



## Big Sir's Notes

Terry Marchione

First, a reminder that the BEC will hold its monthly meeting in May but it will be on Wednesday, May 8 at 9:00. Since May is Ladies Day, the BEC does not meet on that Thursday. All interested parties are

invited to attend the meeting.

Speaking of Ladies Day, if you have not signed up, do so right away by contacting **Steve Dawkins**. You can sign up as a couple, a single or reserve a table for ten (or any combination up to ten).

As many of you have read in the newspaper, the City of Walnut Creek appears to be heading for approval to renovate the clubhouse at Boundary Oak. Based on the information currently available, work would not begin until mid to late 2014. Hopefully the picture will be clearer by this fall when it will be time to negotiate our contract with Courseco. The BEC has two members who are on top of this- **Dick Richmond** and **Jerry Kaplan**. Sometime late this year we will be updating our alternative location plan in order to be prepared for any disruption of our luncheons. As far as golfers are concerned, it does not look like the golf course will be affected by any activity related to the clubhouse.



Photo by Jim Hanck

Monterey Mashers clockwise from 6: **Al & Joan Zamolo, Lynn & Ken Kratz, Bob & Janet Yolland, Judy & Jim Baldrige** all saying "Wish you were here!"

The May luncheon  
will feature  
Channel 7's Dan Ashley  
Gathering time 10:45 -11:00am  
Seating time - 11:45am

## Little Sir's Corner

Doug Eisner

Boy, are we in for a treat for our annual Ladies Day luncheon on May 9! Not only will we enjoy the wonderful company of our wives and friends, we'll also enjoy the super menu and extras **Steve Dawkins** has put together for us.

But, wait! That's not all!

We're also looking forward to hearing from **Dan Ashley**, Channel 7 newscaster, as our speaker for this special event! You'll not want to miss this luncheon so please get your reservations and check for \$28.00

**Steve Dawkins** is filling up we're looking from **Gus Kramer**, County Assessor.



Dan Ashley

**Gus** will be discussing the assessment procedure and other related topics of interest. Don't miss it!



*The Energizer Bunny was arrested and charged with battery*

## Poker Club 5

Bill Roberts

**Bill Roberts** proved to be a gracious host for our poker group in April. He was cruising along in fine shape until he ran aground in **Ken Richter's** game of 7-21 inside the box (you poker players will understand that). With three players obviously going high **Bill** thought he had a lock with low and raised the maximum several times. When declarations were made and hands were shown he discovered he had a hand that did not qualify. That left the entire pot to **Terry Marchione** who ended up the big winner for the game. **Marchione** had his own problems by miscounting his chips and claiming to have won more than he actually had. That was, of course, caught immediately by the banker. In any case, a good time was had by all. The next game is scheduled for May 8. **Terry Marchione** will host.



## Membership

Steve Sprague

We have 272 active members (including our eight Honorary Life Members). This is a gain of one from the previous month. We currently have one applicant awaiting BEC approval.

### Status Changes:

*Inducted:* **Jim Barry**  
**Michael Connors**  
**Roy Hodgkinson**  
**John Nelson**

*Resigned:* **Dan Costello** and **Auggie Serena.**  
*Moved to Inactive:* **Loui Nemeth.**

### April Luncheon Attendance:

Members: 206 (76% of membership)  
Guests: 4  
Visitors: 0, Speaker: 1  
Total Attendance: 211

### Changes to the Inactive Roster:

As noted above, **Loui Nemeth** has been added. **Bill Comley** has resigned after two years inactive status. Also **Darrell Parcher** passed away on April 4th. Our inactive roster therefore decreases to fourteen members.

*I stayed up all night to see where the sun went.  
Then it dawned on me...*

*Vern Laursen*

## Poker Club 1

Frank McNamee

Poker Club 1 met on April 10th at the residence of **Dan O'Sullivan**. We have been telling our group that as a host you should be more considerate and generous to your monthly guests. Well, Dan did not get our message or completely ignored it as he turned out to be the large winner followed by **John Lewis** and **Bill Cammerer**. The main contributors were our pair of **Dons, Del Bene** and **Martin**. We reassemble on May 8th at **Bob White's** house.



## Bocceball

Martin Lyle

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

The Bocceball Group will meet on May 13. We very much appreciate our regular group, and are receiving definite interest from potential players. Come and enjoy this simple and fun game. Ladies welcome.

*Jokes about German sausages are the wurst*

*Vern Laursen*

## Couples Duplicate Bridge

Lo McCarley

Eight couples had a great time playing duplicate bridge on April 17th at **Bill and Margaret Rees'** home. This month nine couples wanted to play, so I had to draw one couple out—**Bob and Janet Yolland** had the short straw, but **Susi Cherry's** daughter went into labor and **Susi** went to the hospital to support her. Hence, **George Zurich** needed a new bridge partner for that night and called **Bob Yolland** who became his partner.

Sorry, **Janet**, that you didn't get to play bridge. As for the bridge results, **Carl and Anne Johnson** took first place with 39 points. **Jim Brown** and **Adrienne Morrison** came in second with 35 points and **Jim and Allison Todhunter** took third with 32 points. With 31 points **Bill and Margaret Rees** came in fourth place to take one of their dollars back. **Margot Somerville** will host the next couples duplicate bridge on May 15th.



*I'm reading a book about anti-gravity.  
Can't put it down...*

*Vern Laursen*

## Couples Duplicate Bridge 2

Jim Adams

The Couples Duplicate 2 Bridge group was hosted by **Dick and Christy DeVoe** on April 9. The hosts won to their great surprise, since their hands and their opponents had kept them from getting the bid very often. It was later confirmed that 60% of their hands played defense, and yet almost 70% of their scores came from those hands. Wow! It proves that in duplicate, one doesn't need the cards to win after all.

The perennial month-after-month prize winners **Lynn and Dasha Freeman** did it once again, taking 2nd place. **Ken and Elaine Richter** barely beat out **Dave and Joan Pierce** for 3rd. Should the couples now be hoping for poor cards so they have a better chance of winning in this group? Not a chance.



*Broken pencils are pointless*

*Vern Laursen*

## Party Bridge

Fred Bolton

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



We played three tables of bridge at the home of **Lynn Freeman** on April 1. First place went to **Jim Stedman** with 6010 points, second to **John Demos** with 5090 and third to **Lo McCarley** with 5050. Our next game will be at a location to be announced.

### *Local Living...*

Over the 35 years I have lived in my home, I have had several contractors both install and refinish my hardwood floors. I can unequivocally say that Cameron Sly Hardwood Floors is head and shoulders above them all and if you need professional and artful work done he is the person to call.

*Steve Dawkins*

*They did our floors also and we agree... editor*

## Couples Party Bridge

Dave Pierce



**Dick and Christy DeVoe** hosted three tables on April 2<sup>nd</sup>. Cards ran unusually hot or cold, victimizing unmercifully and rewarding outrageously. You gotta have cards at party bridge. **George and Pam Rammell** got no cards, but **George** at least had the satisfaction of making 2 Clubs, missing 8 trumps split 6-2. **Doug and Patti Eisner** remained hot from March, placing 3<sup>rd</sup> with 2720. **Dick and Christy's** fine hospitality was rewarded with 2<sup>nd</sup> place at 3050. **Dave and Joan Pierce** bid and made eight hands in a row at one point (speaking of outrageously hot cards) and placed 1<sup>st</sup> at 5690. Folks seemed undaunted, though, and everyone made plans for revenge in the coming months.



## GOLF

Ray Weisz

Golf is one of our most popular activities with over 100 registered golfers. We are fortunate to have a large assortment of venues and formats: We play Tuesdays at Boundary Oak. Players are

randomly paired and starting tee times are posted on our web site, [www.sir146.com](http://www.sir146.com).

In addition to regular stroke play, we have many Tuesday tournaments specifically set up for our players.

There is a 9-hole group that plays at Diablo Hills. They play every Thursday except the second Thursday of the month, which is the luncheon date. For those with golf playing partners, there is Couples Golf offered on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month, April through October.

Like playing other courses? On the first Thursday of each month (From May through October) we offer Away Golf. Do you enjoy competing against other SIR players from different branches? We have several different formats throughout the year. Bn 35 please contact Jim Burk or Chuck Campbell to claim your free lunch.

Since we have so much going on, we have found it necessary to publish a weekly Golf email (GEM) outlining upcoming events and results from past events.

All of our golfers should be receiving GEMs. If you would like to be added to the distribution list (non-golfers are welcome too), please let us know by emailing your request to [sir146golf@gmail.com](mailto:sir146golf@gmail.com).

## Poker Club 4

Chuck Bobinecz

Sir **Skip Thomas** will host our next poker session. The date has yet to be determined since the fourth Monday of the month falls on Memorial Day.

Did you know that each king in a deck of playing cards represents a great king from history? Spades – King David, Hearts – Charlemagne, Clubs – Alexander the Great and Diamonds – Julius Caesar. Now that we know this bit of trivia, it may improve our card playing. I doubt it.



## Couples Golf

John Harrington

Our Couples Golf season starts April 24. We will be playing the historic Lake Chabot Golf Course. This event is being hosted by **Dick and Christy DeVoe**. Our May event will take place at The Vintners

Golf Club in Yountville on May 22 hosted by **Jim and Judy Baldridge**. Come enjoy the golf in the beautiful wine country. Our group plays on the fourth Wednesday of the month April thru October. We travel to different golf courses in the area and enjoy socializing and friendly competition using different golf formats.

Come join the fun and meet our group.



*My boss phoned me today. He said "Is everything OK at the office?"  
I said "It is all under control. It's been a very busy day. I haven't stopped to take a break all day."  
"Can you do me a favor?" he asked.  
I said "Of course...what is it?"  
"Pick up the pace a little. I'm in the foursome behind you."  
Bob Yolland*

## SIR 146 Niners Golf

John Denham

SIR 146 Niners (AKA the Dirty Dozen) responded to the spring-like weather with summer attire of shorts and short-sleeve shirts replacing woolen jackets and mittens. Among the recognizable regulars were **Max Hinkle, Roy Fredrickson and Fred**

**Kovar**. Leading from the last group was **John Denham and Garth Cummings**. The group, now 12 regulars, started early at 9:15 and were ordering lunch at 11:55.

The SIR 146 Niners play every Thursday except on Branch luncheon Thursday. Weekly on Monday an email is sent to remind the Niners to let **John Denham**-the ramrod- know of their desires: walk or ride the 9 hole 4604 yard Diablo Hills course. Based on replies, a schedule of time/groups is published on the website Wednesday pm. Sign in is at 9:15 Thursday. Guests are welcome and last minute additions are usually fitted in. Course fee is \$25 with cart. Contact **John** at (925) 938-1143 or [jdenhamone@astound.net](mailto:jdenhamone@astound.net)



## Reprint of the Big Sir's Email to All members

Fellow Sirs:

As Big Sir, I am embarrassed by the need to send this email.

As Little Sir in 2012 and now as Big Sir in 2013 I was then, and am now, shocked at the lack of manners some of our members display. During the short time we allocate to present awards to deserving members and introduce guests and new members, the inability of many of you to refrain from conversation is rude and extremely irritating. It also shows a lack of respect for the speaker, those receiving an award, or for guests and new members. If you cannot manage to stop talking during this time, I would ask you to leave the luncheon area and continue your conversation somewhere else.

The same criticism is especially applicable during the speaker's presentation. Not only is it disrespectful to the speaker, but it is rude and inconsiderate to walk out while the speaker is making his presentation. If you don't care to listen to the speaker please leave after you finish your lunch. Our Little Sir and his committee work hard to recruit the speakers and deserve better. Sure, it might not be your favorite subject but many of your fellow SIRs are enjoying the presentation and your actions are disrupting their enjoyment.

I must apologize to the many Branch 146 members who are receiving this but are not subject to these comments. I've sent this message to all members simply because I cannot specifically identify those who are its subject.

We allow more than enough time for you to converse with your friends or table mates. Many of you show up at 10:30 and have an hour and 15 minutes for conversation plus the 45 minutes or so during lunch. Additionally you can stick around after the lunch for as long as you wish.

If anyone would like to discuss this with me personally please feel free to contact me by phone or email (the Sir Directory has this information).

Terry Marchione  
2013 Branch 146 Big Sir

### SIR Happenings Newsletter

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

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.

Photo by Gary Schaub



**Doreen and Art Ainscough** along with **Sally and Steve Sprague** joined 30 SIR 146 members and guests waiting for the curtain to rise for "The 39 Steps" at Leshar Arts Center on April 17.

Photo by Richard Hockenbrock



Communications Committee meeting with Golf Committee and Webmaster to redo some website pages. L to R, **Ed Marlovits, Jim Stedman, Joe Fuchs, Jack Hockel, Frank Rockwell, Jeff Baily and David Steinberg.**



Photo by Gary Schaub

Getting ready to laugh at "The 39 Steps" at Leshar Arts Center are **Dennis & Ann Hallett,** along with **Peter & Carole Miller.**

*All the toilets in New York's police stations have been stolen.  
Police have nothing to go on.*

*Vern Laursen*

## Fishing Report

Paul Dubow

Trout fishing continued to be fruitful this month.

**Romano Gnusti** hit the bullseye, catching a limit from the shore at San Pablo Reservoir in three hours.

**Terry Miller, Barry Rauchle**

and **Carl Moyer** also did well there fishing from rented boats. At Shadow Cliffs Reservoir, **Mike Corker** was the champ, catching a limit with fish up to five pounds while fishing with **Pete Gates** of Branch 146 and **Carl Moyer**. **Rich Fiscina** of Branch 146 netted a four pounder at Shadow Cliffs. **Don Mittelstadt** traveled all the way to Pyramid Lake in Nevada for cutthroat trout but did better at Blodgett Lake.

On the delta, **Joe Miscione** had a field day catching small stripers at Rio Vista. **Steve**

**Paulick** went out on a party boat looking for stripers and sturgeon. He enjoyed the ride.

Ocean fishing was a bit duller. **Paul Dubow, Barry Rauchle**, and **Carl Moyer** fished for rockfish at Pacifica but came away empty handed but not empty stomached as they drowned their sorrows enjoying a delicious lunch at Barbara's Fish Trap in Princeton. **Carl Moyer** was our only member who took advantage of the salmon season opening fishing out of Moss Landing. But he didn't get a bite. However, the fishing out of the Golden Gate was very good on opening day and that bodes well for the future.

We will be very busy this summer with various outings. This includes our very first shad trip, set for June 5 on the American River. **Ernie Wong** and **Don Mittelstadt** provided tips for the group at our March meeting and we are all set to go. Other summer trips planned include delta fishing for bass, catfish and sturgeon, trout in local and mountain lakes and outings for kokanee, salmon, halibut and rockfish as well as distant forays to Mexico, Canada, and Alaska.

Our next meeting will be Thursday, May 23, at the Legend Sports Bar and Grill at the Diablo Creek Golf Course, 4050 Port Chicago Highway in Concord. The meeting starts at 8:30 but come early for breakfast. For further information, please contact Big Fish **Pete Gates** (925-937-2035), secretary treasurer **Tom Boltz** (925-685-5243), or branch fishing chair **Paul Dubow** (415-495-6504).



Photo by Jim Hanck

Monterey Mashers, **Jim Hanck, Bernice Cammerer** and **Don Del Bene** enjoying the après golf festivities at the gala banquet in the Rancho Canada Golf Club's Merienda Room

## ROMEO

(Retired Old Men Eating Out)

Malcolm Hendry



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

Come join us to experience dining in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere with your fellow Sirs and other male guests.

La Finestra Ristorante

This will be our second visit to this Italian-Sicilian restaurant nestled under a giant eucalyptus tree in downtown Lafayette. Chef-owner Jeff Assadi brings his love of cooking which is evident in the quality, taste and presentation of his cuisine after twenty six years in the business. The menu features fresh pastas cooked with grilled chicken, fish and vegetables, as well as, flame-grilled stuffed pork and sauteed jumbo prawns. A full bar and a variety of wines are available and separate checks for your convenience.

Location: 100 Lafayette Circle Ste 101, Lafayette.

Web Site: [lafinestraristorante.com](http://lafinestraristorante.com)

Phone: [925-284-5282](tel:925-284-5282)

Please let me know by Tuesday, May 14 that you will join us.

Your suggestions for restaurants you would like us to visit are welcomed.



One of the most important, beautiful and complicated plants in the world is bamboo. Books have been written about this plant but I am just going to touch on growing bamboo in your back yard. There are two kinds of bamboo, running and clumping. The running bamboo must be contained by high gauge plastic 30 to 36 inches deep, completely encircling the area in which it will grow. The clumping variety grows like a bush and does not spread. I bring this subject up because my running bamboo escaped into my neighbor's yard this year. Like the movie, "The Blob", once it escapes there is no stopping it. This escape is going to cost me a lot of time and money so my advice to you is be careful, for as exotic a plant as it is, it can come back and bite you. On a more serene note, our group is planning a trip to the S.F. Arboretum on May 23rd and then lunch afterwards. This month we are touring the roses at Heather Farms, and by the time you read this, the blooms should be perfect so don't miss the chance to visit this jewel right in our backyard!

few lines from *Lady Windermere's Fan* are good examples:

"Life is far too important a thing ever to talk seriously about."

"In this world there are only two tragedies. One is getting what one wants, and the other is getting it."

"I can resist anything -- except temptation."

The play tells the story of socially prominent Lady Windermere, who discovers that her husband may be having an affair with another woman. When he invites the other woman to his wife's birthday ball, the fun and distress begins, as only a satirist like Oscar Wilde can provide it.

A limited number of reserved seats has been set aside for SIR members and guests. Reservations can be accepted until July 9, or until our allocation is exhausted. Tickets are \$44.50 each, and can be reserved through Sir **Gary Schaub**, 1758 Candelerio Court, Walnut Creek 94598. Checks are payable to "SIR 146." Tickets will be mailed to members in advance of the August 20 performance.

The Cal Shakespeare Theatre grounds open at 5:30pm. The Theatre is located off westbound Hwy 24 at the Wilder Road exit. Parking is free. Patrons often arrive early, bring a picnic, or purchase food on site, or to attend a pre-show introduction to the play. Also, you should dress for possible chilly evening weather in the outdoor venue.

Questions? Call **Gary** at (925) 938-5454.



## Theatre



Gary Schaub

A comic play of Victorian manners and morals by one of Britain's most celebrated and controversial dramatists is the SIR146 Theatre Party on August 20 at 7:30 p.m. It will be performed in the popular outdoor California Shakespeare Theatre in Orinda.

*Lady Windermere's Fan* by Oscar Wilde is a biting satire of late 19th century society – especially marriage. Written by the author of *The Importance of Being Earnest*, *Lady Windermere's Fan* took London by storm and was later transformed into a popular film, starring Ronald Colman and Irene Rich.

The satire and wit of Oscar Wilde is infamous. These



## Duplicate Bridge

Doug Eisner

We played 3 tables of duplicate bridge on April 15 at **Fred Bolton's** home. **Lo McCarley** was hot and blew away all pretenders to take 1st place with a score of 29.5 pts. **Lynn Freeman's** 28.5 pts took 2nd place while **Bill Rees** came in 3rd with 27.5. Fourth place was secured by **Carl Johnson's** 25.0 pts.



*Jim Hanck's picture of hole 1 at Boundary Oak taken from just off the first tee.*

## Travel Opportunities

Bob Spellman



May 24/27, 2013: Sacramento Music Festival. This is the top music festival in the country with over 70 bands to entertain you. Beyond the traditional jazz, there are blues, western, ragtime, salsa, zydeco and big bands - something for everyone. Prices range from \$17 to \$95 depending on the days you choose. Contact **Bob Spellman** 934-8428.

Jun 1-9, 2013: Memphis Blues to the New Orleans Jazz on the American Queen. A seven night cruise on board the American Queen down the Mississippi with a pre-cruise stay in Memphis and an optional two day post trip in New Orleans. Cruise features RT motor coach to airport, RT airfare, all meals, including wine and beer with dinner, daily lectures, nightly entertainment, shore tours, and port charges, transfers, and baggage handling. Prices range from \$3658 to \$6486 depending on accommodations. Space is now very limited so all future reservations will now be on a first come first serve basis. Contact **Bob Spellman** 934-8428 if you still want to go and we will try to secure space for you.

Jul 10-17, 2013: The Canadian Rockies and the Calgary Stampede. A seven day tour starting with a flight to Calgary to attend the Stampede Rodeo. After two days you will head to Banff for two nights including Lake Louise, then on to Jasper, Athabasca Glacier and Edmonton before returning to San Francisco. Cost \$2856 pp, Contact **Dick Schally** Br 8, 925-260-5534.

Aug 28-Sep 7, 2013: SIR 55<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Alaska Golden Age Cruise. Save the date for a celebration! We will leave out of San Francisco and visit the ports of Juneau, Skagway, Tracy Arm Fjord, Ketchikan, Victoria and return to San Francisco on the Grand Princess. The cost of the cruise is from \$1579 to \$3300 depending on accommodations and includes gratuities on the ship, ship board credit, cocktail party, hospitality suite, transportation by motor coach to and from the pier, wine, gifts and an Alaska salmon bake excursion. We currently have over 360 SIR members signed up for this trip.

May 13, 2014: Hidden gems of the Dalmatian Coast & Greece. A 16 day cruise aboard a

privately owned Grand Circle small ship with a maximum of 50 passengers. Ports of Call include Zagreb, Split, Hvar, Korcula, Dubrovnik, Montenegro, Butrint, Albania, Corfu, Delphi and Athens. Prices range from approximately \$4595 to \$6170 depending on accommodations and airfare. Trip also includes 37 meals, 12 exclusive tours with personal headsets, home hosted dinners, and resident Grand Circle program director. Contact **Ken Richter** 689-6217.



Photo by Paul Dubow

**Mike Corker and Pete Gates**  
with their catch from Shadow Cliffs

*I didn't like my beard at first then it grew on me.*

*Vern Laursen*

## Cribbage

John Pearl

Scheduling problems for our March meeting (caused by the Chair) resulted in a smaller gathering than usual. However the four of us that did manage to make it to **Barney Meade's** home on the 27th did in fact have a good time.

**Art Ainscough** took first place \$\$\$, while our host, **Barney Meade**, recovered his "investment." Our meeting in April will be on Wednesday, the 24th, at 12:30 PM, at **Barney Meade's** home. If you would like to learn more about Cribbage (the best-ever two-handed card game), please contact me and we'll help you get started and improve your game.



*Why did I drop out of Communism 101?*

*Bad Marx*





Photo by Jim Hanck



Sue and Walt Busenius relaxing at the Monterey Mashers event.

### Sunshine

Walt Busenius  
945-0715

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

We are deeply saddened with the passing of Sir **Darrell Parcher** on Thursday, April 4th after suffering from brain cancer. We offer our condolences to his wife Elaine and family.

We keep the following Sirs in our thoughts and prayers, asking for continued healing and a return to good health...

**Chuck Bobinecz, Reggie Fromm, Elmer Kaprielian, Dominic DiMatteo, Guy Rudberg, Jim Kohl, Jack Calloway, Charlie Kiser, Jim Helmick, Bob Van Luchene, Vern Laursen and Tom Morgan.**

Please try to contact a sick Sir 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.

### Bowling Larry Mitchell



The Branch 146 Annual Bowling Tournament, held on March 19th and 21st, was a rousing success this



year with 120 bowlers participating. A total of \$2,932.25 was paid out to the various prize winners. Some of the local winners were: Singles - Jim Willie, Jack Jagoda, Mike Kropft, and John Carl. In Doubles Jack Jagoda was again in the money. In the All Events Division Jim Willie was once again a winner. It should be noted that all of these bowlers are from Branch 19. No bowlers from Branch 146 were "in the money". The high game honors went to Dalton Cox with a 290 game. He was one strike short of a 300 (perfect) game!

*If a man says something in the middle of the forest and no woman hears him, is he still wrong?*

ed

### Duplicate Bridge 2

Dick DeVoe

The Duplicate Bridge 2 Group's 3 tables were graciously hosted by **Brad Hatcher** on April 19.

**Dave Pierce** not only won the 1st half, but hung in there to win the overall with 30 pts. Sub **Doug Eisner** came from way behind to take 2nd with 29 pts., and **Jim Adams**,

consistent throughout, was a close 3rd with 28.5 pts.

This event was notable by the fact that another 5 players also eclipsed the mean average of 24 pts.: **Bob Yolland & Dick DeVoe** (26 pts.) and **Rich Ahlf, Max Hinkle, & Lynn**

**Freeman** (25 pts.). **Lynn** was also notable by increasing his 2nd half vs. 1st half score by almost 100%! Good work, gentlemen.



*Velcro... A rip off!*

Vern Laursen



Photo by Bob Spellman

**Barbara & Jim Stedman**  
Debating on whether to bet on the favorite.



Photo by Bob Spellman

**Sir Al Elnick** studying the odds of his horse winning.

*Cartoonist found dead in home.*

*Details are sketchy*

Vern Laursen



Photo by Bob Spellman

**Bonnie Rettew, Ken and Elaine Richter** spending some of their winnings at the Golden Gate Fields SIR event in April.



Photo by Jim Hanck

Fine dining at Monterey Mashers. Seated clockwise from 6; **Carla and Lew Thompson, Gwenn Boero, Margot Somerville, Dick and Christy DeVoe, Dennis and Ann Hallett, Dick & Judy Richmond**

*Vern entered a local paper's pun contest. He sent in ten different puns, in the hope that at least one of the puns would win. Unfortunately, no pun in ten did.* ed



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

**Rich Ahlf** receiving the SIR Certificate of Appreciation award from Big Sir **Terry Marchione**.



**Phil Goff**



**Derek Southern**

## Area 2

### Computers and Technology Group

**Phil Goff and Derek Southern** Co-chairs

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 Area 2 Computer and Technology Group invites all Sirs and their guests to our next meeting at the Walnut Creek Elks Lodge on Thursday, May 16th at 9:30 am (please note the new time).

We plan to offer another 'double header'. **Dean Steichen** will discuss common word processors from the expensive and fully functional (but complex) MS Word to some free alternatives. The free products will satisfy most people's needs most of the time, so instead of upgrading according to Microsoft's plans, find a great alternative where the price can't be beat!

**Derek Southern** will follow up with a review of today's most popular browsers and will explain why you need to update your version regularly. Each browser offers something different but the newest versions are faster and more flexible than their earlier siblings. If you don't know how old your current browser is, he'll show you how to find out and then update it. Browsers are our entry into the universe of the internet, but some are better than others. Come and find out how a good browser (with better passwords) makes for a safer experience on the web.

Time permitting, **Dick Curry** will then 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.

*I used to be a banker but then I lost interest*

## Luncheon Attendance

Jim Burk

Our May Luncheon is our Spring Ladies Day Luncheon. Please consider inviting your “best girl” to the luncheon on the 9th. If you are not aware, or if you have forgotten, the Ladies Day Luncheon is handled a little differently than our “regular” luncheons in that you need to let our Ladies Day Luncheon Chairman, **Steve Dawkins**, know if you are coming in advance and who your guest will be along with your entrée choices. The price for the luncheon is also different in that the menu has been upgraded and has been set at \$28 per person. Please see the reservation form for the luncheon located in this edition of the SIR Call. It needs to be received by **Steve** by May 1st accompanied by your check to cover you and your guest(s).

You say you do not have a spouse or significant other? That does not prevent you from attending the luncheon. Use the same reservation form and simply inform **Steve** that you will be coming alone. You may bring a guest couple. The next regular men’s luncheon is June 13, and I will remind you in my article in the June edition of the SIR Call about the details for that day.



*I know a guy who is addicted to brake fluid.  
He says he can stop any time.*

Vern Laursen

## Monterey Mashers



Photo by Jim Hanck

L to R, “Monterey Mashers” **Corrie Oranje, Don DelBene, Dick Kincaide** and **Dan O’Sullivan** ready to hit the links at the Laguna Seca Golf Course in April

The annual Monterey Mashers 3-day event was held March 24-27 in Monterey. Sunday the 22 couples enjoyed a room party prior to dinner at Rosines Restaurant.

On Monday, golfers played the Rancho Canada West course, and non-golfers enjoyed their free time in the Monterey area. Monday evening the traditional "In the Inn" party was celebrated, with everyone enjoying the great variety of heavy hors d'oeuvres and wines contributed by the participants.

On Tuesday, golfers played for bragging rights at Laguna Seca Golf Ranch. **Bob Yolland** saved one of his best rounds of the year with a net 60! **Den-nis Hallett, Bill Cammerer** and **Chuck Denney** also had net scores below par for 2nd to 4th respectively. **Ann Hallett** won the ladies flight with a net 66. She was followed with below-par net scores by **Christy DeVoe, Margot Somerville,** and **Janet Yolland.** **Gwenn Boero** fittingly won the annual **Warren Boero** Memorial Putter award and plaque with the lowest number of putts: 31! **Ken Kratz** and **Fran Matthews** got closest to the hole on #8. Congratulations, all!

A gala banquet in the Rancho Canada Golf Club's Merienda Room brought a delightful close to three days of fun with old and new friends.

*Last night I lay in bed looking up at the stars and I thought to myself, “where the heck is the ceiling?”*

ed



Photo by Jim Hanck

**Jim “down the middle” Brown** about to crush one down the middle of the 1st at Boundary Oak Golf Course.

*I changed my iPod name to “Titanic”  
It’s syncing now.*

Vern Laursen



**Frank Mathos** at the April luncheon receiving the Senior Sir award on reaching 90 years of age from State SIR Secretary **Dick DeVoe**.

**The Area 2 Sums Investment Group** will meet on Wednesday May 22, 2013. 8:00am at the Diablo Creek Golf Course, 4050 Port Chicago Highway in Concord. Our speaker will be **Peggy Cabaniss**, CFP and NAPFA – Registered Financial Advisor and sole owner of HC Financial Advisors, Inc. a fee-only financial planning and investment advisory firm in Lafayette, CA.

**Peggy** will present a workshop on “Getting your estate plans in order: what to do before someone dies – what to do after someone dies – common mistakes with estate plans and how to fix or avoid them.” She will review the basic documents of an estate plan, what the current laws are with regard to estate taxes and exemptions, and how to properly title assets during lifetime. In addition she will discuss the pros and cons of sharing estate plans with family members. There will be a checklist handed out showing what should be done when there is a death in the family. She will review the basics of settling an estate, both at the death of the first spouse and the death of the surviving spouse, along with a review of the most common mistakes that attorneys see in settling estates and how to avoid those problems. In summary this workshop will help you prepare carefully and thoroughly so that your estate will someday be settled smoothly and with no problems.

The Legends restaurant opens at 7:00am so plan to have an enjoyable breakfast along with your fellow members. Bring along a prospective SIR member to let them know about our Investment Group and enjoy this timely presentation. Let’s support the restaurant

and its excellent staff. Occasionally **George Schulze** will ask for a \$2.00 donation which we need to pay for items that come up and to tip the wait staff of the restaurant. Please support this effort.



## Walkers

John Lewis



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

*May walks planned by **Bill Powell**.*

May 3 Alamo New Life Church South:  
Danville Blvd, Alamo

Meet : South on 680, R. on Livorna, R. on Danville Blvd. , L. into church parking in back .  
Walk: So. on Iron Horse Trail  
Coffee: Panera’s 1140 Locust St. W.C.

May 10 Walden Park South: Oak Rd.  
Walnut Creek

Meet: At Walden Park Parking  
Walk: South on Iron Horse Trail  
Coffee: Panera’s Bancroft and Treat

May 17 Heather Farms Walk, Ygnacio Valley Rd.  
Walnut Creek

Meet: Heather Farms Swim Club  
Parking  
Walk: Trail around the lake  
Coffee: **Bill and Dorothy Powell’s**  
72 El Divisadero Ave. W.C.

May 24 Lafayette Trail East: St. Mary’s Rd.  
Lafayette

Meet: Lafayette Community Center  
Walk: trail follows St. Mary’s Rd.  
toward W.C.  
Coffee: Terzetto Cuisine Moraga  
Shopping Ctr.

May 31 Larkey Park Trail, Buena Vista & 1st  
Ave. Walnut Creek

Meet: Lindsey Museum parking  
Walk: Mt. Diablo Trail So. behind  
Museum  
Coffee: Starbucks Pleasant Hill Plaza

*Innkeeper: The room is \$15 a night.*

*It's \$5 if you make your own bed.*

*Guest: I'll make my own bed.*

*Innkeeper: Good. I'll get you some nails and wood.*

Jeff Bailly

Branch 146 Greeter chair, **Jonathan Korfhage** really adds personality into the job of greeting Sirs at our luncheons. It's reported that some members attend the luncheons just to get a glimpse of what will greet them!



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock