will be \$14.20 for a one pound box certificate. That's nearly \$3 lower than the retail price so it's a good deal! There's also no limit in the number of certificates you may order! The certificates are redeemable at any See's facility and the recipient may choose any type of candy he or she wishes, including soft centers, nuts, chewies, etc.

Please make your check payable to "SIRs Branch 146". Mail your check and a stamped # 10 self-addressed envelope (the long one) to:

Douglas Eisner
909 Osceola Ct
Walnut Creek, CA 94598

I must receive your order by March 24, 2012 and I will mail your certificates to you shortly thereafter.

Name _____

Address _____

City and Zip _____

Enclosed is my check for \$ _____ to cover the cost of _____ one pound certificates.





Area 2 Computers and Technology Group

The Area 2 Computer and Technology Group invite all Sirs and their guests to our next meeting at the Walnut Creek Elks Lodge on Thursday, March 15th at 9am.

Dean Steichen will explain how to set up a home wireless network (no more stringing long wires all over the house!) If you already have a wireless system he will show how to increase the signal strength in areas where you need a stronger signal, e.g. for streaming online movies like Netflix. If you have visitors with laptops, iPads, etc they will appreciate the ability to log-on from anywhere in your house. **Dean's** presentation will be posted on the Area 2 computer group website before the meeting for you to download from sir-web.org/computer

Time permitting; **Dick Curry** will lead a Q&A discussion to address current computer issues that you identify. So please bring your questions and join us for a fun and informative session. As always there will be coffee and cookies available before and during the meeting.

Meetings of the Area 2 Computer and Technology Group are held the 3rd Thursday of each month (except June and December) from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m., 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 ask for a donation of \$5 to cover the cost of the hall rental, coffee and cookies. See you there.

The planned meetings for the next 2 months will be on: Apr 19, and May 17. Topics should file organization and back-up, home automation and security, and new consumer technology devices. Later in the year we hope to discuss principles of basic scanning and sending images, photo restoration and, possibly, developments in genealogy research. If you can suggest other titles of interest please contact one of the co-chairs.

Phil Goff and Derek Southern
Co-chairs

Membership Steve Sprague



Branch 146 Statistics:

Active Members: 269 including six Honorary Life Members.

Applicant List: One.

Inactive Members: Nine.

February Luncheon Attendance:

Members: 200.

Guests: 6, Visitors: 2.

Total Attendance: 208.

Status Changes:

Inducted: **Pete Boss** Badge 138

Pat Lucia, Badge 105

Paul Masta, Badge 14

Tony Shebanek, Badge 7

Reactivated: **Bob Madge**, Badge 181

Moved to Inactive List: **Dennis Kaump**, Badge 4, and **Don MacDonald**, Badge 193

Resigned: **Norm Kingshill**, Badge 14, and **Kent Tyler**, Badge 97.

Transferred or Deceased: None

Changes to the Inactive Roster:

Dennis Kaump and **Don MacDonald** have been added as noted above. Our inactive roster therefore increases to nine eight members.

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.



FISHING REPORT PAUL DUBOW



This month could be described, with one exception, as the month of quality but not quantity. The one exception involved **Bill Landers** and **Paul Dubow**, who journeyed to **Lake Baccarac**, Mexico, for six days of fishing for largemouth bass. They caught and released nearly 300 of these fighters, topped by a 7 lb 4 oz lunker that **Paul** caught on his very last cast of the trip.

By far the largest catch of the month was recorded by **Paul Corbitt**, who caught a 222 lb yellow fin during a 17 day long range trip out of San Diego. Locally, **Joe Karg** snared a 60 lb sturgeon fishing near the mothball fleet in the Delta. But the rest of our Delta trips were disheartening. Various forays by **Pete Gates**, **Carl Moyer**, **Romano Gnusti**, **Terry Miller**, **Mario Moratorio**, and **Joe Misicione** yielded just a few undersized sturgeons. Furthermore, our usually reliable winter trout fishing hot spot at Shadow Cliffs Reservoir in Pleasanton hardly produced at all and the major event for the fishermen was going out for brunch afterward. Nevertheless, one of our intrepid fellows did land a 7 1/2 pound rainbow on one of the trips.

We expect better results in the coming months as the weather improves. We currently have plans for outings in the Delta for sturgeon and striped bass, continued fishing for trout in Shadow Cliffs as well as trout trips to Bass Lake and Lake Davis, a mackinaw trip to Lake Tahoe, fishing for rockfish in the ocean, kokanee fishing in Lake Berryessa, and salmon fishing in Lake Oroville and the Sacramento River.

Our next meeting is scheduled for 8:30am on March 22 at the Legends Bar and Grill at Diablo Creek Golf Course, 4050 Port Chicago Highway in Concord. Come earlier for breakfast. Present and former fishermen, as well as rank beginners, are invited. For further information, call **Paul Dubow** at 415-495-6504.

Area 2 Sums Investment Group



The Area 2 Sums Investment Group will meet on March 28, 2012 at 8:00am at the Diablo Creek Golf Course, 4050 Port Chicago Highway in Concord. Our speaker **A. Brent Cunningham**, a Financial Advisor with Merrill Lynch Wealth Management. His topic “**Global Economic Outlook for 2012**”. Key topics that will be covered; The economic and geopolitical events of 2011, downside risks and opportunities in 2012, 10 key macroeconomic themes for 2012, 3 scenarios for how 2012 might play out, investments ideas that you may want to consider and how will you be affected.

Brent’s presentation early on this 2012 year will be one that has the year plays out, may be an indicator of how the investment community reacts to implementing portfolio structure.

The restaurant at the course opens at 7:00am for those would like to enjoy breakfast with your colleagues.

Co-Chairs

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) 925-376-0421



**Paul Dubow
with Bass
Caught in Mexico**



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.*



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.

March Walks 2012
Planed by Pablo Chavez

March 2 Lafayette Moraga Trail
Meet: At end of Olympic Blvd WC
Walk: West on Lafayette Moraga Trail Located
at end of Olympic Blvd
Paved Level Shady
Coffee: La Scala Civic and Locust, WC

March 9 Oak Park South PH
Meet: Oak Park shopping center, PH
Between Putman and Keats
Walk: West on Oak Park Blvd three blocks
South Contra Costa Canal
Paved Level Some Shade
Coffee Starbucks at Contra Costa Center PH

March 16 El Torito Restaurant South
Meet: At El Torito Restaurant Parking lot
Walk: South on Iron Horse Trail,
Paved Level No Shade
Coffee: Panera Coffee Willows Center

March 23 Danville Iron Horse Trail South
Meet: At RR Museum Parking
Walk: South on Iron Horse Trail
Paved Level Some Shade
Coffee: Pascal French Oven 155B Railroad Ave

March 30 Arbolado Park North
Meet: At Arbolado Park Parking
Walk: North across park to Ygnacio Canal
Paved Level Some Shade
Coffee: Deli Delight Shade Lands Office Park

Sunshine

**Walt Busenius
945-0715**

Busenius@astound.net



Kindly keep these Sirs in your thoughts and prayers. We extend our very best wishes for continued healing and look forward to their recovery to good health:

*Sir Reggie Fromm Sir Ed Malboeuf
Sir Joe Schild Sir Jack Calloway
Sir Bob Frankland Sir Lynn Freeman
Sir Rod Sharretts Sir Tom Morgan
Bob Van Luchene Sir Art Ainscough
Sir Ron Pascoe Sir Frank Fries
Sir Lee Vincent*

We offer our condolences to the family of former Sir Ray Yonce who passed away January 29th.

Please try to contact Sirs in this report to offer support and encouragement during their illness. They will be over joyed to hear from you.

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.

Thanks to **Bill Cammerer** for folding labeling and mailing and Editor **Rich Ahlf** for photography.



Past Big Sir **Pete Gates** receiving Presidents Award
from Area 2 Governor **Ron Smith**



Twelve SIR members and spouses gathered at Camp di Bocce on February 8 to keep in practice during the "off season" for the SIR Bocce Group

Back Row (L-R) -- **Steve Dawkins, Ron deGolia, Diane deGolia, Marna Hawkins, Lynette Holly, Bill Holly**

Front Row: **Gary Schaub, Martin Lyle, Ruth Lyle, Linda Best, Ed Best, Maria Gounaris**