

WE ARE SIR – MAKE FRIENDS FOR LIFE

Gala Ladies Day Luncheon

Thursday, May 10th
Boundary Oak Clubhouse

Guest Speaker: Doug McConnell
Television host of "BAY AREA BACKROADS"

Gathering time— 10:45
Seating time— 11:45

Make Reservations with Steve Ybarra by May 4th
Reservation form on page 4



Big Sir's Notes

Bruce Borgman

We enjoyed another interesting speaker in April when we heard about the fascinating career of Hal Ramey, renowned sportscaster in the Bay Area. Our very own **Joe Starkey's** introduction of Hal was entertaining as well! These guys sure have found their groove in their chosen field – they are always a kick to listen to!

We had a successful luncheon where we inducted five new members: **Don Arington** (sponsor **Jim Saavedra**), **Byron Nelson** (sponsor **Bob Spellman**), **Brian McCarthy** (sponsor **Bill Holly**), **Dave Svoboda** (sponsor **Dan Holland**), and **Angel Braganza** (sponsor **Joe Fuchs**) – great job by all of their sponsors!

Honorees this month were notable: two of our members were recognized by **Doug Eisner** for achieving Super Senior status, having reached the milestone birthday of 95 years of age. What an accomplishment by **Cass Buys** and **Bob Wedin** – and a tribute to clean living and staying active!

SIR does have a lot of conditions for membership in our organization, but you will see one of the important State Rules in the Membership section on page 2. It is a State Rule that our members attend at least five of the ten regular luncheon meetings in a year. We have several members who have missed more than five meetings, which has generated an ongoing discussion in the Branch Executive Committee. How do we deal with the issue of not complying with this rule? It may be that some members have health, caregiving, or other legitimate reasons for missing the luncheon, but we are not always aware of this. The BEC has concluded that the Big Sir and Little Sir will contact each member who has exceeded the attendance rule to see if we can be of assistance in helping the member attend the required number of meetings. It may be that some members will qualify for Emeritus status or may choose to become inactive for a period of time. It is our fervent desire that we assist our members in attending the required number of luncheons.

Continued on next page

Photo by Richard Hockenbrock



Veteran Bay Area sportscaster, Hal Ramey
was our April guest speaker

SIR Mission Statement

The Mission of SIR is to improve the lives of our members through fun activities and events – while making friends for life

Big Sir's Notes *continued*

On a more positive note, we are looking forward to having our Ladies Day on May 10th. It is always a special day where we will be joined by our wives or significant others. By now we hope you will have secured your reservation but if not, you have until May 4th. Our Little Sir, Jonathan Korfhage, has arranged for Doug McConnell to speak to us. Most of you know this award-winning TV journalist who for many years has hosted "Bay Area Backroads". This is a rare privilege and an experience you are sure to enjoy. See you in May!



Membership

Dave Pierce

What a great month! We inducted five new members: **Don Arington, Angel Braganza, Brian McCarthy, Byron Nelson, and Dave Svoboda**. We already have one more ready for induction in July (when we will also have a sponsors' drawing for a free lunch). Keep up the good work! We are almost half-way to our annual goal of 30 new members with June yet to go.

Steve Brodsky has resigned, so we now stand at 292 members.

Little Sir's Corner

Jonathan Korfhage



As I reflect on the SIR 146 membership I am in awe! Three hundred impressive gentlemen gather together in 47 different activities and venues. The more I become acquainted with our members, the greater admiration I have for the character, diversity, and experiences of all of you gentlemen! Perhaps it is the nature of our group, but every Sir I have met is a kind person!

AND IT WAS MARK TWAIN WHO SAID, "KINDNESS IS THE LANGUAGE WHICH THE DEAF CAN HEAR AND THE BLIND CAN SEE,"

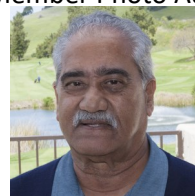
This month's luncheon speaker is a talented and charming man. **DOUG MCCONNELL** is the host of "BAY AREA BACKROADS". He is a television journalist who focuses on environmental issues, with programs on the air continuously since 1982. He has created, produced and hosted many series, special programs, and news projects for local, national and international distribution. His broadcast awards include multiple Emmys.

It seems that one of the jobs of the Little Sir is to be the "bill collector" – an unappreciated but necessary task. So, if you can't come to the luncheon and 'forget' to call to excuse yourself in a timely manner, it affects our guaranteed luncheon count. If you are a monthly payer, you or the membership is obliged to pay the cook for your meal, unless, of course, you are an annual payer, which means the food is just wasted.

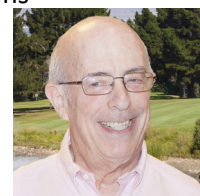
New Member Photo Additions



Don Arington



Angel Braganza



Brian McCarthy



Byron Nelson



Dave Svoboda

The Branch Executive Committee would like to remind all members that attendance at the monthly luncheon is required by one of the State Rules.

Article 8—Required Attendance Rule 100b
Attend one-half of the regular luncheon meetings within the previous twelve consecutive month period. NOTE: Excused meetings cannot be included to achieve the minimum attendance.

Photo by Richard Hockenbrock



Honoree Chair **Doug Eisner** presents the Super Senior SIR Award to **Bob Wedin** at the April luncheon

Photo by Richard Hockenbrock



The second Super Senior SIR Award was presented to **Cass Buys** by Honoree Chair **Doug Eisner**

SIR Call Newsletter Group

Editor
Co - Editors
Proofreaders
Internet Posting

Richard Hockenbrock
Walt Busenius, Rob Melrose
Cal Tucker, Jonathan Korfhage,
Pat Lucia, and Jim Barry
Ron Plachy

Reservations for May 10th Ladies Day Luncheon

Salad

Tabbouleh Salad
Butter Lettuce, Baby Tomatoes, Cucumbers
Creamy Champagne Vinaigrette

Entrees

New York Steak
Roasted New York Steak, Seasonal Vegetables,
Scalloped Potatoes, Green Pepper Corn Sauce
Or
Pan Seared Alaskan Salmon
Cous Cous, Seasonal Vegetables, Summer Fruit
Salsa, White Wine Butter Sauce

Dessert

Red Velvet Cake
Vanilla Cake, Chantilly Cream,
Fresh Strawberries, Raspberry Coulis

On the form below, type in the requested information and print this page, or just print this page and fill in your information by hand then cut along the dotted line and send it with your check to the address below.

Thursday, May 10th, 2018
Number of Tickets _____ at \$28 ea.
Amount Enclosed \$ _____

Entree Choices

Names	Entree Choices	
	Beef	Salmon

Make checks payable to SIR 146. Send to **Steve Ybarra**, 142 Leonard Dr. Concord, CA 94518

All reservations and payments in full must be received by May 4th. There will be no tickets sold at the door.

If ordering for a full or partial table, list your names and seating guests. Your guests will be paired with you when their check and form is received or you may pay for them directly on your sheet listing their name & entrée.



Sunshine

Calvin Tucker

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

- ◆ **Jim Bogue**
- ◆ **Carl Feil**
- ◆ **Art Mancini**
- ◆ **Larry Mitchell**
- ◆ **Jim Saavedra**
- ◆ **Al Zamolo**

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

If you are aware of an ill Sir, please let the Sunshine Chair know by e-mail or phone so that our SIR members can be advised.

Cal Tucker

phone: (925) 389-6070

Email: calvinctucker@gmail.com



Luncheon Chairman

Rob Melrose

May is our Ladies Day luncheon so I hope you have sent your reservation information and check to Steve Ybarra.

April's Luncheon

- Lunches consumed: 219
- Members Excused: 52
- Members giving notice after deadline: 4
- Members considered "No Shows": 21, resulting in potential cost to the branch: \$546

June 14th Luncheon

- Cost: \$26
- Preferred payment method is check
- Opt Out Deadline: June 8th at Noon
- Email: NoLunchBranch146@gmail.com
- If you need to call: (925) 979-5146

Special Requests: If you have dietary restrictions, want a vegetarian meal or can't consume a meal, please send email to NoLunchBranch146@gmail.com before the Opt Out Deadline. If you are bringing a guest: please notify Lunch Chair with guest's name at the same email address. NoLunchBranch146@gmail.com

Annual Payers: Since we have lowered the price, we really need you to let us know if you are not coming before the deadline so we can keep the low price.



Roger Peters & Mark Curtis having a enjoyable discussion

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.

2018 Branch 146 Officers and Directors

Big Sir	Bruce Borgman
Little Sir	Jonathan Korfhage
Secretary	Brad Hatcher
Assistant Secretary	Richard Hockenbrock
Treasurer	Steve Ybarra
Assistant Treasurer	Ben Gleason
Director(2 nd Term)	Dave Pierce
Director(2 nd Term)	Bill Schultz
Director(2 nd Term)	Cal Tucker
Director(2 nd Term)	Bob Mehus
Director(1 st Term)	Pierre Mebane
Director(1 st Term)	Tony Greco

RAMP – Chair Members

Recruitment	Bill Schultz
Activities	Jerry Kaplan
Member Relations	Pierre Mebane
Publicity	Bob Mehus

Refer to branch directory, accessible under *members only* tab heading on our website, for phone numbers & email addresses.



SongSirs Bruce Borgman

The SongSirs have continued their regular practices, especially enjoying the songs in our Irish song list. They are among our favorites in our repertoire, but we were not able to practice with enough members in time to sing for one of the Senior Living Facilities. The good news is that we continued with our Romantic Songs which we performed on Friday, April 20th, at the Sunrise Senior Living facility on Ygnacio Valley Road. Our SongSirs member **Peter Plante** had arranged for the SongSirs to sing here and it turned out to be a wonderful “gig”.

We had about 12 of our group perform songs which included “Love and Marriage”, “Love”, “You Light Up My Life”, “You Make Me Feel So Young”, “Love and Marriage”, and others, all of them introduced by **Lynn Shafer**. We finished our performance with “Thanks for the Memories”, and then sang an encore of “God Bless America”. Our audience was very appreciative, and the Activities Director said, “I wish I’d known about you before” and “When can you come again”. Below and on your right are two recent pictures of our group.

The SongSirs are pleased to welcome a new member to our group – **Larry Gray** – who sang with us this last Friday and was a great addition to the performance. We continually look for more new members, so if this is the kind of fun activity you would enjoy, come out for our practice – every first and third Wednesday at 1:30 pm at the Walnut Creek Presbyterian Church.



Photo by Bruce Borgman

State Sponsored “SIR Day at the Ball Park”

Oakland A’s vs San Francisco Giants

July 22, 2018—1 P.M.—Sunday—Oakland Coliseum

\$55 per person—Section 104-105

Deadline—May 15, 2018

Mail \$55 check to:

Lee Moy

127 N. Helm Ave.

Clovis, Ca 93612

Please provide the following with your check:

- stamped and self addressed return envelope
- your branch number: BR 146
- your phone number including area code

Q/A contact:

559-709-9851

LeeHealthStudio@gmail.com

Lee Moy—State SIR Sports



Photo by Bruce Borgman





Travel Opportunities

Milt Smith

Day in Sacramento Lunch and River Cruise Thursday May 24th

We are still about five couples short for the Sacramento River Trip to be viable. I need your commitment now by sending a check

to me for \$103pp. Experience the era of Mark Twain and steamboats on the Sacramento River. Enjoy a beautiful day in Old Town Sacramento seated aboard the Delta King with lunch aboard. Following lunch a short walk to the neighboring Sacramento Queen for a narrated river cruise. The trip includes roundtrip motor coach, lunch, the cruise and tips. This trip should have a minimal amount of walking. We depart the standard Mitchell Drive location at 9:30 am and return by 5 pm. *Special note: Henry Thatcher will lead this outing in my absence.*

Cornerstones Sunset Garden and Marketplace in Sonoma, Wednesday June 20th: Includes luxury bus transportation, docent tour and lunch for \$95 pp. Departure 8:30 am from Mitchell Park & Ride, return by 4:30 pm. Deadline is May 20th.

Follow That Seagull San Francisco's 49 Mile Scenic Tour Thursday, July 19th: This initial tour began in the Fall of 1938 named for the city's 49 square mile footprint. Our group will pick up Craig Smith, a guide of some renown, at City Hall to begin following That Seagull to view Union Square, Chinatown, Ghirardelli Square, the Wharf, through Fort Point, with a brief stop at Land's End prior to lunch. We will enjoy a hosted lunch at Nick's Restaurant in Pacifica. After lunch we will find the Seagull along the Great Highway, John Muir Drive, and Golden Gate Park prior to a stop at Twin Peaks. We conclude at the Ferry Building, drop Craig off and return to Walnut Creek. Cost is \$108 per person. We depart the Mitchell Drive park & ride at 8:30 am and return at approximately 5 pm. Cost includes round trip motor coach, tour guide, hosted lunch and driver gratuity. Deadline is June 20th.

Both these latter two trips are coming together rather slowly. Please email your intentions to miltsmith549@gmail.com and follow it with a mailed check to Milt Smith, 913 Piute Ct. Walnut Creek, CA. 94598. Do not forget to include guest names and meal choices where appropriate on a separate note attachment.



I hate Russian dolls, they're so full of themselves.



International Opportunities:

Samba Cruise Rio de Janeiro to Buenos Aires 10-night Crystal Symphony with optional pre-cruise to Iguassu Falls – January 23th – February 2nd. Two pricing ranges are from \$5895 to \$7595 depending on cabin size and location. I am in the process of scheduling a new meeting with interested travelers as we got booted at the April meeting due to a wedding. In any case, contact me ASAP if you are interested.

- **Land Tour Munich, Salzburg & Vienna** 8 Day Departs mid-May 2019, with exact date TBD.
- **Society Islands & Tahiti Cruise** 7 Nights , m/s Small-Ship Paul Gauguin, August 8, 2019
- **Mediterranean Arts Cruise Barcelona to Rome** 7 Night . Crystal Cruises Departure September 3, 2019

Each of these trips have their own special attractions. Be sure to let me know of your interest, we will choose the one or ones with the most interest.

Cheers,
Milt Smith
(925) 285-2897cell
miltsmith549@gmail.com

SIR Day at the Races: Golden Gate Fields Friday April 20th



Photo by Milt Smith

Not sure how much money was made by SIR 146 members at **Day at the Races** but these were some of the winners



The first time I got a universal remote control I thought to myself, "This changes everything".





Fishing Report

Paul Dubow

This has been an amazing month! Never before in the history of our group have so many huge fish been caught in a single thirty day period.

The champion was **Rich Fiscina** of Branch 146. Fishing near the mothball fleet in Suisun Bay, **Rich** landed a 106 inch sturgeon after a 45 minute fight using just a 25 lb. test line. The fish was released but charts indicate that a 106 inch sturgeon weighs about 400 lbs. and is approximately 50 years old.

Rich's feat eclipsed an effort by **Tom Boltz** of Branch 146, who landed a striped bass weighing in excess of 20 lbs. earlier in the day. Overlooked in all of this was another striper that **Tom** landed plus two stripers caught by **Paul Dubow** of Branch 146. The fourth member of the crew was **Brion Beetz** of Branch 146 who, unfortunately, came home empty handed, but he did witness a lot of excitement!

The day after **Rich's** catch, **Mike Corker** set out in his boat to do some black bass fishing in the Delta accompanied by **Tom Boltz**. A few hours later, he landed a 19 inch black bass, the largest that he had ever caught. His personal record did not last for long. Later in the day, he hooked a 24 incher! **Mike** and **Tom** also caught their share of normal-sized bass on the trip.

Finally, **Pete Gates** of Branch 146 decided to do some shore fishing for rainbow trout at San Pablo Reservoir, joined by **Carl Moyer**. Within fifteen minutes, **Pete** landed an eight pound rainbow. That made a four pounder that he caught later in the day look small.

We also caught our fair share of regular fish. **Brion Beetz** of Branch 146, **Dave Carlson**, **Carl Moyer**, **Bob Hillaker**, **Terry Miller**, **Phil Scimonelli**, and **Stan Wong** all caught rainbows at various locations; **Tom Kostik** and **Terry Miller** had successful black bass outings; and **Ernie Wong**, **Ken Konzak**, **Don Mittlestadt**, and **Jerry Hicks** spent several productive days at Pyramid Lake in Nevada fishing for cutthroat trout from ladders.

If any of you want to join the fun, please join us for our next meeting on May 24th. It will be held at the Legends Sports Bar and Grill, which is located within the Diablo Creek Golf Course at 4050 Port Chicago Highway in Concord. You are welcome even if you have never fished or have not fished in years. The meeting begins at 8:30 am, but come early for breakfast at 7:30 am. If you have any questions, feel free to call branch fishing chair **Paul Dubow** at 415-495-6504



Photo by Tom Boltz

Rich Fiscina fighting a 400 lb. sturgeon near the mothball fleet



Photo by Tom Boltz

The 400 lb, 106 inch sturgeon caught by **Rich Fiscina**



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

Mike Riley & Max Hinkle at the April luncheon



Photo by Brion Beetz

Tom Boltz with his 20 lb. striper



Photo by Carl Moyer

Pete Gates caught an 8 lb. rainbow trout



Photo by Carl Tilchen

Acoustic Musicians

Carl Tilchen

You are invited to the next meeting of the SIR Acoustic Musicians Group on Thursday, May 17th, at 2 pm. The address is 1281 Homestead Ave, #1D near Ygnacio Valley Road, Walnut Creek. Park on Homestead Ave, walk into garage, call last name **Elnick** on communication device, enter door, take elevator to first floor and walk to unit 1D.

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 & singers are also encouraged to attend. 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 I am glad to lead this group. **Alan Elnick** and I welcome your suggestions to make our group comfortable and fun.



Pickleball

Jim Burk

Branch 146 Sirs (some with their spouses) are now regularly playing this exciting and active game at the Activity and Recreation Center (ARC) of the San Ramon Valley United Methodist Church.

The ARC is located at 902 Danville Boulevard in Alamo and has three beautiful courts for playing Pickle Ball. Everyone is welcome to play there during any of the drop-in times on Monday thru Friday between 9:00 am and 1:00 pm, and between 1:00 pm and 4:00 pm. A player will pay \$5 per session. Each player will be allowed to get in as many games as the number of players that day allows using the traditional player wait list approach. There is also instruction available on Thursdays from 1:00 - 2:00 pm and from 2:00 - 3:00 pm. The cost of the instruction is \$10 per player, plus the \$5 drop-in fee referenced above. A player would be allowed to play until 4:00 pm, space permitting, before or following their one hour of instruction. A player wishing to take advantage of the instruction should call the ARC at (925) 837-2011 and reserve a time (8 players per hour of instruction is available).

Call or email jimanneburk@sbcglobal.net to learn more about the game and/or information about the facility where the Pickle Ball courts are available.

Jim Burk

(925) 946-1192

jimanneburk@sbcglobal.net



Photography Group

Richard Hockenbrock

Our next meeting is scheduled for June 1st. As is customary, we invite all attendees to bring a thumb drive with any pictures they would like to share with the group.

Prior to the next meeting, we have scheduled a photo field trip to Berkeley Marina on Wednesday, May 23rd. There are several areas we can photograph such as the various yachts at Olympic Circle Sailing Club (OCSC), Berkeley Boat Yard where they repair and paint all types and sizes of yachts, Cesar Chavez Park that faces the San Francisco Bay, and more.

We will assemble in Walnut Creek at 9 am and car pool to the location. If you are interested in attending this field trip, please contact **Moose Kelly** at rollingstone911@yahoo.com. He will send you more information.

Email: rhock@pacbell.net

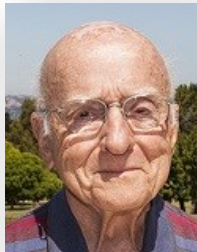
Cell: (925) 324-1713

Next Meeting

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

Subject: Pictures from the Berkeley Marina Field Trip

When: June 1st, 9:00 am—11:00 am



Bocce Ball

Martin Lyle

Our first meet will be May 14th. We expect a good turn-out to start this year's play.

If you are new to the game, come and see how quickly you will pick it up.

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

Rain Cancels Play.

Ladies / Significant others always welcome.

Martin Lyle

(925) 687-4893



Pinochle

Charlie Kahsen / Jeff Morrow

*We meet on
the third Wednesday
of the month at*

*Rocco's Ristorante Pizzeria, 2909 Ygnacio Valley Rd,
Walnut Creek, CA. Optional lunch is from Noon – 1:00 and
card playing from 1:00 – 3:00 pm.*

*If you are interested in joining our group, call one
of us or send an email to both our email addresses and
one of us will get back to you.*

*If you plan to come, please let us know ahead of
time so we can let Rocco's know you plan to have lunch
with the group.*

In our game this month we had a total of seven players, each of whom enjoyed lunch, followed by a little over two hours of card playing. It was nice to note that one of our group who had never played pinochle before last month, as well as others who last played 40+ years ago, have picked the game up quickly and were as competitive as those of us with more recent playing experience.

Our next game is scheduled for Wednesday May 16th. We hope to see you there.

Charlie Kahsen
(925) 943-1750

cwkahsen@gmail.com

Jeff Morrow
(925) 944-7009

jeffrey.morrow@gmail.com



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

Russ Anderson & Lynn Shafer enjoying some refreshments
before the start of the April luncheon



Chess

Jeff Morrow

The Chess Group is composed of members from multiple SIR branches and meets on the second Friday of the month from 12:30 pm to 2:30 pm. We play at the Pleasant Hill Senior Center on 233 Gregory Lane in Pleasant Hill. Depending upon the weather, we either play indoors in the Game Room or outside in the adjacent park. The Senior Center also serves lunch for just \$7.00 (\$5.00 for members) beginning at 11:30 am so, for those interested, you can have an early lunch, and play chess beginning at 12:30 pm.

Most of our group "used to play" or "haven't played in a long time," yet by all accounts, everyone is finding the games and camaraderie enjoyable. So whether you are a well-practiced player or someone looking to renew an interest in chess, I encourage you to join us. Our next game is scheduled for Friday, May 11th.

Feel free to drop in and, if you have a chess set, bring it with you. For further information contact me at the following:

Jeff Morrow

(925) 944-7009

jeffrey.morrow@gmail.com



Photo by Jerry Kaplan

Chess players from multi-branches gather at the Pleasant Hill Senior Center for an Friday afternoon games



Photo by Jerry Kaplan

Chess players deep in thought



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

Picture from the April luncheon
Howard Nemir & newer member Steve Pickelman



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

Steve Ondeck & Bob Greulich at the April luncheon

I refused to believe my road worker father was stealing from his job, but when I got home all the signs were there.



Couples Dining Out

Bruce Borgman

We are looking forward to our Couples Dining Out experience on May 7th. After the last event in March, we walked a couple of steps up the street on Oak Park Blvd to a new restaurant called "Wise Girl", formerly Dallimonti's Italian Restaurant, that has been transformed and refurbished. We were able to get a fantastic menu for our group. Again, we will have a choice of soup (seafood chowder!) or Caesar salad, and will have a choice of five entrees – Sicilian Rosemary Chicken, Salmon Piccata, Prime Rib, Lasagna or Eggplant Parmesan. Finally, the dessert choice is Chocolate Love Cake or Cannoli. All of this is only \$45 per person, all inclusive.

This restaurant's décor resembles a meeting place between Jay Gatsby and Al Capone – part Roaring Twenties and part Prohibition. I am sure our diners will want to return on their own to take advantage of the weekend nights for the music from local musicians and to sample other items from the extensive menu.

We have sent a notice to our email list. We currently have 60 diners already signed up. This is near our limit but we will try to add another one or two couples or we will add your name to our waiting list.

To avoid disappointment and learn about these dinners in advance, send me an email and ask to have your name added to the Couples Dining Out mailing list. You will then get the notice as soon as we decide on a restaurant.

The restaurant has somewhat limited parking so it is best to car pool if you can. Parking is available in the strip mall lot where the restaurant is located or on the street. We will start at 5:30 pm with our cocktail and social hour. This restaurant has a spacious bar and you may elect to arrive early, as some of our diners do, and enjoy a leisurely cocktail ahead of time. We will be able to take advantage of Happy Hour pricing.

We are looking forward to another wonderful dining experience – see you there!!

bgborgman@aol.com

As I watched the dog chasing his tail I thought "Dogs are easily amused", then I realized I was watching the dog chasing his tail.



Cooking II

Bob Yolland

Cooking II had an excellent lunch hosted by **Dennis Hallett** on Monday, April 9th. We began with appetizers of Smoked Salmon with Cream Cheese and capers on crackers, veggies and dip, cheeses of Smoked Gouda, Monterey Jack and Prosciutto wrapped Mozzarella plus stuffed green olives. What a start. As the featured entrée, **Dennis** served a very special Louisiana style Jambalaya with Shrimp, Chicken and Smoked Sausage, accompanied by a Blue Cheese and Grape Coleslaw and baguettes. It was all delicious. To end the meal he made a superb Caramel Chocolate Trifle accompanied by coffee and mints. As a special treat **Dennis** also shared some of his outstanding Single Malt Scotch.

As usual we had a variety of good wines and plenty of conversation throughout the meal. Fortunately, this time all of our members were present and our wives enjoyed a separate lunch elsewhere. Thank you **Dennis!**

Cooking II's next event will be Monday May 14th at **Corrie Oranje's** home.



Photo courtesy of Wise Girl Website

Pictures here and below showing the interior of "Wise Girl" restaurant



Photo courtesy of Wise Girl Website

Mexican Train Dominoes Groups



Mexican Train Dominoes Group 1 (UNO)

Jerry Kaplan

The Group One players met in April on "Friday the Thirteenth" for another fun Game Night at the relaxing home of Sir **Richard Hockenbrock** and his wife, **Sherry**.

Again, seventeen players were on-board to try their luck at choosing the winning dominoes. As usual, some were luckier than others.

The hosts provided treats that were delicious and enjoyed by all; so good that it was hard to get the players back to the tables after our mid-evening break.

The evening's big winner was **Sue Sheldon**, wife of Big Sir, **Bruce Borgman**, who ended the evening with a great average score of 11.9 for each game played. Second place, close behind, was **Susan Kaplan**, spouse of Sir **Jerry Kaplan**, with a score of 12.2. **Sherry Hockenbrock** wife of Sir **Richard Hockenbrock** (and our host), took third place, completing the all-women rout for the evening. See pictures on following page.

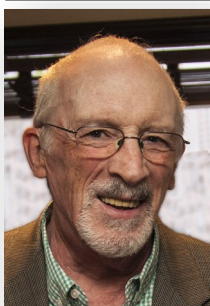
Our group plays one more month to see who wins the ongoing pot collected during the first five months, with about \$85.00 on the line. Then we start the second half of the year running from June through November.

There is always room for more players who want to be on a substitute list as an occasional player either in this group or one of the other five Mexican Train Dominoes groups.

The game is fun to play and easy to learn! Single Sirs as well as a SIR member and his Significant Other are always welcome. The branch activities coordinator will also help start a new group if asked.

(925) 930-7076

mtdana@aol.com



Mexican Train Dominoes Group 3 (TRES)

Jeff Baily

The April 27th Mexican Train Dominoes games were held at the home of **Sharon Varner**. Kudos to **Sharon** for a delightful evening and great desserts. Thanks also to **Jim Stedman** for helping **Sharon** with some



Mexican Train Dominoes Group 2 (DOS)

Dick Woodman

We had a wonderful game night at **Chuck and Mary Denney's** home in March, great food and friends. Besides having a nice social evening the competition resulted in

some low scores.

Anne Plachy had a single digit average game score of 8.0 points to win first place. **John Pearl** had a score of 11.8 to win second place and **Rich Ahlf** took third place with a score of 12.7. Congratulations to all our winners.

Our next game night is April 27th at **Bill and Bernice Cammerer's** home.

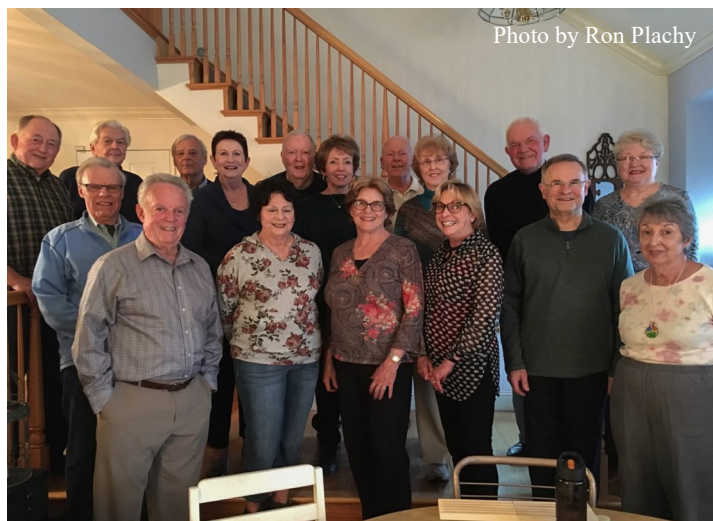


Photo by Ron Plachy

Back Row (L to R): Don Dotson, Bill Cammerer, Rich Ahlf, Jim Meehan, Ron Plachy

Middle Row (L to R): John Pearl, Phyllis Meehan, Etta Dotson, Nancy Pearl, Dick Woodman, Lynette Holly

Front Row (L to R): Chuck Denney: Anne Plachy, Ismini MacLean, Janice Woodman, Bill Holly, Mary Denney
Missing: **Bernice Cammerer**

of the hosting chores.

The tiles were just not bringing some players any luck at all. The high (that means the baddest) score of the evening was an average of 47.3 – no names divulged – and the best 3 were 19.7 bringing **Larry Brown** into 3rd place, 17.7 bringing **Judy Baldridge** into 2nd place and a winning average of 14.2 posted by nonother than **Judy Richmond**, a familiar name in the winners' circle. Congrats winners!

Mexican Train Dominoes Groups



Mexican Train Dominoes Group 4 (El Quattro)

The El Quattro Mexican Train Dominos group got together Friday night with a rousing 14 in attendance. They were: **Don & June Seaton, Ron Louis and Fran Matthews, Jonathan & Barbara Korfhage, Dick & Christy DeVoe,**

Rich & Kim Pace, Jim & Renie Pope and a soon to be new member, **Ken & Carol Soutl**. We had two tables of 7 with spirited competition with lively, spirited banter and laughter between competitors. Lovely snacks of sweets and savories were provided by several women and wine provided by several men. The Low Score table winners of 7 California Lottery tickets were **Don Seaton and Barbara Korfhage**



Mexican Train Dominoes Group 5 (CINCO)

Chuck Campbell

Steve and Sally Sprague welcomed MTD 5 to their new home in Rossmoor this month, and a warm welcome it was. We enjoyed a short house tour, which overlooks the golf course, and feasted on angel food cake with strawberries & cream between games.

Guest substitutes **Bob and Janet Yolland** won the night, placing 1st and 3rd, respectively. **Patti Eisner** upheld the reputation of the regulars by taking home the winnings for 2nd place and securing the dominance of the Ladies Table. We meet next on May 17th at **Dave and Joan Pierce's**.



Photo by Jim Pope

Don Seaton and Barbara Korfhage with their winnings

We need to keep newspapers alive just for the humorous headlines.

Total lunar eclipse will be broadcast live on Northwoods Public Radio

If you're a stargazer, join KAXE 91.7 FM for a special first for more information. If it's cloudy, call the station first for more information.



Mexican Train Dominoes Group 6 (SEIS)

John "Moose" Kelly

Mexican Train Dominoes Group 6 kicked off at the home of **Kathe Mitchell** with a 6 question Espanol language quiz corresponding with 6 Mexican prizes consisting of chips and salsa, boxes of hot tamales, and Mexican liquid refreshments. Since the group is newly formed, we practiced the first two games with open hands. **Jerry Kaplan**, from MTD Uno, assisted us with his expertise by answering questions on the subject. Then it was off to the races!!

Barbara Rhoads, wife of Sir **Don Rhoads**, who professed she has never played the game before, smoked her competitors!! The other two winners were **Richard Hockenbrock** and **Rob Melrose**. The top three winners at each table (3) received a dollar scratchy for their winning efforts. CONGRATULATIONS!! See pictures on next page.

Our next event will occur on Tuesday, May 22nd at **Moose Kelly's** and **Mary Schmidt's** home in Pleasant Hill.

Question: What do you call a cold canine?

Answer: A Chili-dog

Mexican Train Dominoes Groups



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock



April MTD Group 1 winners (R to L): **Sue Sheldon, Susan Kaplan and Sherry Hockenbrock**

Photo by Moose Kelly



In other table action at MTD 6, the tension mounts. Clockwise: Hostess **Kathe Mitchell, Jerry Kaplan (Mr Uno), Steve Odeck, Don Rhoads, Jim Barry, and Rob Melrose**

Photo by Moose Kelly



Newest MTD Group 6 (SEIS) players taking a break from the action (L to R): **Barbara Rhoads, Sherry Hockenbrock, Richard Hockenbrock (Without a camera!), and Sue Sheldon**

Photo by Richard Hockenbrock



The table above was so involved in their game that **Bruce Borgman** was barely noticed as he took his break from another table



Click the button to see Sue Sheldon explain her winning ways (must have an internet connection)

Pictures from the SIR Theatre Party at Leshner Center for the Arts for "West Side Story" by Contra Costa Musical Theater on April 13th. Thirty-four SIR members and guests were present.



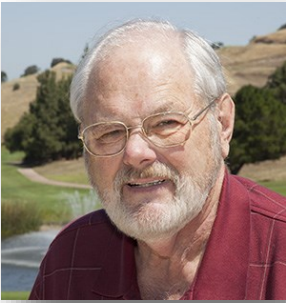
Photo by Gary Schaub



Photo by Gary Schaub



Photo by Gary Schaub



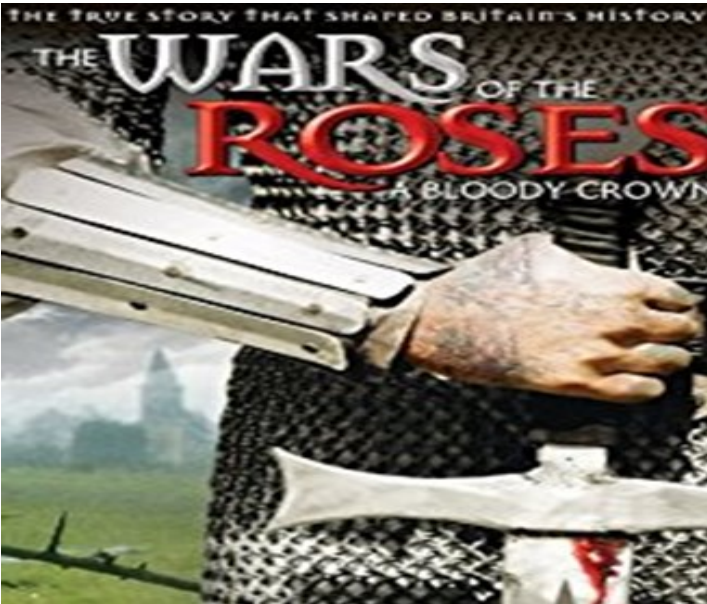
Theatre

Gary Schaub

SHAKESPEARE'S WARS OF THE ROSES

SIR THEATRE PARTY
SEPTEMBER 6TH

English history is always fascinating. Whether it's the foibles of Henry VIII, the scheming of Richard III, or the passions of Queen Victoria – following the decades of progression to the Royal Throne of England always gives us insight into the infamy and fantasies of “the Royals.”



SIR146 members have a fine opportunity to get a glimpse into this history at our SIR Theater Party on September 6 with *The Wars of the Roses*. An adaption of the Bard's *Henry VI* and *Richard III* is on tap at California Shakespeare Theater in Orinda. Curtain time is 7:00 pm.

Discount tickets for *The Wars of the Roses* are \$53.00 per person, and can be reserved by August 14 or until our allotment is filled.

Much of history and background of the current British Royal Family harkens back to the period of the Wars of the Roses. And, Shakespeare's treatment of the Royals and their battles for winning and keeping the throne make for great theatre.

The Wars of the Roses covers a three decade civil war (1455-1487) between two rival royal branches—from the death of Richard, Duke of York until the eventual victory by the Lancastrians with the death of King Richard III. It promises to be a truly epic production.

The performance is at the open air Bruns Theater off Hwy. 24 just west of Orinda. Free parking is available on site, with a tram to take attendees up the hill to the theater and picnic areas. Bring your own picnic, or purchase goodies at the food plaza. A picnic area reserved for Sirs opens at 5:30 pm. NOTE the special curtain time at 7:00 pm.

Reserve seats for the September 6th performance with a check of \$53 per person payable to SIR 146, and mailed to Sir **Gary Schaub** at the address below.

Gary F. Schaub

1400 Canyonwood Ct, #8
Walnut Creek, CA 94595
[\(925\) 938-5454](tel:9259385454)
gschaub1@gmail.com

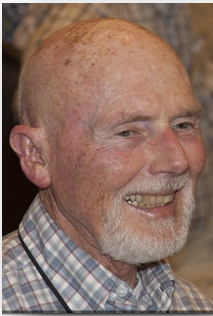
Deadline is August 14th



George Mon & Mike Whitaker waiting for lunch



Rich Pace & Dick DeVoe enjoying some conversation



Book Group

Chuck Campbell

The SIRs Book Group met April 16th to discuss *“Carrying the Fire, An Astronaut’s Journey”* by Michael Collins. Collins was one of the three astronauts to participate in the first moon landing mission. He was the astronaut who stayed aboard the control module while the other two separated in the moon landing module and successfully touched down on the moon.

Collin’s account starts with his testing jet fighters and his attempts to qualify for the astronaut training program. Once in the astronaut program, the author highlights the thorough and repetitious training that NASA saw necessary before putting the trainees into actual space travelling vehicles. Collins presents all this as if sitting with you in light conversation, conversation that seems to go on and on. Although full of technical details of little interest to the average reader, Collins’ accounts of the rigors of astronaut training and the experiences of walking in space & the first moon landing make this an enjoyable read.

For our next book we looked back to the classics and chose *Moby Dick* by Herman Melville. We will be meeting on May 14th at the Greenery Restaurant at 8:30 am.



SIR 146 Explore & Eat ROSIE THE RIVETER MUSEUM

Richmond, California

May 21, 2018

An Explore & Eat event is planned for May 21st to tour the *ROSIE THE RIVETER* at the World War II Home Front Museum located in the historic former Ford assembly plant in Richmond located along the waterfront. Inside the *ROSIE THE RIVETER* Visitor Center you will find exhibits highlighting both local and national WWII Home Front history, as well as some museum artifacts from the era.

We plan to start the tour at 10:00 am with a welcome talk from a Park Ranger followed by 2 short movies and a tour of the museum exhibits. After the tour, at approximately 12:30 pm we will proceed to the Assemble Restaurant that is next door to the Museum and in the Boiler Room of the old Ford assemble plant.

The tour is free to the public and offered daily, parking is free and located in front of the Museum.

Directions to the *ROSIE THE RIVETER* Museum are: West on 580 to Harbour Way South, continue to the end of Harbour Way and turn left at the Guard Station. The Guard will give you direction to the *ROSIE THE RIVETER* Museum.

Please reserve your spot by sending an email to: 146exploreandeat@gmail.com Include your name and the name of your guest(s)

We are looking forward to your participation!

Co-chairs: **Henry Thatcher** 925-997-5032 and **Jim Pope** 925-633-6447



Max Burchett & Jim Kohl paused their conversation to have their picture taken prior to the start of lunch

My neighbor warned people that the Titanic would sink. No one listened, but he kept on warning them nonetheless until they got sick of him and kicked him out the movie theater.



As a tradition, the SongSirs end the luncheon with a song



Couples Duplicate Bridge 1 Bob Yolland

Sir's Couples Duplicate Bridge 1 had a very enjoyable evening of bridge at **Bob and Janet Yolland's** home on Wednesday, April 18th. We greatly appreciate and thank the substitutes who played. Thank you also to **Janet** for her tasty goodies and drinks. As for results we are happy to congratulate **Dick and Christy DeVoe** who came in first with 22.0 points. They were followed by **Bob and Janet Yolland** with 20.5 for second place and **Rich Ahlf and Ismini Maclean** with 19.0 for third. The scores were lower than normal since we could not count 2 boards that were played out of turn.

Our next event will be hosted by **Jim Brown** on May 16th.



Couples Party Bridge Tony Greco

Jerry & Christine Benoit hosted the April 3rd event. Before starting bridge we were all given a tour of their backyard project where they are installing a semi-professional bocce court. We are hoping to be invited to the grand opening bocce party! After the tour we were treated to a variety of wines and cheese plus guacamole dip throughout the evening.

Bridge scores were average with 3rd PLACE going to **Tony & Cindy Greco** with 3120 points. 2nd PLACE went to **Rich Ahlf & Ismini MacLean** with 3200 points. And 1st PLACE was reclaimed by **Brad & Lynne Hatcher** with 3430 points, after briefly slipping out of 1st PLACE last month for the only time this year.

For dessert **Christine Benoit** made a delicious Meyer Lemon Cake and served it with coffee at her large dining room table where we were all able to sit around comfortably and chat about anything non-bridge related. Upon request, **Christine** handed out the cake recipe plus fresh lemons from her yard.

Next month's event will be held on May 1st and hosted by **Dick & Christy DeVoe**. I will be sending out timely emails identifying the available regular players and subs. If anyone is interested in playing couples party bridge and is interested in subbing once in a while, give me a call or catch me at the next SIR luncheon.

Tony Greco

(925) 934-0395

almanorwest@sbcglobal.net



Couples Duplicate Bridge 2 Dave Pierce

On a warm spring evening (we had windows open), it was a pleasure to see all the regulars appear for our usual friendly competition at **Joan and Dave Pierce's**. Last month's losers were this month's winners, demonstrating how balanced we are. **Brad and Lynne Hatcher** were first (60%), followed by the hosts (56%) and **Dick and Christy DeVoe** (51%), edging out **Cindy and Tony Greco** by half a matchpoint (1%). **Tony** wanted a recount to find another matchpoint, but the only scoring error discovered didn't help (of course, **Dick** was doing the recount). What did help was **Joan's** melt-in-your-mouth cheesecake.

Dave Pierce, 932-3877 (925) 932-3877

dwp@astound.net



Party Bridge Fred Bolton

We played three tables of bridge at the home of **Rich Ahlf** on April 2nd. In addition to our regular players, we were joined by **Ismini MacLean**, which we all appreciated. First place went to **Jim Pope** with 5660 points, second to **Jim Jackson** with 3870, and third to **Rich Ahlf** with 3780. Our next game will be hosted by **Doug Eisner** on May 7th.

George Clooney, Leonardo DiCaprio, and Matthew McConaughey get together to make a movie.

Clooney says, "I'll direct."

DiCaprio says, "I'll act."

McConaughey says, "I'll write, I'll write, I'll write."

Why didn't 4 enter the haunted house?

Because it was 2 squared.



Men's Duplicate

Bridge 1

Doug Eisner

Roger Peters hosted 4 tables of Duplicate Bridge Group 1 on April 16th. The morning session was rather pedestrian with **Bob Yolland** leading the pack at the lunch break with 17.5 pt. **Bob** was followed closely by **Tony Greco's** 17.0 pt. **Jim Jackson** squeezed into 3RD PLACE ahead of **Jim Brown**, 15.0 pt to 14.5 pt. The afternoon session was very spirited and, in the end, 3 of the 4 final top places were filled by 3 of the 4 morning session leaders. Surprisingly, **Max Hinkle** came from out of nowhere to tie **Bob Yolland** for 1ST PLACE with 46.5 pt while **Tony Greco's** 41.5 pt solidified 3RD PLACE, just edging out **Jim Brown's** 41.0 pt.

Our May game will be hosted by **Bill Schultz**.



Men's Duplicate

Bridge 2

Dick DeVoe

Our Duplicate Bridge 2 Group was smartly hosted by **Fred Bolton** on April 6th. This was the first Branch Duplicate event that used bidding boxes, and players who had never used them before learned quickly. Congratulations!

Final Results:

- 1ST PLACE (TIE)- **Ed Marlovits** and **Dave Pierce** with 31.5 pts. **Ed** and **Dave** exactly matched each other's rankings and scores in both the 1st and 2nd halves: 13.5 pts/3rd Place tie and 18 pts./1st Place tie.
- 3RD PLACE TIE- **Brad Hatcher**, **Jim Stedman**, and **Bob Yolland** with 26.5 pts.
- ♦ MOST TWOS: **Ed Marlovits** with 10, closely followed by **Bob Yolland** with 9.
- ♦ LEAST ZEROS: **Dave Pierce** with 2.
- ♦ COMEBACK KIDS: Event Winners **Ed Marlovits** and **Dave Pierce** each increased their 1st half scores by 4.5 pts,, from 13.5 to 18.0 pts.
- ♦ BEST PARTNERSHIPS (max. 6pts.)

Max Hinkle had four winning partnerships.

Bds. 1-3: **Tony Greco / Bob Yolland** (4.5 pts)

Bds. 4-6: **Dick DeVoe / Tony Greco** and **Max Hinkle / Dave Pierce** (3.5 pts.)

Bds. 7-9: **Ed Marlovits / Jim Stedman** (5.5 pts.)

Bds. 10-12: **Brad Hatcher/Max Hinkle** (4.5 pts.)

Bds. 13-15: **Dick DeVoe / Dave Pierce** and **Max Hinkle / Ed Marlovits** (5.5 pts)

Bds. 16-18: **Ed Marlovits / Dave Pierce** (5.5 pts.)

Bds. 19-21: **Brad Hatcher / Bob Yolland** (6.0 pts)

Bds. 22-24: **Jerry Benoit / Max Hinkle** (4.5 pts.)



Photo by Bill Schultz

Today's Duplicate Bridge 1 with **Bob Yolland** and **Max Hinkle** displaying their winnings as they tied for first place. **Jim Brown** was embarrassed to show the four quarters he won for fourth place but **Tony Greco** shows his third place winnings



Photo by Bill Schultz

Golfers lined up for a free lunch on April 17th



Photo by Bill Schultz

04 17 2018

First round flight winners at the Ryder Cup format Golf April 17th were **Tony Greco, Gary Brown, Corrie Orange, Mike Whitaker, Joe Fuchs, Loren DeLaurenti, and Howard Zimmerman**



Men's Duplicate Bridge 3 Sid Landman

The April Duplicate Bridge Game for Group 3 was held on Friday, April 20th, at **Max Hinkle's** home. We had twelve players, three tables and began using bridge bidding cards instead of verbal bids. There was no problem making the changes.

Additionally, we began a monthly program to learn new conventions starting with a base of the Standard American bidding system. The first discussion reviewed the various elements of Standard American basic bidding to make sure everyone was on the same page.

Next month we hope to start teaching additional elements and conventions that are part of what's called the Yellow Card ACBL system. This is designed for inexperienced players wanting to add additional tools to their bidding quiver. So far, everyone seemed pleased with the first session.

April Results

- First, **Mark Curtis** with 28.5 pts or 59%, a fine overall score.
- Second, **Ed Marlovits** with 28 pts or 58% almost besting **Mark**, which was probably due to the poor round he had with me as a partner.
- Third, **Max Hinkle**, our host, with 26.5 pts or 55%. **Max** could have come in first, but we do not allow our hosts to win, so he gets to play with me and that makes sure he does not win. Poor "Mad" **Max**.

Before I finish, I just want to express my appreciation to **Max Hinkle**, who was not scheduled to host this month. We had a last minute health issue for the scheduled host and **Max** graciously offered to step in with only two days notice. Thank you **Max**, you saved me from having to host. See everyone next month.

Attention

Men's Duplicate Bridge 3 group is still looking for more duplicate bridge players to fill its ranks. We especially want to invite any new member or members who have not been playing and would like to do so.

Contact **Sid Landman** at (925) 673-8817 or email sidlandman@aol.com.



Cribbage John Pearl

MARCH RESULTS

Six excellent cribbage players gathered at the home of Sir **Barney Meade** on the afternoon of Wednesday, March 28th. In the Chair's absence, the very capable Assistant Chair, **Ron Afdal**, kept the peace, gave the assignments, and handed out the winnings.

On top of the leader board this month was former Big Sir **Jim Stedman**, who won all five of his matches, and in his usual quiet demeanor, did not gloat about his success. Our second place winner was **Peter Plante**, known locally as the "book club man." **Ron Afdal**, assistant to the man (that would be me), came in third.

APRIL RESULTS

Beach weather and the travel bug hit the Cribbage group hard this month. However, four excellent cribbage players managed to resist temptation and gathered at the home of Sir **Barney Meade** on the afternoon of Wednesday, April 25th.

Ron Afdal, our capable assistant chair, won all his games to end with a perfect score, while **Dennis Hallett** took home second place money.

The "pegging wars" continue again in May, on Wednesday, the 23rd.

Let me know if you would like to join this fun group!

John Pearl, Chair

mcpearl@astound.net



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

Alan Elnick & Ron Lew at the April luncheon



Poker Group 1

Dan O'Sullivan

Poker group 1 met on April 11th at **Dan O'Sullivan's** home. As always, a good time was had by all. We had two guests **Ron Binder** and **Rich Hanford**. Also the pot was somewhat evenly split between winners and losers. Our next outing will be at the home of **Al Zamolo** on Wednesday, May 9th.



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 Club 3

Sig Kalteis

*Poker Club 3 meets on the fourth Monday of the month. We usually play at my house. Contact **Sig Kalteis** 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.*

Two men were talking, and one said, "We've been going to a new restaurant and it's really great. I'd recommend it very highly."

The other man asked, "What's the name of the place?" The first man thought awhile and finally said, "What are those flowers you send a woman you love? The ones with red petals and thorns?"

"You must mean roses," he replied.

"That's it," said the man. He yelled to his wife, "Rose, what's the name of the new restaurant we like?"



Old Money Poker

Group 6

Brad Hatcher

Poker group 6 met at **Chuck Denney's** home in early April. He provided us with a comfortable setting including his poker table. As some regular players were unavailable, **Larry Brown** joined us as a substitute. He played well for someone who said he had not played in a large number of years.

One of our players, after the game, had his name changed. **Rich Ahlf** is now known as **VERY RICH Ahlf** as a result of his taking home significant winnings. The dollar amount is not specified as you never know when the IRS is looking!



Cooking Lunch & Wine

Bill Hartman

The LAW cooking group meets on the 4th 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 11:00 am for good conversation, appetizers and wine followed by lunch. Couples are an integral part of this group as we have two dinners each year with our partners which are scheduled for March and September.



Book Corner

Peter Plante

The Book Corner will be open for the Ladies Day Luncheon. Bring your wives and significant others to pick-up their favorite authors and find some treasures to take home and read. Thank you all for your terrific support. See you May 10th.

Question: If you are Russian going into the bathroom And Finnish when coming out of the bathroom, what are you when you are in the bathroom?

Answer: European!



GOLF

Ed Marlovits

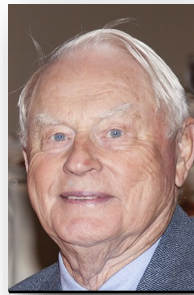
Our Annual Meeting with shotgun start was April 17th. It was well attended with fifty-six members participating. Included in that mix were the semifinal matches for the Club Championships. Our finalists are **Gary Brown & Joe Fuchs, Loren DeLaurenti & Pierre Mebane, Corrie Oranje & Mike Whitaker, and Tony Greco & Howard Zimmerman**. Congratulations to all who made it to the semifinals and best of luck to everyone competing in the finals.

The golf committee circulated a member survey at the luncheon. Its focus was on ways to improve members' golf experience. The next golf committee meeting will be in June and the survey will be its top priority.

Fifteen Branch 146 members participated in the Discovery Bay Invitational tournament hosted by Branch 161. While we have not received official results, it appeared as results were being tallied that **Gary Brown's** group was in the money in this two-better-ball competition.

The next Area Golf tournament will be the team scramble competition on June 20th at the Hiddenbrooke Golf Club in Vallejo. Members may recall that **Bill Cammerer** scored a hole-in-one at last year's event, which was also held at Hiddenbrooke.

Our first away golf event will be May 3rd at Diablo Creek in Concord. It has been a long time since we have had an event at this nearby course. In June, we will play Paradise Valley in Fairfield.



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. Exception is are the second 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

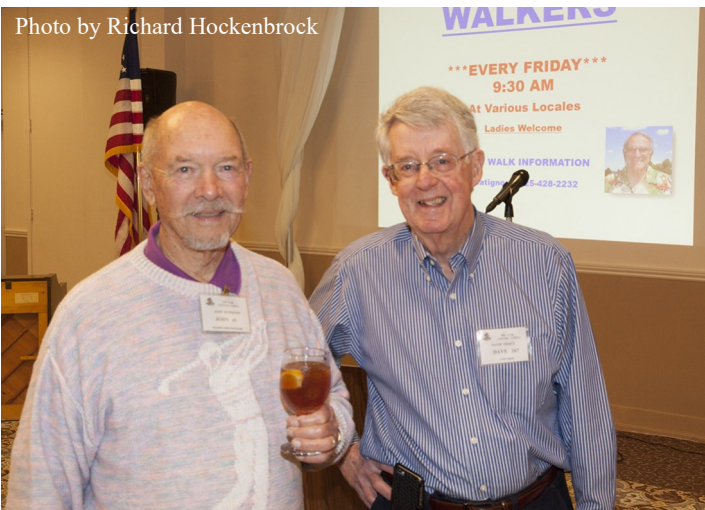
Golf



Table Pool

Bill Weinberg

We meet every Monday at 11:30 am at Masses, 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 Masses gives SIR members. You can also play at other times during the week 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.



John Hammond & Dave Pierce at the April luncheon



Walking Group

Frank Ascigno

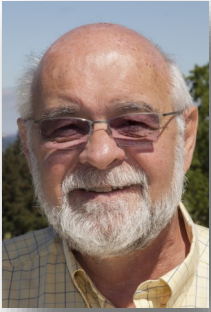
Every Friday at 9:30 am at various locales.

*Call **Frank** for current walk.*

Rain cancels any walk.

Ladies Welcome

Tel: (925) 429-2232



Wine Tasting

Rob Melrose

Our April Wine Tasting event was held at the home of **Bruce Borgman** and **Sue Sheldon**. Once again, we lucked out and the weather cooled down from the highs of Sunday and Monday allowing us to gather in their beautiful backyard. This is good as this month rivaled the February gathering of 35 people in attendance. We tasted Pinot Noir and Sauvignon Blanc wines from around the world. **Bruce** composed a fun quiz about the wines. **Aubrey Moore, Steve and Vicki Pickelman** were the newest members who joined us this month. We hope to see all three at future events.

Bruce and Sue were presented with a bottle of D'Autrefois Sauvignon Blanc as a thank you for hosting. This time we again voted for the best white and best red wine at the event. The white wine winner was **Roy Hodgkinson** who brought a 2016 Sauvignon Blanc from J.Rickards Winery and the red wine winners were **Peter and Gabriela Bishop** who brought a 2014 MacMurray Estates Central Coast Pinot Noir. I'd like to thank **Al Munayer** for helping me tabulate the votes.

Our next wine tasting is scheduled for July 25th. **Bob and Wendy Lucido** have once again offered to open their garden setting to the group. More details for the July event will be sent soon to members via email.

If you would like to join the group, please send an email to **Rob Melrose** at br146winetasting@gmail.com.



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

Bruce Borgman is presented with a bottle of wine for hosting this quarter's event



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

Congratulations, **Pete Bishop!** Your MacMurray Pinot Noir was voted best red



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

Congratulations, **Roy Hodgkinson!** Your J.Rickards Sauvignon Blanc was voted best white



First timers, **Steve and Vicki Pickelman** seem to be enjoying the activity



Aubrey Moore, another first timer, pauses for the camera



Sandy Wanger, Rich Hanford, Tony Shebanek, Carmen Schiavone, Jim Barry, Larry Brown, Henry Thatcher.



Barbara and Joe Stengel know there's more to life than wine because the appetizers were delicious



Al Munayer holding the very empty bottle of the winning red wine



Sometimes, it is hard to get people's attention to announce the winners

Area 16 Events

Mac User Group (MUG)



Max Burchett



Vern Laursen

The Mac Users Group (MUG) meets the first Monday of each month from 12 noon until 2:00 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 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.

Area 2 \$ums Investment Group

Our next meeting is Wednesday, May 23rd, at 8 am in the Legends Restaurant at Diablo Creek Country Club - Port Chicago Highway, 1/4 mile north of Highway 4 in Concord.

Our speaker will be Jill Henderson, J. D., Contra Costa County Deputy District Attorney, Elder Abuse Unit. Spouses and significant others are always welcome and may be especially interested in this topic.

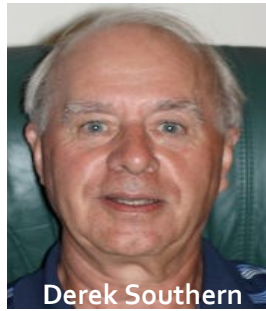
Legends opens at 7 am so come early and have a leisurely breakfast with your colleagues prior to the meeting.

\$UMS Chairman **Tom Henry** tomhenry925@gmail.com
Co-chair **Dave Sutton** davesutn@comcast.net

Stock Markets are the places where two types of people meet up in the morning:

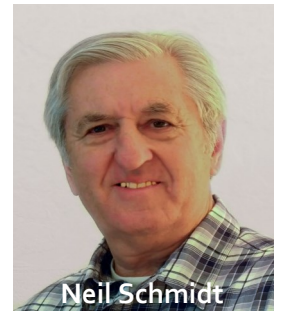
Those with experience and those with money. Towards the end of the day, they exchange their assets and go home.

Computers and Technology



Derek Southern

PCs



Neil Schmidt

The Area 16 Computer and Technology Group announces that our next meeting will be at the Walnut Creek Elks Lodge on Thursday, May 17th, starting at 9:30 am, but plan to come early for coffee, goodies, and chat. Sirs from all branches and their guests are welcome and invited to attend.

The topic for the May CAT meeting will be "BEYOND THE BITCOIN BUBBLE - REWEAVING THE WEB". The presenter Frank May will review a brief history of Bitcoin. Then, more importantly, he will discuss the emerging technologies behind this phenomena. What emerging technologies will contribute to Web 2.0. What functionality will these technologies contribute and why are they important!

We look forward to seeing you 9:30 am, Thursday May 17th, at the Walnut Creek Elks Lodge, 1475 Creekside Drive. 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 our May meeting is another one of those! All SIR members and their guests (spouses included!) are welcome to attend. See you there.

Neil Schmidt, Chairman

We need to keep newspapers alive just for the humorous headlines.



May 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Apr 29	30	May 1	2	3	4	5
	11:00 AM Table Pool 1	9:00 AM Golf 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Pickleball (MTWThF) San Ramon Valley United Methodist Church 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM Pickleball (MTWThF) San Ramon Valley United Methodist Church 7:00 PM Couples Party Bridge	10:00 AM Bowling 1:00 PM Poker Group #1 Song Sirs 1st	9:30 AM NINE HOLE GOLF-1	9:30 AM - 2:00 PM Men's Duplicate Bridge 2 9:30 AM Walkers	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	10:00 AM Party Bridge 11:00 AM Table Pool 1 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM Mac User Group (MUG)	9:00 AM Golf 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Pickleball (MTWThF) San Ramon Valley United Methodist Church 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM Pickleball (MTWThF) San Ramon Valley United Methodist Church 7:00 PM Couples Duplicate Bridge 2	10:00 AM Bowling 12:30 PM - 3:00 PM Poker Group #6 4:15 PM Poker #5	11:05 AM - 1:30 PM LADIES DAY LUNCHEON	9:30 AM Walkers 10:00 AM Hiking Moderate 6:45 PM - 10:00 PM Mexican Train Dominos Group 1 (JUNO)	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
	8:30 AM Booze Ball 11:00 AM Table Pool 1 12:00 PM Cooking II	9:00 AM Golf 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Pickleball (MTWThF) San Ramon Valley United Methodist Church 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM Pickleball (MTWThF) San Ramon Valley United Methodist Church 7:00 PM Couples Duplicate Bridge 2	10:00 AM Bowling 11:00 AM Cooking Lunch and Wine (LAW) 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM Pinocho Rocco's Italian Restaurant 1:30 PM Song Sirs 2nd 7:00 PM Bridge - Couples	9:30 AM - 11:30 AM Computers And Technology (CAT) 9:30 AM NINE HOLE GOLF-2 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM Trees Gourmet 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM Mexican Train Dominos Group 5 (Cinco)	9:30 AM Walkers 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM Men's Duplicate Bridge 3 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM Mexican Train Dominos - El Cuatro	Ultimate Africa Pre-Trip Thornybush Game Reserve
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	10:00 AM Men's Duplicate Bridge #1 11:00 AM Table Pool 1	9:00 AM Golf 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Pickleball (MTWThF) San Ramon Valley United Methodist Church 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM Pickleball (MTWThF) San Ramon Valley United Methodist Church	8:00 AM - 10:00 AM Sums In Retirement 10:00 AM Bowling 12:30 PM - 3:30 PM Cribbage	8:30 AM - 10:00 AM Fishing 9:30 AM - 9:00 PM Jury In Sacramento Lunch & River Cruise 9:30 AM NINE HOLE GOLF-3	9:30 AM Walkers 8:30 PM - 10:00 PM Mexican Train Dominos Dos 6:45 PM - 10:15 PM Mexican Train Dominos Group 3 (Tres)	
27	28	29	30	31	Jun 1	2
	8:30 AM Booze Ball 1:00 AM Table Pool 1 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM Poker #3 1:00 PM Poker Group #2 1:00 PM Poker Group #4	9:00 AM Golf 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Pickleball (MTWThF) San Ramon Valley United Methodist Church 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM Pickleball (MTWThF) San Ramon Valley United Methodist Church	10:00 AM Bowling		Jun 1	
			Ultimate Africa Trip Bolswana, Zambia & Zimbabwe	Ultimate Africa Trip Bolswana, Zambia & Zimbabwe	Ultimate Africa Trip Bolswana, Zambia & Zimbabwe	9:30 AM - 2:00 PM Men's Duplicate Bridge 2 9:30 AM Walkers

Built for SIR members and friends

[Click here to get the most recent calendar update on Branch 146 website](#)