

SIR CALL

br146sircall@gmail.com

October 2019

Published For Our Members And Friends

SIR Contra Costa Branch 146



Big Sir's Notes

Jonathan Korfhage

When something good happens in our life, we should regularly remember it and celebrate that moment. That moment that has changed our lives here in Branch 146 happened 30 years ago when our branch was created. In October 2019 we celebrate our anniversary!

During these 30 years since 1989 hundreds of our members have had their lives enriched by the many friendships that have been made through participation in our dozens of activities. The first SIR club was incorporated in 1958 in San Mateo and has since born many dozens of chapters throughout Northern California.

We are blessed to have a sense of belonging. Being a member of this SIR community gives us motivation to feel alive; it gives us energy to participate and thus improves our health and happiness! Having that feeling of acceptance in membership contributes to our self-esteem.

Be prepared to CELEBRATE at our October luncheon!



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.



WE ARE SIR – MAKE FRIENDS FOR LIFE

Luncheon— Thursday, October 10th
At Boundary Oak Clubhouse

**TO CELEBRATE THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY
OF BRANCH 146**

Gathering time: 11:00 am
Seating time: 11:45 am

Bringing a guest or can't attend?

Email: nolunchbranch146@gmail.com

Telephone Message: (925) 979-5146

By Noon Friday, October 4th

Photo by Henry Thatcher



Our September Speaker, Terry Eidson, educator and defensive coordinator at De La Salle High for 38 years, gave us a deep insight into the character building aspects of the football program -- which are more important than win streaks.

**BE SURE TO ATTEND OCTOBER'S LUNCHEON CELEBRATING
OUR BRANCH'S 30TH ANNIVERSARY!! IT WILL BE MEMORABLE!!**

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



Little Sir's Corner

Brad Hatcher

Our September, Team Colors themed luncheon, featured Coach Terry Eidson as our speaker. He is a teacher and the assistant head football coach at De La Salle High school where he has been for 38 years. He gave us insight into the football program at DLS. I have heard high praise from members for his comments and willingness to answer questions.

Our October luncheon will celebrate Branch 146 founding 30 years ago. Various former Big Sirs will speak and we will hear from Ed Benson our State President on several topics.

Speaking of the State organization, I was privileged to attend the State Annual Meeting. I am glad I did as our branch received two awards of note. Both are for the year 2018. The first is the Area Governor's Branch Citation for Area 16. The State award is the Dwight B. Sale Annual Award for Excellence. Branch 146 was First Runner Up (losing to the Chico Branch who did great things during and after the fire that decimated Paradise). The citation reads "Let it be known to all, that this Branch has been recognized by SIR as exemplary for its excellence in leadership, membership, growth, member relations, activities and fostering comradery for all its members".

The Branch Executive Committee met before the luncheon. Our Treasurer gave his usual report and indicated he is working on the budget for 2020. Tentative plans for the 30 year celebration in October were discussed and various committee chairmen gave their reports.

Please bring a guest to the meeting as we always want to expand our membership and keep the branch vibrant. If you do bring a guest, be sure to let our luncheon manager know who is coming. Please be sure to notify us if you are not coming to the lunch. You can accomplish this by either sending an E-mail to nolunchbranch146@gmail.com or calling 925-979-5146.



Membership

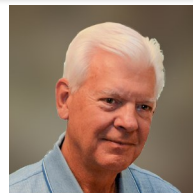
Ron Lew

At its September meeting, the BEC inducted 1 new member: **Doug Timmel** sponsored by **Peter Plante**. **Doug** attended the new member orientation following the luncheon which all members are welcome to join for a refresher or to meet new members. We now have 297 members.

You are encouraged to wear your Rooster Pins to the luncheons and any other SIR activities or functions. If you never received one or have lost yours, please email me to receive a new one. Also please check that your personal information is correct on our online directory.

We had 9 guests in September. Please continue inviting guests to our luncheons as new members are the lifeblood of our Branch.

October New Member Photo Addition



Doug Timmel



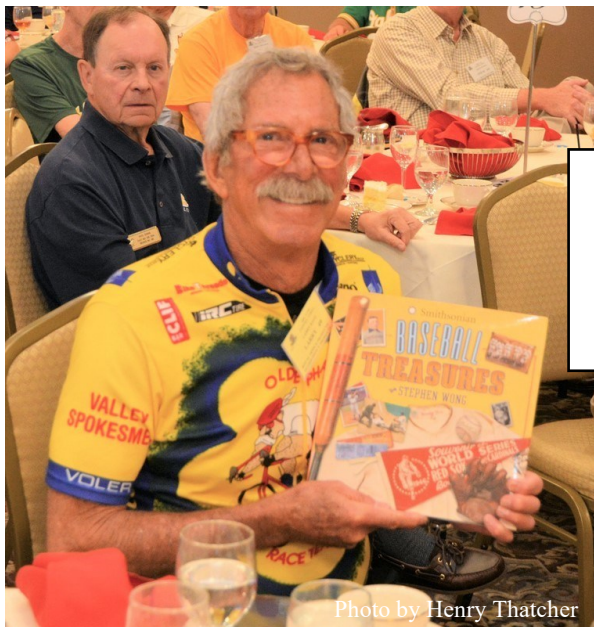
Fred Bolton proudly receives the Senior Sir Certificate for reaching a SIR Milestone. **Fred** was not only 90 years old in September but has been Br. 146 Member for 26 years

It was so cold in D.C. today...
...that I saw a politician with his hands in his own pockets.



Photo by Henry Thatcher

Bill Weinberg awarded his 20 Year Membership Award Certificate at September's Luncheon. Congratulations!!



Larry Kaye
Team Colors Award Winner

Photo by Henry Thatcher



Photo by Unknown

Jonathan Korfhage visiting **Denny O'Loughlin** to Present his 20 Year Membership Award Certificate.



Sunshine

Max Hinkle

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

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.

- Hugh Ferguson
- Jim Gracey
- Joe Hunt
- Bill Klein
- Ken Kratz
- Martin Lyle
- Art Mancini
- Howard Nemir
- Myles Ringle
- Jim Saavedra
- Bill Stevenson
- Joe Suta
- Al Zamolo

If you are aware of an ill Sir, please let **Max Hinkle** know by e-mail: hinkle3@sbcglobal.net or phone: (925) 408-6004 so that our SIR members can be advised.

Also, if you need a ride to and from our luncheons or know someone who does please notify Max.

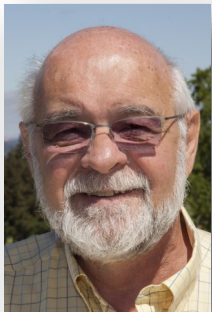
2019 Branch 146 Officers and Directors

Big Sir	Jonathan Korfhage
Little Sir	Brad Hatcher
Secretary	Richard Hockenbrock
Assistant Secretary	Jerry Kaplan
Treasurer	Ben Gleason
Assistant Treasurer	George Mon
Director(1 st Term)	Max Hinkle
Director(1 st Term)	Open
Director(1 st Term)	Ron Lew
Director(1 st Term)	Milt Smith
Director(2 nd Term)	Pierre Mebane
Director(2 nd Term)	Tony Greco

RAMP – Chair Members

Recruitment	Paul Beretz
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.



Luncheon Chairman

Rob Melrose

While you are thinking of it, grab your checkbook and make out a check to SIR BRANCH 146 in the amount of \$26 and slide it into your wallet. Checks make our lives so much easier.

- Luncheon Date: October 10th
- Cost \$26. The volunteers really prefer checks and if you don't know why, volunteer to work at the check-in table sometime. Plus, it makes it easier for volunteers to balance the books.
- As usual, the Opt Out deadline is the Friday before the luncheon before noon. That would make this month's deadline **OCTOBER 4TH BEFORE NOON**. Two ways to opt out are email or voicemail.

Email: NoLunchBranch146@gmail.com

Phone: (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.
- Bringing a guest? 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, it is imperative that you let us know if you are not coming before the deadline so we can keep the low price.
- Everyone needs to remember the cut-off date is Noon on the Friday before the luncheon. It is your obligation to let us know if you cannot attend. We will send out a courtesy reminder before the deadline. However, if it goes to your spam folder, that is not a valid reason for failure to notify us before the deadline. **Unattended lunches are not free; SIR Branch 146 is charged \$26 for every lunch that is prepared.** Please notify us as mentioned above so we do not continue to incur these needless expenses.

SIR Call Newsletter Group

Editor	Richard Hockenbrock
Co - Editors	Walt Busenius, Rob Melrose & Bob West
Photographer	Henry Thatcher
Proofreaders	Jim Barry, Jonathan Korfhage
	Ron Polivka, and Calvin Tucker
Internet Posting	Ron Plachy



THE CLUBHOUSE

AT BOUNDARY OAK

SIR 146 Luncheon
October 10th, 2019

Salad

Gorgonzola Salad

**Baby Field Greens, Julienned Pears,
Blue Cheese, Candied Pecans,
Champagne Maple Vinaigrette**

Entrees

Short Ribs

**Braised Short Ribs, Whipped Potatoes,
Seasonal Vegetables
Red Wine Sauce**

Or

Mango Glazed Mahi Mahi

**Rice Pilaf & Seasonal Vegetables,
Chardonnay Caper Butter Sauce**

Vegetarian

Stuffed Sweet Potatoes

**Wild Mushroom Ragout, Seasonal
Vegetables, Red Pepper Coulis**

Dessert

Chocolate Supreme Cake

**Moist Chocolate Cake, Chocolate
Ganache
Raspberry Sauce**



Photography Group

Richard Hockenbrock

We had a nice turn out of 14 SIR members that attended the South America & Alaska photo presentation by **Bill Holly** and **Brad Hatcher** at our meeting on September 27th.

Our meetings have an open agenda and we invite all SIR members and guests to come and show photos of their travels. You can even get some pointers if you have questions about your camera or smartphone or the pictures you have taken.

At our next meeting, we will explore the new Samsung Note 10 Plus smartphone from a photograph perspective. We will show some side by side comparisons of photos taken with a Canon 5D DSLR and Sony α6500 mirrorless camera. If anyone has a new iPhone 11 Pro with it's three lenses, we would definitely like you to come and show photos from your smartphone.

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: Samsung Note 10 Plus photo
comparison to Canon 5D & Sony α6500

When: December 13th, 2019 9am—11am



RV Wanderers

Bob Lucido

Our RV trip to Paso Robles was a great success. After getting through the heavy traffic in San Jose, it was clear sailing with speeds up to 60 MPH. Try stopping fast when you're pulling 10,000 pounds.

We had three couples, **Jim & Joyce Barry, Don & Etta Dotson, Bob & Wendy Lucido**. After two days of relaxing and socializing, all of us took our first venture out to the Sculpterra Winery. After the GPS took us the wrong way down a dirt road, we backtracked and found the winery. If you have never been to the Sculpterra Winery & Sculpture Garden in Paso Robles, it's a wonderful surprise.

As we strolled through the gardens, we saw 17 exquisite sculptures made from marble, or metal, some standing over 20 ft. high. After the garden tour we got to the real reason we were there, wine tasting. Good thing **Don** was the designated driver because the rest of us enjoyed our wine tasting. We managed to bring back a few bottles of fine wine for later.

For the Beer drinkers, namely **Bob**, we had lunch at the Firestone brewery, and **Bob** enjoyed some limited brews.

Jim & Joyce had to leave on the third day, but **Don, Etta, Wendy & Bob** drove to Morro Bay for lunch. You can't have lunch near the ocean without eating New England clam chowder. In the future I hope that other RVers from other SIR's groups will join us. If it looks like we had fun, go out and by an RV, and join us.

Bob Lucido

(925) 899-0974

bobwendy3@comcast.net



Photo by Unknown

R V Wanderers

Jim & Joyce Barry, Bob & Wendy Lucido, Don & Etta Dotson enjoying some wine tasting and beautiful art at Sculpterra Winery in Paso Robles



Photo by Unknown



Activities

**Jerry Kaplan
and
Bob Lucido**



Every few months, when I can't think of anything else to write, I will highlight an activity chairman and spotlight his activity. So if you want to be a star, and shine in this column, become a chairman of an activity.

Explore & Eat :

There are two guys are on a quest to find adventure and a good place to eat lunch. **Jim Pope** and **Henry Thatcher** are giving us a two for one deal by exploring interesting places and having a wonderful lunch. **John Pearl** started this activity a while ago, ran it for 5 years, and it was very successful. John was then ready to move on and let others take over the activity.

After a year and a half, Explore & Eat became lonely and missed all the SIR people. This Explore & Eat activity was so hungry, it would need two chairmen to satisfy it. Two enthusiastic branch members came to **Jerry Kaplan** and said they wanted to revive the activity. **Jerry** suggested they come to the BEC for approval of their vision of Explore and Eat and the rest is history! In order to make it a little more manageable **Jim** and **Henry** decided to split the responsibilities between them, and to schedule it four times a year.

It's been a popular activity which has averaged 30 to 40 people per outing. They have had up to 60 people sign up and on occasion had to split the event into two separate dates. When they talk to restaurant owners, SIR members & guests are welcomed until they find out we want separate checks, but sometimes with two slick talking fellows, the owners give in..

Living in the Bay Area, everyone knows about traffic congestion so **Jim** and **Henry** keep travel time to less than one hour from Walnut Creek, and sometimes suggest using BART. They also know that we are "at that age" so they find a restaurant within walking distance of the Explore Event.

It turns out that the wives are more interested in the trips than the guys, who would rather play golf, so if that's you, hide this article from her. **Jim** and **Henry** are constantly looking for new adventures, so if you have any suggestions, please contact one of them.

*Reported by **Bob Lucido***

Jerry Kaplan

(925) 330-8832

mtdana@aol.com

Bob Lucido

(925) 899-0974

bobwendy3@comcast.net

SIR BR 146 at its August Luncheon elected the 2020 (BEC) Board Executive Committee as follows:

Big Sir
Little Sir
Secretary
Assistant Secretary
Treasurer
Assistant Treasurer
Director 2nd Term
Director 2nd Term
Director 2nd Term
Director 1st Term
Director 1st Term
Director 1st Term

Brad Hatcher
Richard Hockenbrock
Jerry Kaplan
Tony Greco
George Mon
Ross Abbott
Milton Smith
Open
Ron Lew
Peter Plante
Chuck Schreiber
Paul Beretz

All of these 2020 calendar year officers were introduced at the July luncheon and elected unanimously at our August 2019 luncheon.



September Greeters: **Rick Morgan, Mike Wallace, Jim Nelson, & Jerry Baer**



Ross Abbott and **Dave Kingsbury** enjoying some refreshments and conversation at the September luncheon



Cycling Group

Larry Kaye

Today, under the leadership of Big Jim Nelson, the boys in spandex rode from Heather Farms to and thru Concord. We followed the Canal trail as well as the Iron Horse trail in our tour of the canals. We watched the goats trim the weeds along the banks and passed the goat herders as they led the animals on the paths.

We toured streets never seen before and enjoyed the traffic free trails. This rider, returning from the injured, thoroughly enjoyed being a participant and being indebted to Big Jim for leading us on this tour. So much so, that we allowed Jim to buy us ALL coffee at the end.

Larry Kaye

(925) 698-4030

larrykaye2@comcast.net



Photo by Bob Wilkenfeld

On the ride was (L-R) Michael Wolfson, Jim Nelson, Moose Kelly, and yours truly Larry Kaye.

Riding but not in the photo was Bob Wilkenfeld



Attendance Checkers Dave Svoboda & Larry Brown take a break to have their picture taken



Bocce

Stan U'Ren / Jim Whitsett

SEASON ENDED!

The time has come to announce our annual fall/winter break. We'll plan to start back up in late April/early May 2020. Two months prior to May, we will use this column to alert players of the upcoming start up.

We've had a good year and look forward to next year! Thanks to all who participated. See pictures on page 22 and 26.

Bocce Ball is played 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.

Jim Whitsett (925) 689-5493

AFRES056789@gmail.com



Table Pool



Bill Weinberg / Jim Barry

We meet every Monday at 11:00 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.

Reported by Jim Barry

My boss just texted me: "Send me one of your funny jokes!"

I texted him back: "I'm busy working. I'll send one later."

"That's hilarious," he said. "Send another one!"



Couples Dining Out

Bruce Borgman

As we announced to our email list and in the last Sir Call, we enjoyed our September Couples Dining Out event on September 16th at Casa Orinda. This venerable restaurant is an institution in the East Bay, and undoubtedly the oldest restaurant, dating from 1932. It was actually started by one of the engineers of the Caldecott tunnel when he could not find a convenient place to eat or drink. What started as a roadhouse in the 1930's has really not changed all that much and eating there is as much an experience in stepping back a few decades, as it is to enjoy a wonderful meal. You can see a number of pictures taken by **Henry Thatcher** on the next couple of pages.

Our group consisted of 54 diners, which just about maxed out the capacity of the banquet room. The restaurant's fried chicken is one of the best in the area, and about half of our group enjoyed that entrée. Additionally we had a choice of Veal Scallopine, Sautéed Prawns, or Baked Lasagna – all of which were excellent. For dessert, we had a house made lemon pie. As a bonus, there was not a corkage for bottles brought in so many of us took advantage of that, with many of us sampling one another's wines. Many of our group also took advantage of the \$5 margaritas special during the cocktail hour.

All in all, it was a fine dining experience and we will no doubt try this restaurant again – they also specialize in Italian cuisine, and periodically do a special evening of Mexican dishes.

Our next dining event will be in November – likely on November 18th to avoid Thanksgiving week and the Sir Luncheon the week before. The challenge again is to find a restaurant which can accommodate our group of 50 to 60 diners. We are thinking of returning to Wence's restaurant in Pleasant Hill – a restaurant, which can fit our group and never disappoints with an excellent menu at a reasonable price. But, if you have a suggestion for a new restaurant, we are happy to check out your restaurant suggestion as well! See you in November.



Travel

Milt Smith

SIR Branch 146 Grand Baltic Sea Voyage—Small Ship Adventure by Overseas Adventure Travel

DEPARTURE DATE: June 6, 2020

- **Denmark:** Copenhagen, Bornholm
- **Poland:** Gdansk
- **Sweden:** Visby, Stockholm
- **Latvia:** Riga
- **Estonia:** Tallinn
- **Russia:** St. Petersburg
- **Finland:** Helsinki.

Trip extensions available to Copenhagen and / or Stockholm from \$1,295 each.

As noted, this upcoming great trip to the Baltic departs June 6, 2020 and we have 9 Sirs signed up already, but there is still room for more if you act soon.

14 days from \$8,255 Includes international airfare from Sacramento. 14 days from \$6,695 without international airfare. Single Supplement: \$1,395.

Please mention code **GO-23630** when booking.

Reservations & Information call **1-800-955-1925**

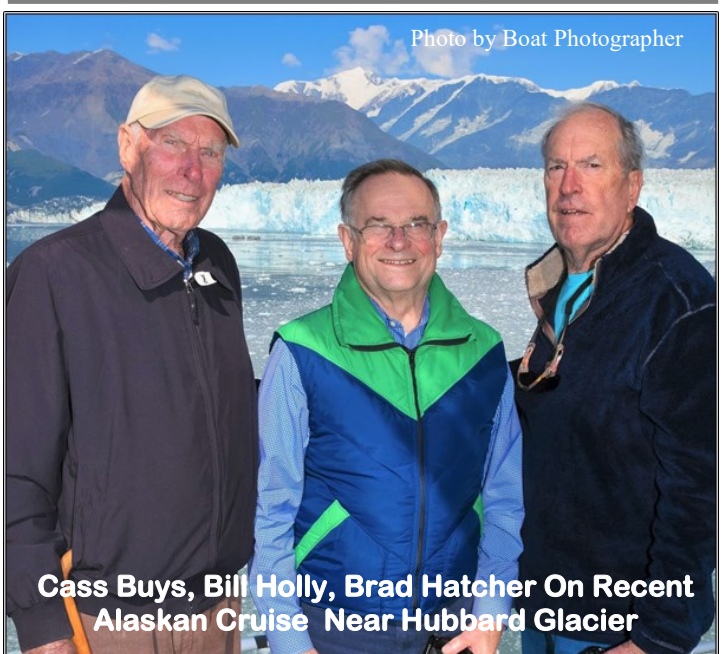
www.oattravel.com/crb2020

Please Note: I am looking into other trips for 2020, including the Mediterranean, the Amalfi Coast, and WWII battlefields of France. I would appreciate knowing your interests before I conduct further research.

Milt Smith

(925) 285-2897

miltsmith549@gmail.com



Cass Buys, Bill Holly, Brad Hatcher On Recent Alaskan Cruise Near Hubbard Glacier

When does a joke become a “dad” joke?

When the punchline is a parent.



September's Couples Dining Out At Casa Orinda



Photo by Henry Thatcher

Our Ever Gracious Couples Dine Out hosts: **Bruce Borgman** and **Sue Sheldon**. Thank you & Bravo !!



Photo by Henry Thatcher

L to R: **Ken Richter**, **Sandi Coggiola**, **Elaine Richter**, and **Ted Coggiola**



Photo by Henry Thatcher

L to R: **Ron Plachy**, **John Boyan**, **Linda Boyan**, **Nancy Pearl**, **John Pearl** and **Anne Plachy**



Photo by Henry Thatcher

L to R: **Janice Woodman**, **Walt Schmidt**, **Karen & Steve Dinning**, **Steve & Dana Ybarra**, **Bobbie Schmidt**, and **Dick Woodman**



Photo by Henry Thatcher

L to R: **Barbara Elenteny**, **Barbara & Jonathan Korfhage**, and **Don Rhoads**



September's Couples Dining Out At Casa Orinda



Casa Orinda

Photo by Henry Thatcher

Charming since the 30's & Full tonight
with Joyful SIR Couples



Photo by Henry Thatcher

L to R: George & Shari Carpenter, Carmen Schiavone
& Rob Melrose, Bruce Borgman & Sue Sheldon,
Sue & Walt Busenius



Photo by Henry Thatcher

L to R: Sandy Wagner & Rich Hanford, Corrie & Sue Oranje,
Susan & Jerry Kaplan, Brian & Mary McCarthy



SongSirs
Bruce Borgman

Some of you may have noticed the hand-painted pianos – eight of them – which have been placed in selected locations in downtown Walnut Creek.

This new musical art project by Walnut Creek Downtown and Steinway were painted by local artists and add a unique artsy dimension to our community. Our SongSirs pianist, Steve Dinning had the “crazy” idea (his words!) to move our last practice to the grand piano which is located at the Il Fornaio fountain. While we did not have a large contingent of singers at this spur of the moment change of practice location, it was a fun experience. A few people walked by and left with a smile! You will be able to see a picture of our practice session in this Sir Call issue.

We practiced the military repertoire which includes all the service songs, as well as a few other patriotic songs – and some others that we have been practicing. We are always looking for new singers, so if you are interested in singing with your fellow Sirs, come to the Walnut Creek Presbyterian Church on the first and third Wednesday of the month, at 2:30pm on the first Wednesday, and at 1:30 on the third Wednesday! That is, unless Steve decides to get to practice at another “crazy” location. Never a dull moment with the SongSirs!

(925) 932-3961
bgborgman@aol.com



Book Group
Chuck Campbell

Six Sir’s met on September 16th to discuss a nonfiction book titled *The Devil in the White City* by Eric Larson. This book focuses on the years 1890 to 1894 regarding the development & construction of the 1893 Chicago World’s Fair and the crazy but largely successful events executed by a serial killer in the Chicago area. Our group was not sure why Larson felt the need to insert the activities of the serial killer, H.H. Holmes, but Larson manages to bring enough continuity to the two separate subjects to keep the reading moving along.

It turns out that the determined leadership of Daniel Burnham helped produce this very successful World’s Fair even though it followed the Paris World’s Fair, made notable with the construction of the Eiffel Tower. A last minute addition to the Chicago World’s Fair was the first ever Ferris wheel. Designed by George Ferris, this now common amusement park feature almost rivaled the amazing Eiffel Tower.

We all agreed that the political and construction histories about the fair were interesting. But as far as we were concerned, the parts about Holmes and his killing exploits could have been skipped.

For our next book we choose *The Pioneers* by David McCullough. We will meet next on October 21st at the Greenery Restaurant starting at 8:30am.



Downtown Walnut Creek Practicing at Hand Painted Piano:
L to R: **Bruce Kimmis, Peter Plante, Paul Beretz, and Lynn Shafer** with **Steve Dinning** at the piano



Wearing their Beavers and Ducks Team Colors are **Jim Pope, Chuck Campbell, and Bob Yolland**

SIR 146 Explore & Eat

Lesher Center for the Arts - Backstage Tour

The Lesher Center for the Arts-Backstage Tour was well attended on September 3rd. We had 35 participants joining the tour of The Lesher Center led by general manager, **Scott Denison**. Those in attendance were: **Paul and Jane Beretz, Walt and Sue Busenius, Dennis and Elaine Dale, Steve and Karen Dinning, Doug and Patricia Eisner, Carl and Joyce Fell, Reggie and Barbara Fromm, Tony and Cindy Greco, Dennis and Ann Hallett, Richard and Sherry Hockenbrock, Ron Louis and Fran Matthew, Bob and Wendy Lucido, Jim Pope, Don and June Seaton, Robert and Althea Soldano, Henry and Barbara Thatcher, Charlie and Diane Walker and Bob and Judy Wilkenfeld.**

The tour was very extensive, visiting all 3 theaters. We walked through the backstage prop rooms and stood on the largest stage looking at the seats and lighting equipment. We saw firsthand the pulley-rope system that is used to raise and lower the stage sets and props during the performances, how the floor raises and lowers for the orchestra pit, the Trap Room and much more. Scott explained how the actors and staff move around during a performance plus all of the safety rules around the stage and its workings. We visited one of five dressing rooms and several prop rooms, one of which had five Grand pianos in it worth nearly a million dollars. After the tour we walked down the street to Broderick's in Walnut Creek for lunch. Please view the photos to see the locations that the group visited.

Photo by Jim Pope



Scott Denison explains Rope Pulley System Backstage for Sets and Props

Photo by Jim Pope



Wrapping up Tour in Intimate Vukasin Theatre

Photo by Jim Pope



One of the Many Rooms Off Stage for Storing Props

Photo by Jim Pope



One of the Five Dressing Rooms at the Lesher Center



AREA 16 Fishing Report

Paul Dubow

In previous columns, we have talked about the great salmon year that this has been. But the halibut fishing in the Bay has also been terrific and, unlike previous years, it has lasted all summer and it is still going strong. The number of members of our club who have caught halibut in the Bay this month is too long to list here, but we are all having a good time!

Other things are happening, too. **Pete Gates** and **Tom Boltz** of Branch 146 switched the venue of their annual trip to Alaska from Coffman's Cove on Prince of Wales Island to Raspberry Island in the Kodiak archipelago and the move was very successful. They came home with boxes full of salmon, halibut, and rockfish.

We have also taken up pier fishing. **Joe Miscione**, **Mario Moratorio**, **Phil Scimonelli**, and **Brion Beetz** fished piers in the lower Bay and landed stripers, smelt, rays, sharks, and even a guitarfish. **Ron Lew** of Branch 146, along with **Phil Scimonelli**, **Brion Beetz**, **Ray Pixton**, and **Carl Moyer**, caught catfish in San Pablo Reservoir. **Ron** and **Rich Fiscina** of Branch 146 fished in the ocean and picked up some nice rockfish and ling cod. **Jerry Hicks** took a guided fly-fishing trip to Oregon and landed and released lots of rainbow trout. Finally, our two Delta regulars, **Tom Kostik** and **Mike Corker**, continued their efforts in finding and landing stripers and black bass in that fishery.

We hope that our successful outings will induce wannabe fishermen to join us. If you are interested, please come to our next meeting on October 24th at the Legends Sports Bar and Grill, Diablo Creek Golf Course, 4050 Port Chicago Highway, Concord. The meeting begins at 8:30 am, but you are welcome to join us for breakfast, beginning at 7:30 am.

Alternatively, you can contact branch fishing chair **Paul Dubow** at (415) 495-6504.



Photo from Pete Gates

Tom Boltz (left) and **Pete Gates** (center) and friends display halibut caught on Raspberry Island in Alaska



Photo by Henry Thatcher

Jim Barry and Past Big Sir **Alan Elnick** posing for a picture before the start of the September Luncheon



Photo by Henry Thatcher

Joe Barry and **Steve Ybarra** wearing their respective team colors at the September luncheon

If you have 10 apples in one hand and 14 oranges in the other, what do you have?

Really, really big hands.



Henry Thatcher

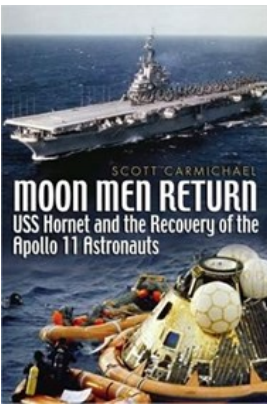
SIR 146 Explore & Eat



Jim Pope

USS Hornet Aircraft Carrier Tour

November 6th at 10:00 AM in Alameda



The Explore & Eat event will be on the USS Hornet Aircraft Carrier on Wednesday, November 6th in Alameda at 10:00 am.

We will tour the flight deck, navigation bridge, engine room, and several lower decks. The USS Hornet is celebrating the 50th anniversary of the moon landing. The carrier recovered the Apollo 11 space capsule with the 3 astronauts from the Pacific Ocean. A highlight of the tour will be the space capsule as well as many other artifacts from this historic event. The tour takes about 2 hours.

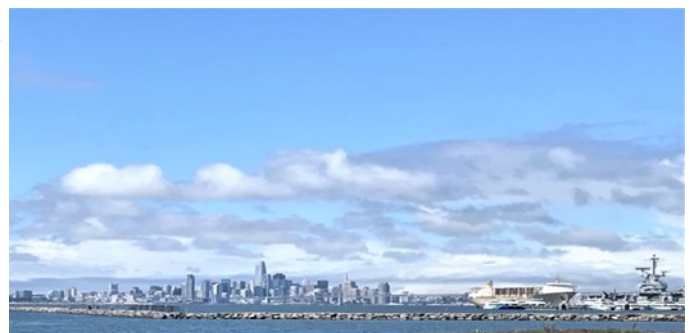


After the tour, we are having lunch at **Pier 29, 1148 Ballena Blvd. in Alameda**

The cost is **\$15.00 per person (\$30/couple)** for the docent-led tour. We have room for 40 participants and need a minimum of 25. Please make your check payable to **“SIR 146”** and note on the check for **“USS Hornet Tour”**. There will be no refunds after October 29th.

Please send your check and the name of your guest to: Jim Pope at 385 Bryan Drive. Alamo, CA 94507. Email: jpope24@comcast.net.

See you all there!





Cooking II Bob Yolland

Bill Cammerer hosted our Cooking II lunch September 9th on a beautiful afternoon with a great summer salad. He started us off with salami, cheese, a variety of olives, crackers, nuts, pretzels and a very good dip. Our whole time was spent outside in the **Cammerer's** lovely backyard. Of course we had lots of conversation especially about the "A's" playoff run and an ample supply of great wines or soft drinks. For lunch **Bill** created a very nice albacore tuna salad, made up of lots of white tuna, lettuce, tomatoes, celery, green onions, hard boiled egg slices, other goodies and a choice of dressings. This was accompanied by fresh sourdough bread. Thanks **Bill**, it was excellent. For dessert he served a very good butterscotch pudding.

Our next event is Monday October 14th, hosted by **Dennis Hallett**.



Pinochle Charlie Kahsen / Jeff Morrow



We meet on the 2nd & 4th 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.

All Sirs in Area 16 and their guests (including spouses) are welcome to attend. Introduction and training will be provided to those who have never played before, as well as those who last played many years ago.

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.

Charlie Kahsen
(925) 943-1750
cwkahsen@gmail.com

Jeff Morrow
(925) 944-7009
jeffrey.morrow@gmail.com



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. 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 from 1:00 - 2:30 pm on Tuesday and Thursday. The cost of instruction is \$15 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 the 1 1/2 hours 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 is the maximum for each instruction session).

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



Little Sir **Brad Hatcher** holds up the first runner up Dwight B. Sale Annual Award for Excellence presented to Branch 146 at the SIR State meeting in Lincoln, CA on August 20th.

How do you get two whales in a car?

Start in England and drive west.

Mexican Train Dominoes Groups



Mexican Train Dominoes Group 1 (UNO)

Jerry Kaplan

The Group One players met on Friday, September 13th at the friendly Walnut Creek home of **SIR Bruce Borgman** and his wife, **Sue Sheldon**.

Enjoyable snacks were available throughout the Game Night topped off by a delicious Cider-Glazed Apple Bundt Cake offered at the break. The hosts, as usual, did an outstanding job of keeping everyone happy and well fed with treats.

There were several regulars missing, and with few substitutes available, 13 Group One players soldiered on.

SIR Jerry Kaplan had a very good night scoring an average of only 8.8 points over the 9 games played at his table. His first prize was worth \$15. Second place (for \$8) went to **Sherry Hockenbrock**, wife of **SIR Richard Hockenbrock**, with an average of 13.3 and third place was taken by **SIR Jim Stedman**, with an average of 14.9.

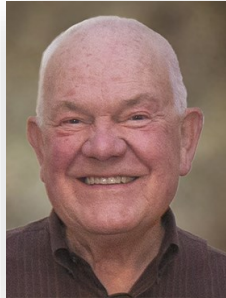
The team of **SIR Frank Ascagnano** and his wife, **Marie** had fun (they told us so!) but ended up with the two highest scores for the evening. This was worth a lucky scratcher for each of them. Alas, (see picture), they scratched and scratched, but to no avail – no magic money appeared on the ticket.

Mexican Train Dominoes is an easy game to learn and a great number of SIRs, many with their partners, have been playing for several years. Single SIRs are always welcome. By clicking here (mexicantrainrulesandstrategies.com), someone can see how to play and the set of rules that the seven groups in Branch 146 are following. If someone is interested in joining a group, call the chair (listed in the Branch website) to see if there may be space to become a regular or a substitute.



Photo by Jerry Kaplan

Ascagnano's Hard at work on their scratchers!



Mexican Train Dominoes Group 2 (DOS)

Dick Woodman

In August, **Jim** and **Phyllis Meehan** welcomed us into their beautiful home in Rossmoor. While we were enjoying the refreshments and snacks and enjoying their nice

view, we were entertained by a covey of quail. It set the stage for a very fun evening. We had 18 players including **Peter** and **Martha Plante** as alternatives. The regulars included **Bill** and **Bernice Cammerer**, **Don** and **Etta Dotson**, **Chuck** and **Mary Denney**, **John** and **Nancy Pearl**, **Dick** and **Janice Woodman**, **Jim** and **Phyllis Meehan**, and **Ron** and **Anne Plachy**.

The scoring was very competitive. Our host, **Jim Meehan** took third place with an average game score for the evening winning him \$4. **Janice Woodman** won second place with a score of 11.5 winning her \$11. **Rich Ahlf** took first place with a very competitive 10.3 winning him \$21.

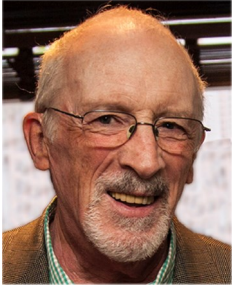
Our next game is at **Rich Ahlf** and **Ismini MacLean's** home in Clayton on September 27th.



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

MTD 1 Game Night Winners: (L to R) **Jerry Kaplan**
1st Place; **Jim Stedman** 3rd Place; and
Sherry Hockenbrock 2nd Place

Mexican Train Dominoes Groups



Mexican Train Dominoes Group 3 (TRES)

Jeff Baily

MTD#3 players enjoyed an evening of playing and some delicious desserts and homemade cookies by **Alicia Baily** at the Baily's'.

Its funny how the winner patterns change... one time its 3 men and we're all bragging about what smart men we are and the next month 3 ladies grab the prizes. September was ladies' turn.

At the green table **Jim Stedman** and **Larry Brown** went out once in the first 2 games only to rack up 50 points each in the 3rd. That was enough to give **Judy Richmond** an opening which she flew through and carried to win the table and win 3rd place overall.

At the purple table there was no doubt... **Alicia Baily** went out the first 2 games to take a good lead and went out 6 time in the 9 games played to easily win the table and place 2nd overall.

At the red table **Laurie Hoban**, one of our skilled substitute players, went out 4 times in 9 games played, and keeping her other games low, won the table and placed first overall. Congrats to the 3 ladies.

Gentlemen, next month it will be our turn huh at the **Shafer's** residence on October 25th.



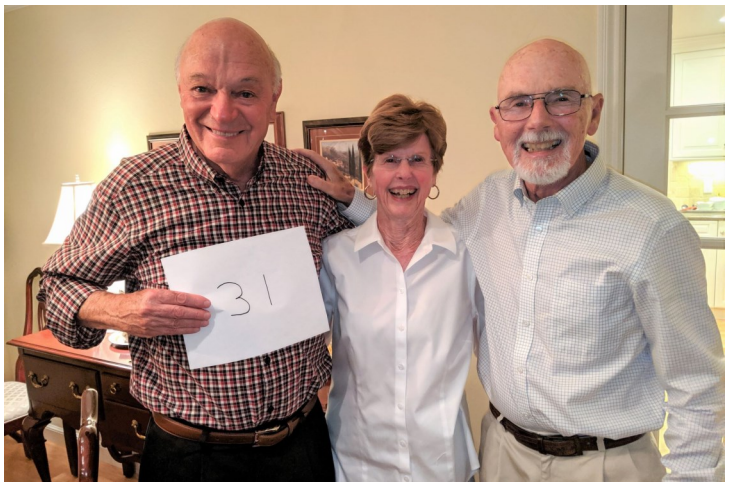
Mexican Train Dominoes Group 5 (CINCO)

Chuck Campbell

In our MTD group the men play in the dining room; the women play in the kitchen. It's usually our better halves who take home the bread; they network while we men are duking it out. But on September 19th at least a couple of gents finally hit their stride. Any score under 20 is good for us.

Anne Burke led the women (17.8, 3rd place); **Chuck Campbell** was 2nd (17.2). But what a night **Steve Sprague** had; he went out four times out of six and ended with only 31 total points for an average of 5.2. We think he's just been toying with us all these years. Congratulations.

Reported Dave Pierce



The Winners MTD CINCO: (L to R) **Steve Sprague**, 1st Place with only 31 total pts.; **Ann Burke**, 3rd Place; and **Chuck Campbell**, 2nd Place .



Photo by Jeff Baily

MTD 3 Winners: (L to R): 3rd place **Judy Richmond**, 2nd Place **Alicia Baily**, and 1st Place **Laurie Hoban**

A couple goes to an art gallery. They find a picture of a naked women with only her privates covered with leaves. The wife doesn't like it and moves on but the husband keeps looking. The wife asks: "What are you waiting for?" The husband replies: "Autumn."

Mexican Train Dominoes Groups



Mexican Train Dominoes Group 4 (El Quattro)

Jim Pope

We had the Top Ten Dominos players show up to play dominos Friday night, **Henry** and **Barbara Thatcher**, **Ron Louis** and **Fran Matthews**, **Darlo Boone** and **Mariwyn McComb**, **Ken** and **Carol Soult** and **Jim** and **Renie Pope**..

The numbers were reduced by El Quattro members traveling, out of town guests visiting and other life events. But the small group did not deter the festivities (See picture). Laughter, food and drink were ever present thru-out the evening. We had two tables of 5 playing many rousing rounds of dominos. The winners were a family affair, **Henry** and **Barbara Thatcher** (See picture)



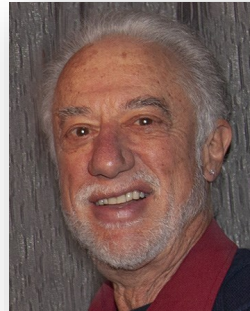
Photo by Jim Pope

El Quattro Mexican Train Dominos Winners
Barbara and Henry Thatcher



Photo by Jim Pope

El Quattro Mexican Train Group : (L to R) **Carol Soult**, **Ken Soult**, **Henry Thatcher**, **Barbara Thatcher**, **Ron Louis**, **Renie Pope**, **Mariwyn McComb**, **Darlo Boone**, and **Fran Matthews**



Mexican Train Dominoes Group 7 (Siete)

Bob Lucido

Another successful MTD at...whoever had it last time. Oh yeah, it was at the home of **Brian**, and **Mary McCarthy**. A big thanks to you two for being such wonderful hosts.

The big winner was **Richard Hockenbrock** with a winner take all pot of \$24. The shamed big loser was **Judy Wilkenfeld**. She was presented with a losing lotto ticket.

There was much cursing from two ladies "who shall not be named," but I'm sure one of them called me a **FOPDOODLE** (an insignificant or foolish man). All in jest I'm sure!

Our next MTD will be hosted by Bob & Wendy on Wednesday, October 9th

Bob Lucido

(925) 899-0974

Bobwendy3@comcast.net



Photo by S.K. Hockenbrock

MTD 7 saw **Richard Hockenbrock** walk off with all the money while **Judy Wilkenfeld**, sporting the highest score of the night, was left with, unfortunately, a non-winning lottery ticket

Mexican Train Dominoes Groups



Mexican Train Dominoes Group 6 (SEIS) John "Moose" Kelly

Our September game night was hosted by **Kathe Mitchell** at her lovely home in Walnut Creek. **Kathe** worked hard to put on a dynamite spread of cheese, great wines and outstanding desserts. My thanks for her extra effort in making the evening quite enjoyable for one and all.

The double pot competition for the lowest score was fierce with the usual suspects fighting for top honors. The all female winners (a consistent pattern over the last couple of months may I add) were **Alicia Bailey** (1), **Sherry Hockenbrock** (2), and **Etta Dotson** (3). **Kathe Mitchell** and **Jeff Bailey** were the high point winners with the "Fast 25" and "Loose Change" scratchers. Congratulations to all the winners!

The male component of MTD 6 have discussed meeting roughly two hours before the next event to practice our skills that are sadly lacking. The goal is to bring back our winning ways or perhaps cry in our beer.

Our Tuesday, October 22nd Mexican Train Domino event will be hosted by **Martha & Peter Plante**. Details will follow by email.

As an FYI....Mrs. **Moose** and I will be absent at our next event. However, I will coordinate with **Martha** and **Peter** to finalize all the details before October 22nd.



Photo by Moose Kelly

On a night when the winners pot was doubled, there was no such reward coming for high scorers sub **Jeff Bailey** and host **Kathe Mitchell** except for the small glimmer of hope in winning some money with their two scratcher lottery tickets

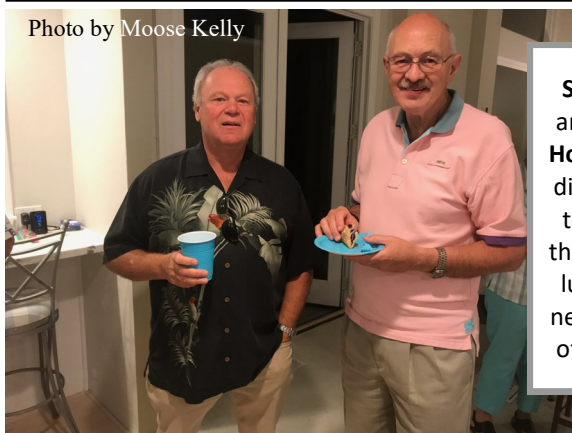


Photo by Moose Kelly

Steve Lane and **Richard Hockenbrock** discuss ways to improve their skill (i.e. luck) at the next meeting of MTD SEIS



Photo by Moose Kelly

MTD 6 Winners with the lowest point totals 1st **Alicia Bailey**, 2nd **Sherry Hockenbrock**, and 3rd **Etta Dotson**



Photo by Moose Kelly

Marth Plante and sub **Alicia Baily** likely strategizing their next moves at the break as **Alicia** eventually was the top winner



Men's Duplicate Bridge 1 Doug Eisner

Mark Curtis hosted 4 tables of Duplicate Bridge 1 on September 16th. With the requisite number of players available, each player was randomly assigned to a 4 man team. **Rich Ahlf**, the non-playing director, briefly explained the rules of the Swiss Teams format. We got off to a bit of a slow start as some players were unfamiliar with the format but they recovered quickly enough. **Dave Pierce's team: Dave, Brad Hatcher, Bob Yolland, and Joe Fuchs**, jumped out to a huge lead after the first round, scoring 20 pt to **Team Curtis's** 6 pt, **Team Schultz's** 4 pt, and **Team Eisner's** 0 pt. However, the bridge gods made a complete U-turn after the first round and **Team Eisner: Doug, Max Hinkle, Tony Greco, and Dick DeVoe** eased into first place at the end of the day over **Team Pierce**, 38 to 35 pt.



Men's Duplicate Bridge 2 Bill Schultz

Max Hinkle hosted three tables of duplicate bridge today and he and his wife **Ardith** outdid themselves with their apple galette for dessert. **Ed Marlovits** was strong out the gate with a 71% game in first place. **Tony Greco** and **Mark Curtis** came in 2nd and 3rd. **Tony Greco** and **Ed Marlovits** both had seven 2's.

In the afternoon **Dick DeVoe** roared back in first place with a 79 % game improving his first half performance by 14 points, which is the largest comeback that we have recorded. **Fred Bolton** was second and **Rich Ahlf** and **Mark Curtis** tied for third. **Fred** had seven 2's and neither **Rich Ahlf** nor **Mark Curtis** had a 0.

When the dust settled it was the steady play of **Mark Curtis** that landed him in first place with a 67% game. **Brad Hatcher** was second and **Fred Bolton** and **Rich Ahlf** tied for third place. For the day **Fred Bolton** had eleven 2's and **Mark Curtis** had only two 0's. There were three perfect 6 partnerships, **Tony Greco** and **Ed Marlovits** on boards 4-6, **Dick DeVoe** and **Max Hinkle** on boards 13-15 and **Dick DeVoe** and **Fred Bolton** on boards 16-18.

Next month eight regulars and four substitutes will be traveling to Lake Tahoe for bridge and golf hosted by **Dick DeVoe, Bob Yolland** and **Brad Hatcher**.

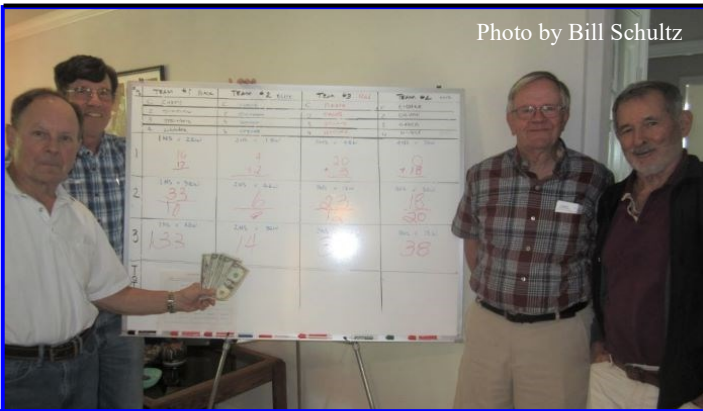


Photo by Bill Schultz

Men's Duplicate Bridge 1: The Blue Ribbon Winning Team: Captain **Doug Eisner, Tony Greco, Dick DeVoe** and **Max Hinkle**



Photo by Bill Schultz

Men's Duplicate 2 Winners: (R to L), **Mark Curtis** 1st, **Brad Hatcher** 2nd, **Rich Alf** who tied with **Fred Bolton** (not shown) for 3rd.



Photo by Bill Schultz

09/06/2019

Men's Duplicate Bridge 2: Back Row- **John Boyan, Mark Curtis, Tony Greco, Fred Bolton, Max Hinkle, Dave Steinberg** Front Row- **Bob Yolland, Brad Hatcher, Ed Marlovits, Dick DeVoe, Rich Ahlf**



Couples Party Bridge

Tony Greco

Larry & Linda Brown hosted our September 3rd event. Several of our regulars were vacationing in Alaska or on the east coast, so our subs stepped up to fill the empty slots. A big thank you goes out to subs **John & Kathy Kluesener**, **Brian & Mary McCarthy** and especially to **Bill Schultz** who agreed to be Dick DeVoe's partner. Rumor has it that **Dick** was rejected by many players before **Bill** agreed to play with him, traveling all the way from Montclair-Oakland to Clayton. We believe **Dick** bribed **Bill** by offering to take him to Burger King beforehand.

Our hosts **Larry & Linda Brown** provided ample wines, other beverages and snacks including mixed nuts, chocolate, imported European Licorice, and **Larry's** famous homemade salmon cheese ball with crackers which turns out not to have any salmon in it at all. I need to do a better job checking my sources!! At the end of the evening we were all offered a tasty ice cream pie (at least that's what I'm calling it. Lol) with coffee.

The scores for this event were very low. The winning score of only 2600 points is a record low for the 2 years I've been chairing this event. With the scores being so low and not worthy of awards, I offered to retain the prize money and payout double next month but the top three finishers strongly objected. Don't bridge players have any pride?

Anyway, the official results are as follows:

- 1st PLACE with 2600 points - **Larry & Linda Brown**
- 2nd PLACE with 2430 points - **Dick DeVoe & Bill Schultz** (which one of you led from an Ace? Lol.)
- 3rd PLACE with 2310 points - **John & Kathy Kluesener**

And yes, the prize money was reluctantly awarded. I guess you can argue the case that all hands were bid and played to their fullest potential, even though I witnessed some hands that weren't, including one by me (& partner). Lol.

Next month's event will be held on October 1st and hosted by **Tony & Cindy Greco**.



What's the ratio of a pumpkin's circumference to its diameter?
Pumpkin Pi



Party Bridge

Jim Pope & Jim Stedman



A group of 8 Party Bridge members met at **Jim Pope's** home to play a rousing 28 hands of bridge to ultimately determine the high score winner for the day. Those in attendance were: **Fred Bolton**, **Dick DeVoe**, **Steve Dinning**, **Joe Fuchs**, **Brad Hatcher**, **Jim Pope**, **Jim Stedman** and **Bill Snyder**. We played 16 hands in the morning starting at 10AM. Then we all broke for lunch and went outside in the beautiful weather (See picture). We enjoyed our lunch and **Renie's** fabulous "Peach Dump Cake" and vanilla ice cream. After lunch we played the remaining 12 hands with these results: The winners for the day were: 1st Place **Dick DeVoe**, 2nd **Brad Hatcher** and 3rd **Jim Stedman**. (See picture)



Photo by Bill Schultz

Party Bridge Winners: **Dick DeVoe, Brad Hatcher, and Jim Stedman.**



Photo by Bill Schultz

Party Bridge (L to R): **Brad Hatcher, Steve Dinning, Dick DeVoe, Joe Fuchs, Jim Pope, Fred Bolton, Bill Snyder, and Jim Stedman**



Men's Duplicate Bridge 3 Mike Whitaker

Duplicate Bridge III held its latest meeting on Friday, September 20th at the home of **Little Sir Brad Hatcher**. We enjoyed good snacks, good coffee and good company. We also attempted to play high level bridge.

After the first half, **Bob Yolland, Jerry Benoit** and **Tony Greco** were tied with 14.5 points. After lunch **Bob** pulled slightly ahead of **Jerry** for 1st place overall while **Jim Stedman** emerged from the pack to capture 3rd place. It was one of our closest competitions as the entire field of 12 players was separated by only 10 points.

Our next gathering will take place at **Bob Yolland's** home on October 18th. Interested in joining? Please contact Mike Whitaker at mrwhitaker@yahoo.com or 925-708-8213.



Couples Duplicate Bridge 1 Bob Yolland

Couples Duplicate 1 had an excellent evening of bridge hosted by **Margot Somerville**. She put out some truly delicious treats for all to admire and eat. They all went along with some very nice wines and soft drinks. Thank you **Margot** for your great hosting.

The cards were interesting and fun to play. In first place were **Dick** and **Christy DeVoe** with 24 points, a 60% game. Second place went to **Jerry** and **Chris Benoit** at 22 points, a 55% game and third place to **Dave** and **Joan Pierce** at 21.5 points, a 54% game. Congratulations to all the winners. We would also like to thank **Dave** and **Joan** for doing the scoring.

Our next game may have to wait until November 20th since several members are out of town on the third Wednesday, October 16th.



Men's Duplicate Bridge 3 Winners: (L to R) **Jim Stedman** 3rd place, ; 2nd **Jerry Benoit**, and overall winner **Bob Yolland**.



Couples Duplicate Bridge 2 Dave Pierce

Joan and Dave Pierce hosted all the regulars September 10th, on a very pleasant evening. Maybe having all the windows open cooled off the cards; no slams were bid, and (for once) there seemed to be more underbidding than overbidding that evening.

In a tight match, **Larry and Linda Brown**, who were the only pair to find their 9-card diamond fit on Board 14, were third (53%); **Brad and Lynne Hatcher** were second (55%), and **Tony and Cindy Greco** were first (58%). Congratulations.

Dave Pierce
(925) 932-3877
dwpi@astound.net



Photo by Henry Thatcher

SIR members who took part in our Bocce season finale on September 23rd at Newhall Park, Concord. (L to R) : **Henry Thatcher, Larry Brown, Lew Thompson, George Rammell, Michael Wolfson, Peter Plante, John Kendrick, and Roy Hodgkinson**



Hearts Bob West

We meet on the third Thursday of each month at Rocco's Italian Restaurant, located at 2909 Ygnacio Valley Rd. in Walnut Creek.

We play from 12:45-3:15 pm with an optional lunch at noon, and usually play two games. This is a Men's Br. 146 function with new members welcome. Our next meeting is October 17th.

At our September 19th meeting, we only played one game, as it lasted 1 and ¾ hours. Sir **Jim Nelson** won with 56 points and Sir **Frank Lucas** came in second with 98 points. It was very competitive until the last 2 hands. In hand 11, **Jim** started inching ahead, and in the 12th hand he "shot the moon" for the first time in 45 years. He did this on a hold hand no less.

Please contact me at 925-518-8472 or robrtawest@aol.com if you have any questions or would like to be added to our group's email list.



Photo by Steve Ybarra

Our loyal Hearts players this month: (L to R) **Brian McCarthy**, **Jim Nelson** (1st Pl. Winner), **Frank Lucas** (2nd Pl. Winner), and **Steve Ybarra**.



Cooking Lunch & Wine Dick Woodman

LUNCH AND WINE GROUP

The LAW Group was welcomed to **Bill Hartman's** home in Rossmoor for our August gathering. In addition to plenty of wine we were served several tasty appetizers followed by the delicious entrée, chicken marsala. **Bill** gave his significant other, **Marlys Siegel**, credit for preparing the marsala. **Bill's** job was cooking it on the stove. It was very good and chocolate covered ice cream bars topped it off.

We spent a great deal of time talking about the upcoming football season including high schools, colleges and professional teams. We have some members that are very conversant with all the happenings. The rest of us listened and learned. I wish it would stick better in my head.

September is one of two months each year that our spouses join us in the evening to go out to dinner. There will be more on this event to follow.



Cribbage John Pearl

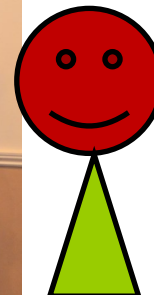
Eight of us braved record heat to venture out and gather again at Sir **Barney Meade's** home. Before you ask, of course we had a good time.

The winners were, in order, **John Kendrick** (the newest member of our group), **Ron Afdal** (our very able Co-Chair), **Kirk McVean** (a regular from Branch 116), and **Roger Rivers**.

We did manage to exchange insults, and get educated on the British political system by **Dennis Hallett**. We try it again in October!

John Pearl, Chair

Colorful Team Colors at September Luncheon





Poker Group 1
Dan O' Sullivan

Poker Group #1 met Sept. 11th at the home of **Rich Hanford**. We were missing 2 players but we still had a good time. Our next outing will be held Oct. 9th. at the home of **Ray Bland**.



Old Money Poker Group 6
Brad Hatcher

All seven of our members met at the remodeled home of **Frank Lucas** on the first Thursday in September. It was the first time in a while that we had all seven at the game.

Although **Frank** was actually late in arriving, he was not behind in winning. **Norm B.** was second in taking home more than he came with. However, the ever-quiet **Keith F.**, who only "comes to socialize" walked away with the top winnings for the day. Maybe he isn't just there for the camaraderie?

We meet again in October and early plans for November may include a winery field trip.

Tel: (925) 935-1571

bhatcher1942@gmail.com



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 7
Bob Lucido

It was a sad night for **Bob**, almost everyone was busy, and he had to call the game. To add to his sadness **Bob** decided to play solitaire by himself, and lost \$5.00.

We have enough players for the October game, but **Bob** had to promise the players that he would lose big.

We would like to have more substitutes, so if you would like to participate, please contact me.

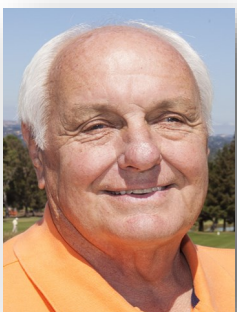
(925) 899-0974

bobwendy3@comcast.net



Poker Group 4
Rich Hanford

Poker Group 4 meets on the fourth Monday of the month at homes of the various members.



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.*



Book Corner
Peter Plante

Thank you to all who came and picked up and dropped off books at our September luncheon. We will be back in **November** with more books for your reading pleasure.





GOLF

Ed Marlovits

We had a very competitive two-man better ball competition on September 17th. Twenty two-man teams competed in two flights with best net honors going to the team of **Jim Passaglia** and **Max Hinkle** who shot a net 60. **Ed Brands** and **George Mon** were tops in their flight with a net 61. Competition was fierce and tie-breakers decided several places. We had four net 61 teams and three net 62 pairs. But there was only one net 60!

September's away golf was at Blue Rock West. Turnout was a disappointing sixteen, the lowest in recent memory. Again two names popped to the top of their flights: **Brands** and **Hinkle** with nets of 65 and 67, respectively.

Because Boundary Oak will be working on its greens, play on Tuesday, October 8th will be a combination Tuesday/Away Golf outing at Chardonnay. This is the last away outing of the year. We have not set up next year's Away Golf schedule and suggestions are very welcome. A good time to make such suggestions will be at our October 22th event. Finally, we would like to remind everyone of the website **Bill Laws** set up for our Golf activity through Member Planet. Please take a moment to check it out at <https://sircare2br146.memberplanet.com/Gallery.html>. Also remember that you can reach this same site using the Golf tab in the Branch 146 website which is very much alive and kept updated. In particular, you can look at it for the latest starter schedule and starter instruction.



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 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



09.10.2019

Photo by Bill Schultz

Paul Masta, Terry Carlin, Ben Smith enjoying Taphouse fare. Yummy, Yummy!!



Photo by Bill Schultz

09.10.2019

Cal Tucker, Ed Brands, Loren DeLaurenti and **Dave Steinberg**, at the Check-in Table.



09.10.2019

Photo by Bill Schultz

Tuesday Golfers ready to Tee-off (L to R): **Ben Smith, Many Santiago** (course Marshal/starter), **Mike Roach**

Area 16 Events

Mac User Group (MUG)

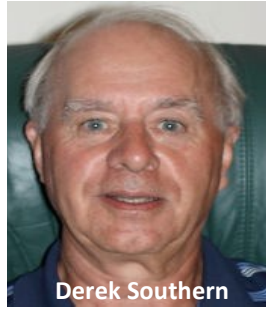


Max Burchett

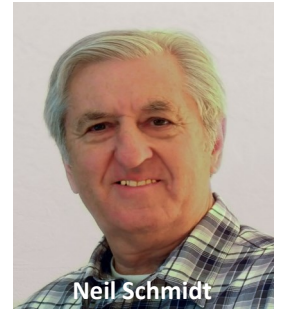


Vern Laursen

SIR Area 16 Computers & Technology (PCs)



Derek Southern



Neil Schmidt

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.

The next meeting of the SIR Area 16 Computer and Technology Group will be at the Walnut Creek Elks Lodge (1475 Creekside Dr., WC) on Thursday, October 17, 2019 starting at 9:30 am. SIR from all branches and their guests, including spouses, are welcome and invited to attend. Plan to come a little early and for coffee, goodies and to chat.

October presentation topic will be "Organizing Your Photos" by Neil Schmidt. What do you do with all your photos? Most of us have a large collection of old slides and prints and, with today's smartphones, we now have a massive collection of new digital images. Neil will explore several different techniques for managing your entire photo collection

Checkout our CAT website at "a2cat.sirinc2.org" for a list of past presentations. Note that we ask for a \$5 donation to cover the cost of the hall rental, coffee and cookies. We look forward to seeing you on October 17th.

Area 16 \$ums Investment Group

\$UMS in Retirement meets next on Wednesday, October 16th at 8 AM at the Legends Restaurant at Diablo Creek Golf Course on Port Chicago Highway, Concord, just north of Hwy 4. Note this is the 3rd Wednesday - not our usual.

The presenter will be Justin Dodson of J. P. King Advisors.

The Legends opens at 7 AM. Come early and have a leisurely breakfast with your colleagues prior to the meeting. Ladies are welcome.

Chair - **Tom Henry** - Br 174 tomhenry925@gmail.com

Co-chair **Dave Sutton** - Br 8 - davesutn@comcast.net

Guy walks into a bar and orders a fruit punch.
Bartender says "Pal, if you want a punch you'll have to stand in line"

Guy looks around, but there is no punch line.



Photo by Henry Thatcher

At Bocce on September 24th, **Jerry Kaplan** gets ready to deliver the ball while **George Rammell** looks on

SIR 146 Activities Calendar

To add new or one time special events for the calendar, contact Bill Holly

2018	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	2020
October 2019													
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday									
30	Oct 1	2	3	4									
11:00 AM - 2:00 PM Table Pool at Masses	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 1:30 PM Song Sirs 1st	9:30 AM NINE HOLE GOLF-1 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM Poker Group #6	9:30 AM - 2:00 PM Men's Duplicate Bridge 2									
7	8	9	10	11									
10:00 AM Party Bridge 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM Table Pool at Masses 12:30 PM - 2:30 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 - 3:30 PM Poker Group #6 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM Pinochle Rocco's Italian Restaurant 1:00 PM Poker Group #1 4:15 PM Poker #5	9:00 AM - 10:45 AM BEC Meeting 11:45 AM - 1:30 PM SIR LUNCHEON	10:00 AM Hiking Moderate 12:30 PM - 2:30 PM Chess Pleasant Hill Senior Center 6:45 PM - 10:00 PM Mexican Train Dominoes Group 1 (UNO)									
14	15	16	17	18									
11:00 AM - 2:00 PM Table Pool at Masses 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	10:00 AM Bowling 11:00 AM Cooking Lunch and Wine (LAW) 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 Tres Gourmet 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM Hearts Rocco's Italian Restaurant 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM Mexican Train Dominoes Group 5 (Cinco)	10:00 AM - 2:00 PM Men's Duplicate Bridge 3 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM Mexican Train Dominoes - El Quattro									
21	22	23	24	25									
8:30 AM Book Group The Greenery Restaurant, WC 10:00 AM Men's Duplicate Bridge #1 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM Table Pool at Masses	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 6:45 PM - 10:00 PM Mexican Train Group Seis	8:00 AM - 10:00 AM Sums in Retirement 10:00 AM Bowling 12:30 PM - 3:30 PM Cribbage 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM Pinochle Rocco's Italian Restaurant 2:30 PM - 5:00 PM Wine Tasting	9:00 AM Area 16 Fishing Breakfast Meeting Diablo Creek CC	12:30 PM - 2:30 PM Chess Pleasant Hill Senior Center 6:30 PM - 10:00 PM Mexican Train Dominoes Dos 6:45 PM - 10:15 PM Mexican Train Dominoes Group 3 (Tres)									
28	29	30	31	Nov 1									
11:00 AM - 2:00 PM Table Pool at Masses 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		9:30 AM - 2:00 PM Men's Duplicate Bridge 2									