

## Big Sir's Notes Pete Gates

Once again we have had the pleasure of awarding a Senior Sir Certificate to one of our members, **Dominic (Dee) D'Matteo**. The presentation was made by Area Governor, **Ron Smith**, and Past Big Sir, **Ray Kan**. Congratulations **Dee**.

This year is flying by. Here we are at the beginning of the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter looking back over nine months of good times and notable achievements. We pledged to maintain the health and vitality of our Branch and I believe we have done pretty well so far this year. Our Branch is in the top 10% of all of SIR in luncheon attendance (thank you very much). Our membership numbers are robust (thank you again.... for bringing in the guests that have made this possible, but don't stop now!). We are in good condition financially. To ensure fiscal discipline is carried over into 2012 and beyond, a budget study is being conducted by a seasoned committee chaired by our Treasurer, **Dick Woodman**.

So what else can we all do to make our Branch stronger? You may have noticed that we have a lot of new faces at our luncheons, our new members. I have met all of these men. They joined Branch 146 knowing it was one of the best Branches in SIR and they seem anxious to be an integral part of it. You may recall that our new members wear yellow-tinted name badges for their first six months. Here is a suggestion: When you see one of these fellows, walk over, say hello, introduce yourself and welcome him to the group. By the way, **Paul Dubow** has volunteered to coordinate the preparation of brief bio's for new members, to be posted on our Website along with a photo.

At their September Board Meeting, the BEC took a step to improve the continuity of conducting the

business of the Branch. They agreed to hold regular Board Meetings in May and December, at the discretion of the Big Sir. In the past there were no meetings in these "Ladies Day" months. The date and time of these meetings will be announced.

Remember, if you will be unable to attend the October 13<sup>th</sup> luncheon, call or e-mail the Luncheon Chairman no later than noon on Friday, the 7<sup>th</sup>. Check your calendar now! If you do plan to attend, consider carpooling with a fellow Sir.

Be a Friend, Bring a Friend

## Little Sir's Corner Jim Burk



In the September 2011 issue of "Consumer Reports," considerable space was devoted to "The business of healing hearts." I would highly recommend you read this article in preparation for our **OCTOBER** speaker, **CYNTHIA MILLER**. She is a Registered Nurse and the Neurosciences Clinical Coordinator at John Muir Neurosciences Institute at the John Muir Medical Center located in Walnut Creek. Cindy will address how to guard against strokes, how to know when one is occurring, and what to do should you experience one.

Some of the strategies that she will discuss will be:

- Lower your blood pressure
- Improve your cholesterol levels
- Lose excess weight
- Control your blood sugar level
- Stop smoking



## Duplicate Bridge Doug Eisner



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

**Jim Brown** hosted 4 tables of duplicate bridge on Sept 12. **Jim Jackson's** 49.5pt clearly outpaced the field for first place but second, third, and fourth places were much more competitive, as they were separated by only 1.0 pt. **Bob Yolland's** 43.5pt squeezed him into second place, **Lo McCarley's** 43.0pt took third place, and **George Zurich's** 42.5pt won fourth place.

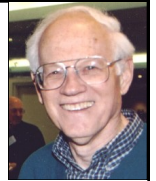
Our next game will be hosted by **Fred Kovar** on Monday, October 17.

**Dick DeVoe** is leading the start-up of a second men's duplicate bridge group. Any bridge players interested in playing with this group are encouraged to contact Dick directly. For now, **Dick** has arranged for members of our branch to join the duplicate bridge game hosted by SIR Branch 8 on the 4th Monday of each month at Carl's Junior Restaurant in the Nob Hill Shopping Center in Walnut Creek.

## Couples Duplicate Bridge Too Joe Barry

The SIR Duplicate Bridge 2 Group was wonderfully hosted by **Jim and Ruth Adams** on Sept. 13. Everyone was so pleased that no one recorded a wrong bid or the wrong score for that bid, showing that folks over 50 can actually learn from past mistakes. Unfortunately, a new mistake had emerged; putting the right scores with the right couples! The embarrassing details: A scoring audit was completed while the anointed winners glowed (gloated?) over their winnings. Sure enough, the scores for one round had been given to the wrong couples! It was an interesting scene to watch as original leaders had their winnings as well as their bragging rights suddenly wrenched away. The REAL winners are **Ken/Elaine Richter** (1st), **Lynn/Dasha Freeman** (2nd), and **Joe/Josie Barry** (3rd). If there were attempts not to lord it over the new losers, they went unnoticed. Fortunately, there's always NEXT month...

## Couples Duplicate Bridge Lo McCarley



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

**Carl and Anne Johnson** hosted eight couples of duplicate bridge on September 21st.

**Dave and Joan Pierce** took first place with 39 points. Second place went to **Lynn and Dasha Freeman** with 34 points and in third place with 33.5 points was **Jim Brown** and **Bob Donahue**. Fourth place went to **Jim** and **Allison Todhunter** with 32 points.

**Lo and Sue McCarley** will host the next bridge game on October 19th

**Jim Brown** for **Lo McCarley**

## COUPLES PARTY BRIDGE

Dave Pierce

**John and Linda Boyan** hosted three tables on September 6<sup>th</sup> for a very sociable and enjoyable evening. However, the cards were very unfair to several couples, leading us to wonder what **Michele Bachmann** would say. **Dave and Joan Pierce** squeaked in at third place at 2880 although they were totally skunked by the **Marchiones** in one round. **Doug and Patti Eisner** scored 1780 in four hands in one round, and took second with 3500. **Terry and Sharon Marchione**, despite having no slams, topped us all with 4230, a very nice evening for these always worthy opponents. The evening ended with **Linda's** wonderful cake.

**Dave Pierce**, 932-3877.



## 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 **Chuck Hammond**. First place went to **Jim Brown** with 5310 points, second to **Jim Jackson** with 4260 and third to **Chuck Hammond** with 3790. Our next game will be at the home of **Bill Snyder** on Oct. 3.



## Luncheon Attendance Bob Mehus



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

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

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

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

SIR bringing a Guest

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

### **Salad**

Orzo Pasta Salad  
Artichoke Hearts, Grilled Squash and Sautéed Mushrooms

### **Entrees**

Apricot Glazed Pork Tenderloin  
Sour Cream Whipped Potatoes, Braised Purple Cabbage and Natural Jus

**Or**

Pan Seared Farm Raised Salmon  
Lemon, Dill Aioli  
Rice Pilaf & Seasonal Vegetables

### **Dessert**

Chef's Choice

### Special Luncheon Requirements

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

### New Members and/or Sponsors

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

## Cribbage John Pearl



## Poker Club #1 Frank McNamee



Eight of us met on August 24 at **Barney Meade's** home. We welcomed a new member to our group, **John Boyan** – welcome John! We used a new playing system, dividing into two groups of four, then ranking the scores one through eight to determine the playoff pairs. First place money went to **Kirk McVean** of Branch 116, second place to **Ron Plachy**, third place to **Jim Passaglia**, while **John Pearl** was fourth.

We meet monthly to exchange both insults and money.

**John Pearl**, Chair  
[mcpearl@astound.net](mailto:mcpearl@astound.net)  
934-6920

Poker Club #1 met on Sept.7th at the home of **Bob White**. The big Winners for the day were guest, **Al Zamolo** and **John Lewis** followed by **Bob White** and **Bob Frankland**. The main contributor to their good fortune was the most gracious **Don Martin**. Because of multiple vacations, we decided to postpone our next gathering until Wed. Oct. 19th and will take place at **Bill Cammerer's** home.

## Poker Group #4 Chuck Bobinecz



Well, since we have all made our quarterly estimated federal and state tax payments, there might be a little amount left for our next poker session. Sir **Chuck Bobinecz** will host our next session on September 26<sup>th</sup> and Sir **Garth Cummings** will be our host on October 24<sup>th</sup>.



## Table Pool Bill Weinberg

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



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

## MEMBER RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION Jack Calloway

New members inducted in September were **Dan Holland** sponsored by **Jack Calloway**, **Ted Gunn** sponsored by **Rich Ahlf** and **Curley Kade** sponsored by **Russ Anderson**. Please bring a guest to the October or November luncheon so we can continue the momentum built up so far this year.

We will be asking all attendees at the October Luncheon to complete the annual Member Survey which addresses a number of important issues. Your ideas and suggestions will help guide next year's Branch Executive Committee as they strive to keep the Branch strong.

At the October Luncheon, we will be adding six new members to the Sponsors Honor Roll which is restricted to members who have sponsored five or more new members. The framed display in the luncheon registration area will now include seventeen pictures. We are very pleased to recognize these men who have done so much for the Branch.

## 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.



## Travel Opportunities

**Bob Spellman**



### **Oct 1-11, 2011 Canada & New England Cruise.**

Experience the colors of Fall as you sail for 10 days aboard Silversea's Silver Whisper from Montreal to New York. You will also visit Quebec City, Charlottetown, Sydney, Halifax, Bar Harbor, Boston and Newport. While aboard the Silver Whisper you will find a most accommodating atmosphere providing impeccable service and world class cuisine. Everything is included in the price, tips, fine wines, all spirits, complimentary In Suite dining, meals, airfare, bus to and from airport, port charge, government fees and taxes. You will be treated like royalty. Cost from \$5250 to \$6750 depending on Stateroom. Contact **Bob Spellman @ 934-8428**. This trip has been very popular and is currently sold out. We have started a Waiting List for those who may still like to go with no obligation.

### **Oct 8, 2011 Blue Angels & the San Francisco Belle.**

Enjoy the Best Aviation show in the U.S. as well as vintage planes performing the most amazing stunts you will ever see. We will board the San Francisco Belle at 1:30 and cruise around the Bay, stopping in a great spot to view the aviation show. While on board there will be live entertainment, reserved seating for a hot buffet lunch and no host bar. We will disembark at 4:30 for our motor coach ride back to Walnut Creek. Cost is \$125 pp. Contact **Bob Hagler @925-934-7620** Branch 8 for more information.

### **Dec 7, 2011 Christmas Show Extravaganza.**

**Finocchio's Style.** You will be talking about this show for months. Finocchio's was a nightclub in San Francisco with men performing with all the glitter, sophistication and glamour of women. It was a favorite tourist spot from the 1930's to 1990's. In 1999 Finocchio's closed its doors but many of the cast members are still performing and will showcase their talents at this show. Enjoy this fabulous show and a fun filled afternoon. Cost \$81 includes, delicious luncheon, motorcoach transportation, and glass of wine. Contact **Ken Richter @ 689-6217**. Payment must be received by 10/25/11.

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

## Membership Steve Sprague



### Branch 146 Statistics:

Active Members: 270 including six Honorary Life Members.

Applicant List: Two.

Inactive Members: Nine.

### August Luncheon Attendance:

Members: 200

Guests: 4, Visitors: 0, Speakers: 1

Total Attendance: 205

### Status Changes:

Inducted: **Ted Gunn**, Badge 237

**Dan Holland**, Badge 275

**Curley Kade**, Badge 276

Moved to Inactive List: None

Resigned or Transferred: **John Roberts** has resigned and moved out of state.

Deceased: None

**Chuck Kistenmacher** resigned after two years of inactive status.



## Sunshine

Walt Busenius  
945-0715

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



## ROMEIO

(Retired Old Men Eating Out)  
Malcolm Hendry



We keep the Sirs listed below in our thoughts and prayers. We extend our very best wishes for continued healing and look forward to their returning to good health:

- Sir Reggie Fromm*
- Sir Joe Schild*
- Sir Vern Bendsen*
- Sir Charles Kiser*
- Sir Bob Frankland*
- Sir Rod Sharretts*
- Sir Rob Van Luchene*
- Sir Ron Pascoe*
- Sir Lee Vincent*

We also send our best wishes and prayers to Pat, wife of SIR **Bill Hartman**, who is recovering from recent surgery that removed a brain tumor.

*Please try to contact a Sir on this list to offer support and encouragement during their illness. You'll make their day.*

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

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

Come join us and experience a great dinner, while learning more about your fellow SIR and male guests, in a relaxed and friendly surrounding.

### "YAN'S CHINA BISTRO" (LAFAYETTE)

The Yan family have been in business in Contra Costa country cooking up recipes filled with fresh ingredients for the past 17 years. The Lafayette restaurant is one of four, and was opened in 2001. The menu includes most of the traditional dishes you would expect and include generous portions of tasty entrees, at reasonable prices. Yan's has a full bar and an extensive selection of moderately priced wines.

Location: 3444 Mt Diablo Blvd, Lafayette, Ca 94549 (across from Mc Donald's)

Web Site: [www.yanschinabistro.com](http://www.yanschinabistro.com) (directions, history and reviews)

Phone: 925-284-2228

Please let me know no later than Tuesday, October 18th, that you will join us.

Your suggestions are welcomed.

Mal



## Greeters

**Bob Bogardus and Bill Powell**

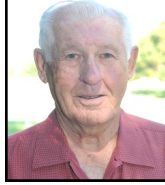
## BOOK CORNER KEN RICHTER

Jan Mar May July Sept Nov

The next time the BOOK CORNER will be open is at the November SIR Luncheon. The Corner can always use more books to be shared with other SIRs.

New Author: **Noah Boyd** has written only two books. The Bricklayer and Agent X. **Noah Boyd** brings his FBI experience to his books. The pace is frantic, the action is unique and the drama intense. A must read

## Tuesday Golf Ray Weisz



The Weekly Winners are:

### August 2, 2011

White First Flight: 1<sup>st</sup> **Jim Burk**, 2<sup>nd</sup> **Dave Steinberg**.  
White Second Flight: 1<sup>st</sup> **Dick Kincaide**, 2<sup>nd</sup> **Walt Busenius**. Gold Tee Flight 1: 1<sup>st</sup> **John Demos**, 2<sup>nd</sup> **Bill Weinberg**. Gold Tee Flight 2: 1<sup>st</sup> **Dean Merritt**, 2<sup>nd</sup> **Don Del Bene**. Closest to the pin Hole #2 **John Hammond**, Hole #12 **Dave Steinberg**.

### August 9, 2011

White First Flight: 1<sup>st</sup> **Ron Binder**, 2<sup>nd</sup> **Chuck Schreiber**. White Second Flight: 1<sup>st</sup> **Ray Spears**, 2<sup>nd</sup> **Ron Plachy**. Gold Tee Flight 1: 1<sup>st</sup> **Bob White**, 2<sup>nd</sup> **Bob Royster**. Gold Tee Flight 2: 1<sup>st</sup> **Dick Richmond**, 2<sup>nd</sup> **Al Zamolo**. Closest to the pin Hole #2 **Bob Royster** # 12 **Ben Gleason**.

### August 16, 2011

White First Flight: 1<sup>st</sup> **Chuck Schreiber**, 2<sup>nd</sup> **Jim Burk**. White Second Flight: 1<sup>st</sup> **Steve Conte**, 2<sup>nd</sup> **Mike Stephenson**. Gold Tee Flight 1: 1<sup>st</sup> **Ray Weisz**, 2<sup>nd</sup> **Bob Royster**. Gold Tee Flight 2: 1<sup>st</sup> **Dan O' Sullivan**, 2<sup>nd</sup> **Dick Richmond**. Closest to the pin Hole #2 **Ernie Dickson** Hole # 12 **George Trabert**.

### August 23, 2011

White First Flight: 1<sup>st</sup> **Dale Hertweck**, 2<sup>nd</sup> **Jim Burk**. White Second Flight: 1<sup>st</sup> **Ed Marlovitis**, 2<sup>nd</sup> **Mike Stephenson**. Gold Tee Flight 1: 1<sup>st</sup> **Bob White**, 2<sup>nd</sup> **Ray Kan**. Gold Tee Flight 2: 1<sup>st</sup> **Fred Bolton**, 2<sup>nd</sup> **Dick Richmond**. Closest to the pin Hole #2 **Fred Bolton** # 12 **George Trabert**.

### August 30, 2011

Our weekly format for August 30, 2011 was a four Man Team Scramble. The Team Winners for this event were:

1<sup>st</sup> Place: **Dale Hertweck**, **Vince Rettew**, and **Fred Kovar**

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: **Pete McNeill**, **Bill Cammerer**, **Bob Royster**, and **Fred Bolton**

3<sup>rd</sup> Place: **Jim Burk**, **Myles Ringle**, **Ray Weisz**, and **Jim Hanch**

### September 6, 2011

White First Flight: 1<sup>st</sup> **Joe Fuchs**, 2<sup>nd</sup> **Dale Hertweck**. White Second Flight: 1<sup>st</sup> **Mike Stephenson**, 2<sup>nd</sup> **Dennis Hallett**. Gold Tee Flight 1: 1<sup>st</sup> **Ray Weisz**, 2<sup>nd</sup> **Bob Royster**. Gold Tee Flight 2: 1<sup>st</sup> **Al Zamolo**, 2<sup>nd</sup> **Bill Hansen**. Closest to the pin: Hole # 2 **Fred Bolton** # 12 **Dale Hertweck**.

### September 13, 2011

White First Flight: 1<sup>st</sup> **Pete McNeill**, 2<sup>nd</sup> **Steve Siljestrom**, 3<sup>rd</sup> **Steve Conte**. White Second Flight: 1<sup>st</sup> **Bill Danzig**, 2<sup>nd</sup> **Steve Sprague**, 3<sup>rd</sup> **Dennis Hallett**. Gold Tee Flight 1: 1<sup>st</sup> **Ray Weisz**, 2<sup>nd</sup> **Bill Boyd**, 3<sup>rd</sup> **Bob White**. Closest to the pin Hole # 2 **Ray Spears** # 12 **Bill Boyd**.

For the past six weeks we have been Qualifying for our first Annual Championship. The four players with the best two rounds out six qualified in each of four flights. The Championship will be determined by

A two week- match play, play off. The Qualifiers in each Flight Were:

1<sup>st</sup> Flight: **Jim Burk**, **Joe Fuchs**, **Dale Hertweck**, and **Dave Steinberg**.

2<sup>nd</sup> Flight: **Ed Marlovitis**, **Ron Plachy**, **Bill Schultz**, and **Mike Stephenson**.

3<sup>rd</sup> Flight: **John Demos**, **Ray Kan**, **Bob Royster**, and **Ray Weisz**.

4<sup>th</sup> Flight: **Fred Bolton**, **Doug Eisner**, **Dick Richmond** and **Al Zamolo**.

The Winners of the two round match play will announced in next months Sir Call.

## Couples Golf John Harrington



In August our Couples played Deer Ridge and our tournament was hosted by **Max** and **Nancy Burchett**. The top men team consisted of **Ray Weisz** and **Vince Rettew**. On the ladies side top honors went to **Jean Harrington** and **Anne Burk**. Closest to the pin honors went to **Terry Marchione** and **Tippy Weisz**. **Dick** and **Judy Richmond** are planning our September tournament to be held at the historic and unique Lake Chabot Golf Course.

## Away Golf

Rich Hanford and Joe Fuchs

Away golf is on the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of the month, beginning in May and ending in October (i.e. 6 dates). Our last event this year will be held at Deer Ridge on October 6.

Golfers are able to optionally schedule their playing partners for carpooling purposes. Guests are welcome to play. Singles will be assigned to a foursome as they are on Tuesday's. Players pay at the course at check-in, like they do on Tuesdays.

In September we had a great event at Delta View in Pittsburg. Results were:

White Flight: 1st: **Joe Fuchs** (67), 2nd: **Steve Conte** by Tiebreaker (69)

Forward Flight: 1st: **Cal Tucker** (61), 2nd: **Bill Cammerer** (65), 3rd: **Rich Hanford** (66)

Closest to the Pin: **Ray Weisz**

**COMING in a FEW DAYS:** 10/6/11 Deer Ridge \$35

Sign-up by sending an Email to [Sir146away-golf@yahoo.com](mailto:Sir146away-golf@yahoo.com), calling **Rich Hanford** or **Joe Fuchs**, or sign up at Tuesday golf.

## Explore and Dine

John Pearl



For September, Explore and Dine traveled to the Niles District of Fremont to visit and tour the Niles Essanay Silent Film Museum. We learned that **Charlie Chaplin** made five movies here, including *The Tramp*, one of his best known works. This museum also houses the short film seen on *60 Minutes* that shows San Francisco's Market Street just days before the 1906 earthquake. The preservation and regular showing of the old silent films is the mission of the museum, a privately funded non-profit organization.

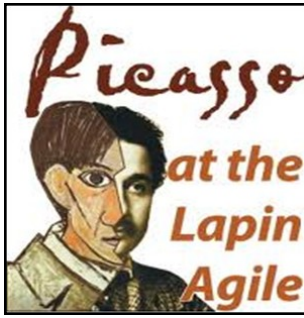
On Thursday Morning, October 27, we travel to Richmond to visit and tour the National Park Service's "Rosie the Riveter" National Historic Site. This is the home of the shipyards that built the famous Liberty and Victory Ships that supported the Allies' efforts in World War II. This tour has a limited number of openings. After the tour, we are now planning on having lunch at the "Boiler Room" restaurant, located in one of the old shipyard buildings.

**John Pearl**  
[mcppearl@astound.net](mailto:mcppearl@astound.net)  
925-934-6920



Romeo Group  
At the  
"OTTAVIO" Italian Restaurant in Walnut Creek





## Garden Club Steve Dawkins

## SIR Theatre Party October 13 Last Call for "Picasso" Tickets

*Picasso at the Lapin Agile* played to packed houses thirteen years ago in San Francisco, and was a major treat in New York and Los Angeles. This zany play by comic (and noted banjo player) **Steve Martin** is the SIR146 Theatre Party event for October 13. Deadline for ticket reservations is October 3.

In this quirky piece, **Martin** creates a mythological gathering of personalities like **Pablo Picasso** and **Albert Einstein** meeting in a Parisian bar called the Lapin Agile ("the Nimble Rabbit"). In true **Steve Martin** fashion the play provides for much quirky humor and makes for a laugh-filled evening in the theatre. Don't be put off by the title – it's a funny play!

When the play opened in 1996, the San Francisco *Examiner* reviewer said: "A rollicking good time. Rich in comic banter and hilarious monologues." *Picasso at the Lapin Agile* is **Steve Martin's** first full-length play. It will be produced by the Town Hall Theatre Company in Lafayette.

A limited number of discounted tickets at a special SIR-group rate of \$15.00 have been set aside for SIR members and friends. If you aren't partaking in the Cal vs USC game on October 13, this is where you should be! Curtain time is 8:00 p.m. For reservations send a check payable to SIR146 for \$15.00 each to **Gary Schaub**, 1758 Candelero Court, Walnut Creek 94598. Orders must be received by October 3.

Tickets will be distributed in the ground floor lobby of the Town Hall Theatre, 3535 School Street (at Moraga Road) in Lafayette at 7:30 p.m. on performance night. Show begins at 8:00 p.m. Parking is available on the street near the theatre.

Our speaker in August, **Eddi Wahlberg** from Boundary Oaks, was a big hit. Even the non-golfers enjoyed his talk about the challenges as greens keeper of a golf course. At our September meeting we discussed our activities for the remainder of the year. In October we plan on visiting Cornerstone Nursery in Sonoma, lunch and wine tasting and home by 4 PM. On November 3rd our meeting will be at **Steve Dawkins'** to talk about growing chrysanthemums and preparing your garden for winter. In December we may take another field trip or invite a speaker. On February 2nd we plan on our annual trip to the Gardens at Heather Farms to prune roses.

Some tips for the fall. Plant your winter vegetables, vernalize your bulbs (put in the refrigerator) until you are ready to plant. Fertilize your azaleas, rhododendrons and camellias with (0-10-10) to promote bud formation and put some Magnesium Sulfate, Epsom Salt around your roses, about 1/3 cup per bush.



## Bowling Larry Mitchell



The short summer league is now complete and we have just started the winter league. Winners of the summer league were Team No. 7 composed of: **Mike Hooper, Jim Wyllie, and Dan Weller**, none of whom are in Branch 146. That's the bad news.

The good news is that we will be welcoming **Jeff Davis** as a new member and bowler at the next meeting. **Jeff** has bowled the last two weeks in anticipation of joining our branch at the earliest opportunity.

There will be two tournaments in October. One is at the Fireside Lanes in Citrus Heights on October 3rd, and 4th and the other will be at Harvest Park Lanes in Brentwood on October 18th and 20th. For more information please call me at 925-798-5440

## Area 2 Computers and Technology Group



The Area 2 Computer and Technology Group invite all Sirs and their guests to our next meeting on Thursday, October 20<sup>th</sup> at 9am.

**Denise Alexander** from PG&E will talk about their SmartMeters program. SmartMeters are rapidly being installed widely across the US. They collect and communicate electric and natural gas usage data from homes or businesses and provide many benefits to both the power company and the end-user. **Denise** will talk about the technology, the benefits as well as issues they have encountered with their roll-out of SmartMeters. She will also show how users can monitor and get usage alerts on your own gas and electric usage.

After this presentation **Dick Curry** will lead a Q&A to address current computer issues and questions. So please join us for a fun and informative session. As always there will be coffee and cookies available before and during the meeting.

Meetings of the Area 2 Computer and Technology Group are held the 3rd Thursday of each month (except June and December) from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m., at the Walnut Creek Elks Lodge, 1475 Creekside Drive. Whether you are a beginner or a seasoned user, we try to offer something for everyone. We ask for a donation of \$5 to cover the cost of the hall rental, coffee and cookies. See you there.

Thank you for supporting your Area 2 Computer and Technology Group.

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

## 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 SIR branches.

## Area 2 \$ums Investment Group

The Area 2 \$ums Investment Group will meet on October 19, 2011, 8:00 AM at the Diablo Creek Golf Course, 4050 Port Chicago Highway in Concord. **(Note the date change from the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday this month due to a scheduling issue with the course in October)** Our speaker will be member **David Munson** who will give us one of his excellent economic presentations titled “**Can the Individual Investor Read the Economic Statistics Better than the Experts.**” **David** will show us some of the key economic reports published monthly that are important for investors to be aware of. These reports are watched closely by stock and bond markets and affect market movements. In his August 2010 presentation to the \$ums Investment Group, **David** discussed why we should be interested in these reports and arrive at our own conclusions. He will re-emphasize which reports are important and how the contents can help guide us with investment decisions. The restaurant at the course opens at 7:00 AM for those who would like to enjoy breakfast with your colleagues.

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

## Mac User Group

The SIR Mac User Group meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the month at the Thurman Casey Library on Oak Grove Road from 3 to 5 PM. We will **not** be meeting in October.

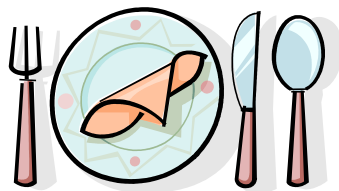
The leaders are **Jeff Baily, Max Burchett,** and **Verner Laursen.**

From time to time we email suggestions to the people on our list. We are there to answer your Mac questions and we usually have a tutorial on a program that you have on your Mac computer.

We would welcome new attendees, particularly new Mac users. If you have a Mac and cannot attend, have a Mac question or would like to be on our email list, please contact one of our leaders. We are here to help you.

Jeff

## Couples Dining Out ...Bill Holly



The next Couples Dining Out will be on Tuesday, October 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm at Bravo Italian Bistro 1050 Contra Costa Blvd., Pleasant Hill, CA 94523.

Directions: Bravo Bistro is located on the north bound lane of Contra Costa Blvd. between Rotten Robbie's gas station and Mancini's Sleep World, just south of the intersection at Sun Valley Blvd.

There is prix fixe menu with 3 appetizers, 4 entrées, and 3 dessert selections. The total cost is \$37 per person, tax and tip included.  
(drinks are extra, wine corkage fees are \$10/bottle)

Please RSVP to **Bill Holly** before October 12<sup>th</sup> with your menu selections.

Email: [bill.holly@comcast.net](mailto:bill.holly@comcast.net)

(Note: I will be on vacation from October 1<sup>st</sup> through October 11<sup>th</sup>.)

## CHRISTMAS CANDY SALES

It's not too early to start making your Christmas gift list and checking it twice! When you do, don't forget See's Candies for your spouse, children, grandchildren, housekeepers, gardeners, hairdressers, and all the other folks you'd like to remember this Christmas.

Further information on purchasing See's Candy gift cards will be available in November. Watch this space for details at that time.

Doug Eisner  
Candy Sales Chairman



## Wine Tasting ... Bill Holly

Our next wine tasting will be on Wednesday, October 26<sup>th</sup> from 2:30pm to 5:00pm at the home of **Al and Diane Munayer** at: 3455 Stone Valley Road, Alamo, CA 94507.

Directions: Take Highway 680 South from Walnut Creek to Alamo and exit at the Stone Valley Road East exit. Go East/Southeast on Stone Valley Road past Green Valley Road. Continue North on Stone Valley Road and proceed to 3455 Stone Valley Road (approximately 4 miles from Highway 680).



red wine from Australia or New Zealand



white wine from Australia or New Zealand

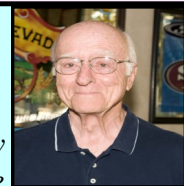
Please bring a single bottle of either the red or the white wine (under \$20) in a brown paper bag plus an appetizer to share. Also, please write where you bought the wine and the approximate purchase price on the bottom of the bag for reference.

Spouses are always invited to attend.

Please RSVP to **Bill Holly** before October 20<sup>th</sup> either by telephone (925) 691-5337 or by email at [bill.holly@comcast.net](mailto:bill.holly@comcast.net)

(Note: I will be on vacation from October 1<sup>st</sup> through October 11<sup>th</sup>.)

## Bocce Ball Martin Lyle



*2nd and 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays at 9 am., May through October, at Concord Bocce Courts in Newhall Park, Concord, near the corner of Turtle Creek and Ayers Roads*

October will be our last month to play Bocce Ball before the winter hibernation sets in. Come out and see what the game is all about, and join your fellow Sirs for some fun. Rain cancels play. Ladies welcome.

## Help Wanted

With high unemployment plaguing the economy, we have decided to start this column describing job opportunities in Branch 146 (Unfortunately the pay is not too good).

### Veterans Chairman

This position is currently vacant although the previous Chairman, **Lynn Freeman**, has been acting as a caretaker. Branch 146 has a longstanding tradition of honoring Veterans and it is important that this tradition continue in some form. The current, minimized, duties of the Chairman are:

Maintain our roster of Branch 146 veterans and other records

Assist the Little Sir with preparations for the November luncheon program, including placement of Branch-owned flags and other decorations.

There is certainly more that can be done by a man in this role. Past Chairmen have organized outings, provided luncheon speakers and more.

Contact: **Lynn Freeman** or **Pete Gates**

### Assistant Luncheon Chairman

Our Luncheon Chairman plays a key role in organizing the luncheons. One of his biggest responsibilities is figuring out how many members are likely to attend each luncheon and then making a guaranteed commitment to CourseCo by noon of the Friday before each luncheon. Key to deriving this number is the number of members who notify him (50 or more) that they will not be able to attend.

The primary roles (initially) of the Assistant will be: 1) to help monitor and tabulate, independently, the notification calls and e-mails so that we can be more confident of the guarantee number given to CourseCo. Getting this right can save the Branch money and avoid any embarrassment over missed notifications. 2) to help with the post-luncheon attendance reconciliation against the actual attendance ledger that is prepared by the Treasurer to identify all members who did not attend.

In addition, it is anticipated that the Assistant will learn other aspects of the job (there is an "Attendance Chairman Guideline") so that he may be able to step up to help in other aspects of the job should that be needed.

Contact: **Bob Mehus** or **Pete Gates**

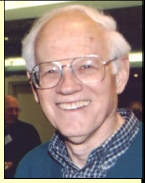
### New Member Biography Writer

This position is responsible for writing a brief biography for each of our new members (22 so far this year) for posting on the website along with a photo.

Desirable skills and interest: A knack for writing and an interest in interacting with the new members of the Branch.

Contact **Pete Gates** or **Dave Pierce**

# SIR 146 Computer Classes Lo McCarley



Walkers  
John Lewis



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

Walks – October 2011  
Planned by **Bill Powell**

## Photoshop Elements 9

Hey computer users and photographers!!!

Come to the classes and have some fun while learning to improve your pictures. We have easy step-by-step scripts that we'll email to you with sample pictures.

Learn to:

- Bring you pictures into Elements
- Organize photos using albums, ratings, and tags
- Make quick fixes and rotate and resize photos
- Select all or part of a picture for editing
- Get rid of red eye
- Retouch photos, add color and special effects
- Use layers: the heart of Elements
- Order prints on line or print at home
- Create slide shows, CDs and DVDs

### Photoshop Elements

Written for Photoshop Elements 9, but also helpful for Photoshop Elements 6 through 8

### Two Great Classes

Thursday, October 27th

Friday, November 4th

### Time:

1:30 to 5:00 each class day

### Where:

Ygnacio Valley Library on Oak Grove Road

### Teachers:

Lo McCarley and Dave Pierce

### Unbelievable Deal:

\$10 for both classes

### To Enroll

E-mail Lo at [LoMcCarley@astound.net](mailto:LoMcCarley@astound.net)

Or phone Lo at 935-3939

*Computer classes for SIR Branch 146 members, their wives and friends.*

Oct. 7<sup>th</sup> Cardinet Trail - Clayton

Meet: At the Clayton Library

Walk: Northwest from parking on first bridge  
along trail by golf course

Some paved, some trail, gentle incline, shade

Coffee: Panera Bakery, Countrywood shopping  
Ctr. 744 Bancroft Rd. W.C.

Oct. 14<sup>th</sup> Hap McGee Park- Iron Horse Trail - Alamo

Meet: Take 680 S. exit on El Pintado, take R. to  
the park

Walk: west across bridge to Camille Ave.  
north on Iron Horse Trail

Coffee: Panera Bakery 1140 Locust St. W.C.

Oct. 21<sup>st</sup> Lafayette Trail East: St. Mary's Rd. Laf.

Meet: At Lafayette Community Center

Walk: follows St. Mary's Rd toward W.C.

Paved, level, shade

Coffee: Terzetto Cuisine Moraga Shopping Ctr.

Oct. 28<sup>th</sup> Walden Park South, Oak Rd. W.C.

Meet: At Walden Park Parking

Walk: South on Iron Horse Trail

Paved, level, some shade

Coffee: Panera Bakery Countrywood shopping Ctr.  
744 Bancroft Rd. W.C.

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



## FISHING REPORT PAUL DUBOW



Last month, Mexico was a popular destination for our group. First, **Karl Droese, Romano Gnusti, Rich Bal, Ed Dijkman, Rick Fend, Bill Landers** and **Gene Bell** ventured to Buena Vista on the Baja peninsula and landed yellowfin tuna, marlin, and wahoo. **Ed** caught the largest fish, a 57 lb. wahoo. Shortly thereafter, **Paul Dubow, Norm Moriguchi,** and **Ray Chow** traveled to **Los Barilles**, just north of Buena Vista. Most of their catch were yellowfin tuna, ranging from 35 to 62 lbs. **Paul** also caught and released an 80 lb sailfish, but **Ray** outdid him by catching and releasing two of the billfish, also in the 80 lb range. **Bill Landers** continued his excellent black bass fishing in the delta, as he and **Joe Miscione** caught and released about 40 of the feisty fighters on one trip. The kokanee continued to bite in Lake Berryessa, to the enjoyment of **George Schulze, Ron Yates,** and **Rich Bennet**, who picked up 16 of the fish, running from 15 to 18 inches long. **Mike Corker** and **Terry Miller** fished Montezuma Slough for sturgeon and **Terry** hooked but lost a large one. **Joe Miscione** went to the same venue for stripers but returned only with catfish. The ocean also drew the attention of some of our anglers. **Joe Karg** caught a keeper salmon on a party boat. **Carl Moyer, Dick Thomson,** and **Harry Sherinian** made a number of trips on Carl's boat. Each time, they limited out on rockfish and also averaged from two to four ling cod per trip. In addition, **Harry** boated an 18 lb halibut and **Carl** caught an 8 lb salmon.

We will be very busy this fall with delta fishing for bass, catfish, and sturgeon, party boat trips for kokanee, sturgeon, rockfish, and salmon, outings on the Klamath and Sacramento Rivers for salmon, and another outing on Lake Davis for trout.

Our next meeting is on Thursday, October 27, at the Legend Sports Bar and Grill at the Diablo Creek Golf Course at 4050 Port Chicago Highway in Concord. The meeting starts at 8:30 am, but join us for breakfast at 8 am. Our speaker will be **Dick Poole**, a legend in Bay Area trolling innovations. All of you, who are interested in fishing, even if you never tried it, are welcome. If you have any questions, call **Paul Dubow** at 415-495-6504.



Past Big Sir **Ray Kan** and Area Governor **Ron Smith** presenting **Dominic (Dee) D'Matteo** (center)  
The Senior Sir Certificate