

## Big Sir's Notes

Bill Holly

We had a record luncheon attendance in August. As many of you may have noticed, there were no empty seats in the house prompting the Boundary Oak to set up an extra table to accommodate the overflow.

Three new members joined our branch in August: **Lee Clark** sponsored by **Jim Kohl**, **Jim Edmunds** sponsored by **Harvey Oxman**, and **Mike Navone** sponsored by **Loren DeLaurenti**. In addition, four new guests visited our branch.

In August we had our annual election of the Branch 146 Officers and Directors for 2016. Eight of the twelve are continuing members of the Branch Executive Committee and four of the twelve are new to the BEC. I am pleased with the new slate of branch Officers and Directors, and I wish to thank past Big Sirs **Doug Eisner**, **Terry Marchione** and **Jim Burk** for recruiting an excellent team for next year.

There was a lot of interest in our August luncheon speaker, **John Dwyer**, who spoke on the pros and cons associated with hydraulic fracking. John's presentation was both balanced and informative. Thanks go to **Walt Busenius** for providing another excellent speaker for our luncheon.

In the August SIR Call there was a misprint regarding the Book Nook. The Book Nook typically occurs during the odd months, so please remember to bring your used books to the September luncheon and pick up several more that you haven't yet read.

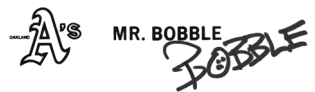
Finally, if you know someone who might be interested in joining our branch, bring your guest to our luncheon on Thursday, September 10<sup>th</sup>, and please be sure to notify our luncheon chairman before noon Friday, September 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Luncheon – Sep 10<sup>th</sup>**  
**Boundary Oak Clubhouse**

**Guest Speaker:**  
**Kit Ohlman**  
**Public Information Officer,**  
**Central C.C. Sanitary District**

**Gathering time – 11:00 am**  
**Seating time - 11:45 am**

**Bringing a guest or can't attend?**  
**Email: [nolunchbranch146@gmail.com](mailto:nolunchbranch146@gmail.com)**  
**Telephone message: 925-979-5146**  
**By noon Friday, Sep 4<sup>th</sup>**



Our long time Greeter **Jonathan Korfhage** was once a rookie with the A's many years ago. It is amazing that he hasn't aged in all these years and he still makes us smile when we come through the gate, or should we say the door!



## Little Sir's Corner

**Walt Busenius**

Just a few days after the Labor Day Weekend is September's Luncheon at the Boundary Oak Clubhouse. Please mark September 10<sup>th</sup> on your calendars.

I am pleased to announce that our speaker for September is Kit Ohlman from the Central Contra Sanitary District in Martinez. Kit will talk about "Protecting the Public Health and Environment". We will also receive an update of the District's programs for its customers that include household hazardous waste disposal and the availability of free recycled water for residential use.

During her eight years with Central Sanitary as Public Information Officer, Kit has planned and overseen many community and educational outreach programs and events and is responsible for Central Sanitary publications and its website.

Kit grew up locally and graduated from Carondelet High School and San Jose State University with a Bachelor's in Public Relations. She now lives in Clayton with her husband Tom and a spoiled rescue dog and two cats.

We marked August with one of our best luncheon attendances of the year and welcomed three new members and introduced three guests. Thank you fellow Sirs for your efforts and commitment to making 146 a vibrant and active branch.

And remember, every month is a good time to invite a guest to a luncheon. We hope to see you with a guest at September's luncheon.



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

**Gary Schwab** shown here after his name was drawn as the August Birthday Boy



## Membership

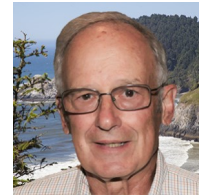
**Ben Gleason**

We continued to increase our membership in August. At our BEC meeting on August 13<sup>th</sup>, we approved three new members. Sadly, we were recently notified that one of our long-time members passed away. The net increase of two members increases our total active roster to 286 members (including our seven Honorary Life Members).

### New Member Additions in August 2015



**Lee Clark**



**Jim Edmunds**



**Mike Navone**

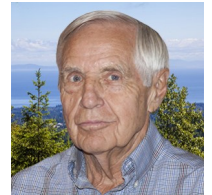
### New Member Additions in July 2015



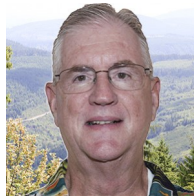
**Don Adolphson**



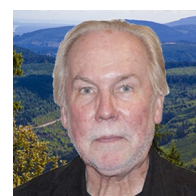
**Jim Battersby**



**Darlo Boone**



**Steve Dinning**



**Richard Firth**



**David Morris**

### Status Changes in August 2015

Active Member Deceased: **Bob Skirvin**

Dropped from Inactive: none

#### SIR Call Newsletter Group

Editor

**Richard Hockenbrock**

Assistant Editor

**Jeff Baily**

Proofreaders

**Jeff Baily, Cal Tucker**

**Jonathan Korfhage, & Pat Lucia**

Labeling & Mailing

**Bill Cammerer**

Internet Posting

**Ron Plachy**

## Sirs—Show their Team Colors



Don Del Bene and Jack Harrington are fans of the Golden State Warriors



Dave Pierce, Brad Hatcher, and Jerry Kaplan show off their colors of the Oakland A's



Dale Haukland is also an Oakland A's fan



## THE CLUBHOUSE

AT BOUNDARY OAK

SIR 146 Luncheon

September 2015

### Salad

Celery Fennel Salad

Baby Greens, Shaved Fennel, Celery,  
Mandarin Segments,  
Toasted Spicy Almonds, Parmesan Cheese,  
Orange Dill Mustard Vinaigrette

### Entrees

Roast Beef Eye Round

Herb Dijon Marinated Eye Round of Beef,  
Brown Gravy, Yukon Gold Mashed Potatoes &  
Roasted Carrots

Or

Baked Salmon

Lemon Pepper Marinated Salmon,  
Rice Pilaf, Seasonal Vegetables,  
White Wine Butter Sauce

### Dessert

German Chocolate Cake  
Whipped Cream  
Caramel Sauce



George Carpenter wears Canadian hockey team colors

## SIR 146 & Friends Dinner/ Dance

**OCTOBER 21<sup>st</sup>, 2015 (corrected)**

**SAVE THIS DATE!**

**BE THERE OR BE SQUARE**

Wednesday, October 21<sup>st</sup>, 2015

6 pm to 10 pm at Zio Fraedo's Restaurant

Price is \$109 per couple and includes hors d'oeuvres and dinner

Live music for listening and dancing

Your choice of: Beef – Fish - Chicken

Make your check payable to Branch 146 Dance and send to:

**Richard Kincaide**

10750 Inspiration Cr.

Dublin, CA 94568

Phone: 925-479-9935

Tables of eight are encouraged

| List your name and your partner plus guests who you are inviting to sit at your table | <u>Meal Desired</u> |
|---|---------------------|
| 1)  | Meal1-              |
| 2)  | Meal2 -             |
| 3)  | Meal3               |
| 4)  | Meal4               |
| 5)  | Meal5               |
| 6)  | Meal6               |
| 7)  | Meal7               |
| 8)  | Meal8               |

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

Total Number of Tickets \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ each  
Amount Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

If you are not paying for all the guests at your table, list their names and they will be included when their payment is received.



Photo by Carl Tilchen

### Acoustic Musicians

**Carl Tilchen**

The next meeting of the Acoustic Music Group is scheduled for Thursday, September 17<sup>th</sup> at 2 pm.

Directions: from 680, work your way to the intersection of South Broadway and Newell Ave, drive east on Newell Ave to San Miguel Dr., right on Blackwood Dr., slight left staying on Blackwood Dr., sharp right to 2177 Ward Drive. Call 925-864-2641 or 925-786-7909 if you get lost.

*Our Acoustic Musicians group welcomes all guitar, banjo, mandolin, and bass musicians where the objective is to enjoy our music. All skill levels are welcome. Spouses & singers are also encouraged to attend. Please bring your instrument and any songs you enjoy. If you have music events to share, please bring the info to the meeting. We meet every month at **Alan Elnick's** home on 2177 Ward Drive, Walnut Creek. Contact me at [carltilchenmusic391@gmail](mailto:carltilchenmusic391@gmail)*

*I am a singer/songwriter with an active musical career. I have facilitated many musical groups and I will be glad to lead this group. **Alan** and I welcome your suggestions to make our group comfortable and fun for all.*

Photo by Richard Hockenbrock



**Joe Lamanna, Doug Cook, and George Mon** show their college colors



## Luncheon Attendance Max Hinkle

### Last Month's Attendance:

There were 226 meals served at our August luncheon. I'm told this may be an all-time record. Nearly 77% of our membership was in attendance. I believe that is a near record. We had only 13 unexcused absentees ("no shows"), that is only 4.5% of our membership. Traditionally, we expect about 10% of the membership will be no shows. We use that 10% figure in calculating the number of meals for which we guarantee payment. Because of these two factors, we went five meals over the number of meals for which the kitchen was obligated. We are, however, blessed with a kitchen staff at Boundary that is able to meet such exigencies with surprising alacrity. I am most thankful for that. My apologies to the last four arriving members who had to wait a bit while the wait staff set a table for you. I appreciate your patience and genial understanding.

**September Luncheon:** Our September luncheon will be held on Thursday, the 10<sup>th</sup>, at the Boundary Oak Golf Course in Walnut Creek. Remember, we assume you are coming unless you notify us timely that you are not. Accordingly, if you are unable to attend, please send an email message to "[nolunchbranch146@gmail.com](mailto:nolunchbranch146@gmail.com)" by NOON FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 4<sup>th</sup> (the "no show deadline"). Please also provide your badge number in that message. If you do not have convenient access to a computer please call 925-979-5146 before the no show deadline and follow the prompts given there. The Friday noon deadline is required in order for us to meet our deadline to give Boundary our guaranteed number of meals. A non-attending member who fails to meet this deadline without good cause is required by our rules to reimburse the Branch \$25 for the liability we will incur for his meal.

**Confirmation of "No Show" Notices:** I intend to confirm via reply email or phone call to each "no show" notifier the receipt of his notice. *If you have not received such confirmation within a day or two after communicating your notice please call me at 925-408-6004.* This is important because there have been times when emails, for a variety of reasons, were not displayed in the "no lunch" mailbox.

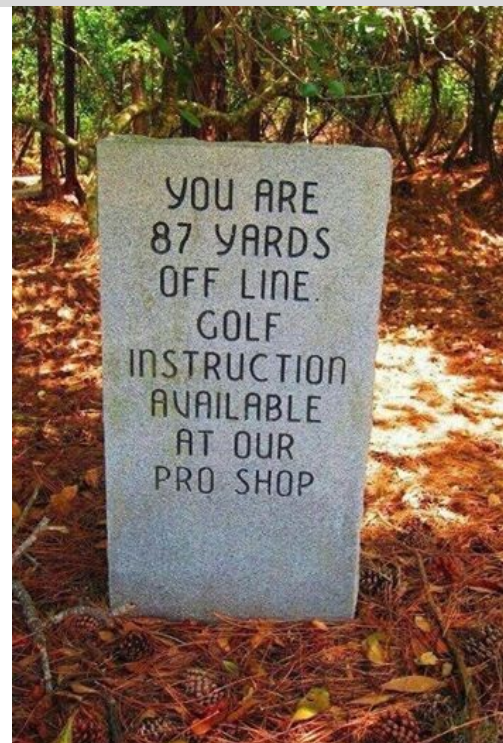
**Payment:** Remember that the luncheon will be called to order at 11:45 am. Please allow enough time to check in

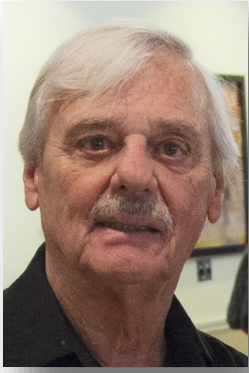
and make payment. The price of the luncheon is \$25. As usual, there will be a no-host bar. The preferred form of payment is a check for \$25 made payable to "SIR 146" delivered when you check in on luncheon day.

**Bringing a Guest or a Visitor:** If you intend to bring a Guest or a Visitor please send an email to "[nolunchbranch146@gmail.com](mailto:nolunchbranch146@gmail.com)" by noon on the Friday prior to the luncheon (the "no show" deadline). If you do not have convenient access to a computer please call the phone number stated above and follow the prompts given there. **PLEASE REMEMBER TO SPELL THE FULL NAME OF YOUR GUEST OR VISITOR DURING THAT CALL.**

**Special Requests:** If you desire a vegetarian meal or require a special diet or if, for medical reasons, you plan to attend but cannot eat lunch, please advise before the "no show" deadline in the manner described above. Your request will be honored and remain in effect until you cancel it through the Luncheon Attendance Chairman.

**New Members, Guests and Sponsors:** There will be a luncheon table or tables with places reserved for new members and their sponsors as well as for Guests and their sponsors. New members along with their sponsors will be asked to join our Membership Chair immediately following the luncheon for a brief orientation session in a room to be announced at the luncheon.





## SIR 146 Hiking

**Rich Ahlf**

On September 11<sup>th</sup>, we will be hiking the French Trail loop at Redwood Regional Park. This is a 6 mile **moderate** loop hike that hits all the highlights of this well-shaded park nestled in the Oakland hills. This is a peaceful, hidden bowl of coastal redwoods with a creek at the bottom. Notice this hike is rated as moderate, I am allotting four hours with plenty of breaks and a lunch stop. Hiking poles are recommended as the first section is a steep uphill, after that will be a mostly level hike through the redwoods.

Directions: Take Highway 13 to Redwood Road, turn left and drive about 3 miles to the Redwood Gate and park in the first lot on the left after the Fishway interpretive site. Redwood Regional Park, 7867 Redwood Road.

If you wish to carpool, meet at the turnoff at St Stevens Rd off Highway 24 at 9:30 am, turn right and park on El Nino Rd where there is plenty of parking.

Hike starts at 10:00 am. Spouses or significant others welcome.

**Rich Ahlf**

Cell: 925-550-4967

[rahlf@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rahlf@sbcglobal.net)



**Dennis Dale** standing beside **Bob Soldano** with his SF Giants apparel

### 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.*

## Walking Schedule

**John Lewis**

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



September walks planned by  
**Flo Lewis**

### September Walks 2015

**Sep. 4 Bancroft Canal, West**

Meet: Panera lot, Bancroft and Treat

Walk: Walk south from parking, west on Contra Costa Canal

Coffee: Panera Bakery, Bancroft and Treat

**Sep. 11 Lafayette-Moraga Trail**

Meet: Parking lot near end of Olympic Blvd

Walk: Lafayette Trail from end of Olympic

Coffee: Panera Bakery, Locust St. Walnut Creek

**Sep. 18 Walden Park North**

Meet: Parking lot at Walden Park

Walk: From Park, go north towards PH BART

Coffee: Panera Bakery, Bancroft and Treat

**Sep. 25 Heather Farms Park**

Meet: Heather Farms Swim Parking

Walk: Make the circuit of the entire park

Coffee: Sweet Affair at Ygnacio Plaza

### Sir Call Editor

**Richard Hockenbrock**

August was another colorful luncheon with a support your team colors theme.

This month's Sir Call is abbreviated back to sixteen pages as several of our events and chairmen took vacations.





## Couples Dining Out

### Bruce Borgman

For our September Couples Dining Out event, we have decided to repeat one of our most popular destinations – La Veranda Cafe in Clayton - a restaurant we patronized in 2014. This restaurant can accommodate about 70, and the seating arrangement of groups of six or eight is conducive to socializing and good conversation. We may add a larger table depending on the number of diners. The menu will include three appetizers, a salad, and choice of four entrees – the NY steak with Dijon sauce, chicken saltimbocca, prawns scampi in a white wine and garlic sauce, and a petrale sole with a piccata sauce. Cheesecake dessert and coffee are included as well. This is one of the better menus of our restaurant choices and one which you are sure to enjoy. The date of the event is Monday, September 21<sup>st</sup>, with our social hour and no-host cocktails at 5:30 pm followed by dinner at 6:15 pm. Parking is convenient nearby.

The all-inclusive cost of the dinner will be \$40. Please confirm your attendance by mailing your check (payable to Sir 146) to **Bruce Borgman** – 3611 Winchester Place, Walnut Creek 94598, by September 16<sup>th</sup>.

This is one of the most popular Branch 146 activities, and one which includes our spouses or significant others – don't miss out on this fun event! We will send out an email to those on the mailing list for this event and will have flyers at our next SIR luncheon. Or, for more information, call **Bruce** at 932-3961 or email me at [bgborgman@aol.com](mailto:bgborgman@aol.com).



## Book Group

### Chuck Campbell

There was no Book Group meeting in August. The next meeting will be Thursday, September 24<sup>th</sup> at 11 am at the Diablo Creek golf course restaurant. We will be discussing "The Wright Brothers" by David McCallough. Read the book and come to the meeting. [charmcam2@att.net](mailto:charmcam2@att.net)



## Sunshine Report

### John Pearl

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

**Baha Zarah**

**Joe Suta**

**Al Altman**

**Ken Richter**

**Steve Dawkins**

**Bob Darius**

I am sorry to report the death of Sir **Bob Skirvin** on August 18<sup>th</sup>. Please include his family in your thoughts and prayers.

Please try to contact a sick Sir to offer support and encouragement during his illness. A friendly call is usually welcome. Cards and letters are always appreciated. Also, please take a minute to sign the get-well cards that are across from the sign-in tables at our monthly meetings.

If you are aware of an ill Sir, please let me know by email or phone so that our Sir membership can be advised.

**John Pearl**, Sunshine Chair

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

925-934-6920





## Fishing Report

**Paul Dubow**

Well, the salmon finally started to bite and members of our group were able to bring home many pounds of this fine fish for the table. **Brad Hatcher** of Branch 146, **Barry Rauchle**, **Gordon Linebaugh**, **Steve Paulick** and **Carl**

**Moyer** came close to limiting out on a charter out of Half Moon Bay. **Gordon** caught a 28 pounder, the largest of his career. **Clem Teeters** caught an 18 pounder fishing out of the Golden Gate, while **Bob Decker** landed a 14 pounder on the same outing. **Karl Droese**, **Joe Miscione**, and **Dick Thomson** brought home 75 salmon after a weeklong excursion to Alaska. The only downer was a trip by **Paul Dubow** of Branch 146, **Karl Droese**, **Ken Konzak**, **Barry Rauchle**, **Chuck Vanoncini**, and **Jack Waddell** to the Sacramento River near Balls Ferry. The group fished all day but landed just one fish, a 17 pounder that was caught by **Karl**.

On other fronts, new member **Ray Pixton**, as well as **Gene Schulting** of Branch 146, **Carl Moyer**, **Alex Go**, **Harry Sherinian**, **Terry Miller**, **Barry Rauchle**, and **Gordon Linebaugh** picked up some large catfish in San Pablo Reservoir in several outings. And **Harry Sherinian** and **Mike Corker** did well on black bass outings in the Delta.

During September, we will continue to hunt for salmon in the ocean and the northern rivers, catfish and trout in San Pablo Reservoir, and black bass in the Delta. Experienced anglers and neophytes are welcome to join us.

Our next meeting will be on September 24<sup>th</sup> at the Legends Sports Bar and Grill at Diablo Valley Golf Course, 4050 Port Chicago Highway, Concord. The meeting starts at 8:30 am, but you are welcome to join us for breakfast, beginning at 7:30 am.



Photo by Paul Dubow

**Brad Hatcher** and friends display some of the salmon that they caught out of Half Moon Bay



## Photography Group

**Richard Hockenbrock**

We are going to shift the focus (no pun intended) of the photography group to concentrate on giving members and their guests a forum to show their picture taking creativity. Basically, if you take pictures, the photography group wants to see them. **Bill Holly** recently purchased a new higher resolution projector for the branch and your pictures will look utterly amazing on the big screen. With many of you traveling to exotic places or enjoying interesting hobbies, you will have an opportunity to share and discuss your photos with all the Branch 146 members and guests who attend our free meetings.

Whether you take your travel pictures with a cell phone, tablet, pocket camera or a DSLR, there is now no reason not to begin attending the new photography group meetings. This will be the place to share your adventures even from many years ago. For those of you with camera or photography questions, we can address those at the end of the meetings with a separate Q & A.

We will meet every other month and we will poll the membership each time through a SIR Branch 146 email blast asking for three or four photography or video presenters. We will get some idea of what will be presented and if this is successful it will be like going to the movies at 9 am in the morning. I'm excited and hope you will be too! We can accommodate seating for 30 or more people.

Where:

Thurman G. Casey Ygnacio Valley Library  
2661 Oak Grove Rd.  
Walnut Creek, CA 94598.

When:

August 28<sup>th</sup> 9 am Fourth Friday of the Month  
RSVP to: [rlhock@yahoo.com](mailto:rlhock@yahoo.com)





## Mexican Train Dominoes Group 1

**Jerry Kaplan**

The August game was hosted by Sir **Richard Hockenbrock** and his wife **Sherry** at their attractive Walnut Creek home on Friday, August 14<sup>th</sup>. We had a nearly full house of 16 players who enjoyed the many appealing treats available during the evening. **Barbara Stedman**, wife of Sir **Jim Stedman**, was the top prize winner for the night, with **Marie Ascatigno**, wife of Sir **Frank Ascatigno**, taking second place. Sir **Terry Marchione**, who seems to be a recurrent winner, came in third place, and still won enough to cover his evening's ante.

For the first three months of the second-half "season," **Bruce Borgman**, who was in Holland and missed the evening's excitement, has a commanding lead among the 18 players (averaging only 12.9 points for every game he has played), followed by **Terry** (with 18.3 points) and then a tie between **Marie Ascatigno** and **Sherry Hockenbrock** (at 22.7 points each).

We play for another three months before the big prize money of about \$90 will be split among the top three players. Plenty of time for others to step forward and post low scores! The group is always looking for a few more substitutes to play. Single Sirs are most welcome. Call **Jerry** at 930-7076 or send an email if you are interested to [mtdana@aol.com](mailto:mtdana@aol.com).



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock



**Sharon Marchione, Sue Oranje, Jerry Kaplan, Jim Stedman, Frank Ascatigno, Susan Kaplan, and Corrie Oranje** have a look of disappointment at the night's high scores while to the right, some of the delighted winners (low scorers) look on



## Mexican Train Dominoes Group 4 (El Quattro )

**Jim Pope**

The group met at the home of **Renie** and **Jim Pope** on Friday, August 21<sup>st</sup>. The winners of the spirited dominos competition were: **Bill Weinberg** 1st with **Barbara Thatcher (Henry Thatcher-** soon to be a member of SIR146) and **Christy DeVoe (Dick DeVoe)** tied for 2nd place money.

The refreshments were spearheaded by **Fran Matthews (Ron Lewis)** where the spouses pulled together sweets and savories for all to enjoy.

Our next El Quattro Mexican Train Dominos event will be Thursday, September 17<sup>th</sup> at the home of **Renie** and **Jim Pope**, not our normal 4th Friday of the month schedule.



## Cooking II

**Bob Yolland**

Cooking II did not meet in August due to the number of members on vacation. We normally meet the second Monday of each month for lunch wine and great conversation. Our next event is scheduled for September 14<sup>th</sup> at

**Bruce Borgman's** home.

Photo by Richard Hockenbrock



**Rob Melrose** (partially hidden), **Sig Kalteis, Carmen Schiavone, Sue Sheldon, Sherry Hockenbrock, Barbara Stedman, and Marie Ascatigno** (partially hidden) seem more delighted at the evening's outcome



## Bocceball

**Martin Lyle**

At the twice monthly bocce ball get together on Monday, August 24<sup>th</sup>, a dozen or so players came to Newhall Park in Concord to try their luck at getting their bocce balls as close as possible to the pallino. The team of **Tom Gorman** and **Tony Fiorica**, shown in the picture below, were VERY SUCCESSFUL in one of their games. Sirs are always welcome to join the group (spouses and friends welcome!) at the 8:30 am meet in Concord. Call or write to Sir **Martin Lyle**, for more information about the group. [mvlyle@yahoo.com](mailto:mvlyle@yahoo.com). No experience necessary!

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

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

Photo by Jerry Kaplan



**Tom Gorman** and **Tony Fiorica** celebrate their ball positions at Bocce Ball



## Activities Coordinator

**Jerry Kaplan**

The number of Branch 146 Activities available to members, both new and old, continues to be at an amazing number and an all-time high! We now have 43 different activities that a new member, or an old one, can join in and have some fun, or eat delicious food, or catch some fish, or play some golf, or win or lose some money!

During the last few months, two new MTD groups (the 3rd and 4th) are off and running thanks to new MTD Activity Chairs Sir **Jeff Baily** and Sir **Jim Pope**. While many couples are playing MTD (but at different homes, to avoid any mayhem), some single Sirs also participate in some of the groups, and more single Sirs are welcome. Come see what this game is all about. It's very easy to learn and fun to play!

A recently initiated **Book Group**, chaired by Sir **Chuck Campbell**, has been reading recent best sellers and getting together to discuss the book's merits. Contact **Chuck** at [Charmarcam2@att.net](mailto:Charmarcam2@att.net) to learn more about the new **Book Group** and help select the next book to be read and discussed.

A third **Men's Duplicate Bridge Group 3**, chaired by Sir **Sid Landman**, is also up and running with a full complement of players. Substitutes are always welcome to sign up since, at times, some of the regulars are not available to play. Contact **Sid** at [sidlandman@aol.com](mailto:sidlandman@aol.com).

There is always room for more activities in Branch 146. All it takes is two or more Sirs to find something in common (from stamp collecting to skydiving – well, maybe not skydiving) and I will help get the new activity off the ground. (Definitely not skydiving!) Please call or write to me if there are any new ideas for a Branch Activity, and you are willing to help get it started, please let me know and I'll do what I can to help organize it and make it happen. Call me at 925-930-7076 or email at [mtdana@aol.com](mailto:mtdana@aol.com).

*SIR members. You can also play during the day, at other times, for the same \$5. Just tell them you're a member of SIR. We play mostly two man teams of eight ball, or a unique three-player game, called "Crazy Eights", depending on the number of participants. We usually play about 2 hours but not everyone stays for the final curtain. All Sirs in Area 2 are welcome.*



## Table Pool

**Bill Weinberg**



*We meet every Monday at 11:30 am at Masse's, 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*



## Travel Opportunities

Ken Richter

### Day Trips

#### **October 10, 2015: Fleet Week on the San Francisco Belle.**

You will enjoy watching the Blue Angels perform their air show aboard the San Francisco Belle Sternwheeler. There is no better vantage point on the bay to see the show. The price includes roundtrip motor coach from Walnut Creek, a hosted buffet lunch aboard the Belle, free flowing champagne and background music from an onboard D.J. Cost is \$125 pp. Contact **Ken Richter** (Br 146) 925-689-6217 or [KERichter@astound.net](mailto:KERichter@astound.net).

**October 23, 2015: SIR Day at the Races.** The horses are running again at Golden Gate Fields. It is a popular day for all. Price includes admission, valet parking, daily racing program, buffet lunch, and taxes and tip. Cost is \$33.00. Contact **Ken Richter** (Br 146) 925-689-6217 or [KERichter@astound.net](mailto:KERichter@astound.net).

**December 7, 2015: The Holidays are Blooming in the Valley.** The first stop will be at the Hilmar Cheese Factory with a guided tour of their facility, followed by a hosted buffet lunch. After lunch there will be time to shop in the Country Store and sample gourmet cheeses. The next stop is at Duarte Nursery to view their amazing holiday poinsettias. A large selection of poinsettias in a variety of colors and species will make your choice of a favorite a difficult decision. Price includes roundtrip motor coach from Walnut Creek, buffet lunch and driver gratuity. Cost \$54 pp. Contact **Ken Richter** (Br 146) 925-689-6217 or [KERichter@astound.net](mailto:KERichter@astound.net).

**February 3, 2016: Jersey Boys.** This is the true story of Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons. It is the story of how a group of blue-collar boys from the wrong side of the tracks became one of the biggest American pop groups. The price includes round trip motor coach from Walnut Creek to San Francisco and ticket in center of orchestra. Cost is \$116. Contact **Ken Richter** (Br 146) 925-689-6217 or [KERichter@astound.net](mailto:KERichter@astound.net).

### Longer Trips

**March 25 – April 10, 2016: Big Band Voyage Across The Atlantic Ocean.** A 16 day all inclusive cruise across the Atlantic Ocean on the Crystal Symphony. Relish the blissful luxury of days at sea and highlighted by visits to Bermuda, the Azores, Barcelona Spain, Bandol France and Monte Carlo. Cruise cost from \$ 3,665.00 pp. Contact **Ken Richter** (Br 146) 925-689-6217 or [KERichter@astound.net](mailto:KERichter@astound.net).

**March 13-17, 2016: Spring Training, Phoenix, Arizona.** This 5 day/4 night trip has something for everyone. Included in the trip is all transportation starting after arriving at the Phoenix Airport. Your stay will be at the Embassy Suites and all meals will be hosted. There will be three Spring Training Games with the best seats available which should feature Giants and A's games. During your stay, morning activities will be planned and escorted by our guide. Cost is \$1,795.00 pp, double occupancy. Air transportation to and from Phoenix is not included. Contact **Ken Richter** (Br 146) 925-689-6217 or [KERichter@astound.net](mailto:KERichter@astound.net).

**May 3–5, 2016: Ronald Reagan Presidential Library.** A once in a lifetime opportunity to view the Vatican Splendors Exhibit and tour the Reagan Library with lunch under the wing of Air Force One. Also on this trip will be a guided tour of the Mission at Santa Barbara. Included in the trip is round-trip motor coach transportation, 2-night stay at the Pepper Tree (Santa Barbara), 6 hosted meals along the way and Driver Gratuity. Cost \$591.00 pp, double occupancy. 30 travelers are required for this trip. Contact **Ken Richter**, (Br. 146) 925-689-6217 or [KERichter@astound.net](mailto:KERichter@astound.net).

**September 13–27, 2016: Essence of the Elbe - Prague to Berlin.** This trip starts out with 2 nights in Prague , 7 nights aboard the M/S Allegro in an outside cabin and 3 nights in Berlin. Included are 29 meals with wine and beer served aboard the Allegro at lunch and dinner. There will be 10 exclusive tours with personal headsets and Discovery Series events. Cost starts at \$3,595.00, plus air. Contact **Ken Richter** (Br 146) 925-689-6217 or [KERichter@astound.net](mailto:KERichter@astound.net).



## Poker Group 1

**Dan O'Sullivan**

Poker Group #1 met at the home of **Bill Cammerer** on August 12<sup>th</sup>. **Pete McNeill** and **Dan O'Sullivan** were the big winners. The afternoon was fun with good food and conversation. Also there were some good pots. Just ask **Pete** as he did not have enough space for all his chips. Our next outing will be at the home of **Don Del Bene's** home on September 9<sup>th</sup>.



## 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. The regular players going forward are **Bill Roberts, Bob Spellman, Charlie Koeber, Terry Marchione, Doug Eisner, Ken Richter and Frank Rockwell**. Subs are sometimes needed due to travel and the like. Play begins at 4:00 pm and ends around 8:00 pm with time out for dinner.*



## Poker Group 2

**Al Zamolo**

*Poker Group 2 meets on the fourth Monday of the month at various member's homes. Contact **Al Zamolo** if you would like to be on the list as a substitute.*



## Poker Group 3

**Sig Kalteis**

*Poker Group 3 plays on the 4th Monday of the month at 1:00 pm, usually at the house of **Sig Kalteis**. Our regular players are **Ron Plachy, Bill Baltezare, Bob Wedin, Jim Passaglia, Bob Lyman, Jim Barry, Harvey Oxman, and Sig Kalteis**. We have eight players since at least one of us is unavailable monthly. Some of our subs are former regular players who can't make it regularly.*



## Old Money Poker Group 6

**Al Twyford**

Poker Group 6 met Wednesday August 12<sup>th</sup> at host **Harvey Oxman's** home in Walnut Creek for an afternoon of fun playing poker, casual conversation, and good Oregon red wine along with snacks provided by our host, **Harvey**. Other players were **Al Twyford, Brad Hatcher, Norm Baietti** and **Bob Larson**. Three of our regular players, **Sid Landman, Rich Ahlf,** and **Frank Lucas** were unavailable. We played our normal different games and learned a couple of new ones from **Harvey**. **Bob** and **Al** must be getting old, as both had a hard time remembering what the rules were for each of the different games they were playing.

Five card draw wild card in the hole is still very popular. **Bob** \$6 and **Norm** \$4 were the winners. They enjoyed taking **Al's** money, who, by the way, was the big loser at minus \$10. **Brad** and **Harvey** broke even.

Our next game is scheduled for Wednesday Sept. 9<sup>th</sup> at **Sid Landman's** home in Clayton. We are hoping **Frank "Bring Money" Lucas** will be there for the next game after two no shows. Frank just might bring two-time loser, **Al**, better luck and some of his lost money back.



## Poker Club 4

**Chuck Bobinecz**

Our next session is August 24<sup>th</sup>. We will be hosted by Sir **Garth Cummings** and will meet at the home of Sir **Chuck Bobinecz**. Chuck was the big loser the last session but knows that lady luck does not have a home.

*If you want to be a sub, contact **Chuck Bobinecz**. We meet on the fourth Monday of the month from 1 pm to 4 pm. Our regular members are **Rich Hanford, Garth Cummings, Pete Gates, Frank Rockwell, Joe Stengel, Chuck Bobinecz and Bob Mehus**.*



## Men's Duplicate Bridge Group 1

**Doug Eisner**

**Dave Pierce** hosted 4 tables of duplicate bridge on August 17<sup>th</sup>. At the lunch break, **Carl Johnson** jumped off to a fast start with 17.5 pt, ahead of **Dave Pierce's** 16.0 pt and a tie at 15.0 pt between **Bill Snyder** and **Jim Brown**. However, the afternoon session was not kind to **Carl** or **Jim** as each fell out of the money. On the other hand, **Dave Pierce** picked up his game (or he drew excellent partners) and ran away with 1st place with 46.5 pt. **Fred Kovar** came out of nowhere in the afternoon session and finished a strong 2nd with 43.5 pt while **Bill Snyder** hung on for 3rd with 39.5 pt. **Max Hinkle** took 4th place with 39.0 pt. Our next game is scheduled for September 21<sup>st</sup> at **Jim Todhunter's** house.



## Men's Duplicate Bridge 3

**Sid Landman**

(filed by **Dick DeVoe**)

The Duplicate Bridge 3 Group was hosted at **Tony Greco's** home August 21<sup>st</sup>. **Max Hinkle** won 1st place with 30.0 points, and had the most number of maximum points- 11 boards. Congratulations, **Max!**

Host **Tony Greco** took 2nd with 29.0 pts, **Dave Morris** 3rd with 26.5 pts., and **Jim Brown** 4th with 26 pts. **Brad Hatcher** as the Comeback Kid may have broken the record by placing a lowly 12th (7.0 pts.) in the 1st half, and then easily taking 1st in the 2nd half (17.5 pts.)- a 10.5 pt. swing!



## Couples Party Bridge

**Dave Pierce**

They say August is summer's warning track. Summer did seem to be winding down card-wise on a cool evening, August 4<sup>th</sup>, at **Joan and Dave Pierce's**. **George and Pam Rammell** (2760) took second by barely edging out **Dick and Christy DeVoe** (2690, for 3rd). However, the hosts' cards remained hot (4100). Cards or no cards, the social commentary flowed strongly throughout the evening, and isn't bridge just a lovely excuse to socialize with good friends and to munch guiltlessly on the hostess's wonderful snacks and decadent chocolate cake. Meanwhile, several couples will be hoping for a hot September, at least card-wise.



## Couples Duplicate Bridge 1

**Lo McCarley**

**Susi Cherry** (**George Zurich's**

partner) hosted six couples for a gala evening of duplicate bridge on August 19<sup>th</sup>. As for the bridge results, a tie of first place with **Carl and Anne Johnson** and **Bill and Margaret Rees** with 22 points; and in third place were **Lynn and Dasha Freeman** with 21 points. **Margot Somerville** will host the next couples duplicate bridge on September 16<sup>th</sup>.



## Party Bridge

**Fred Bolton**

We played three tables of bridge at the home of **Carl Johnson** on August 2<sup>nd</sup>. First prize went to **Bill Snyder** with 5190 points. Second to **Jim Brown** with 4830 and third to **Carl Johnson** with 4450. Our next game will be at the home of **Jim Jackson** on September 7<sup>th</sup>.

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



## Couples Duplicate Bridge 2

**Terry Marchione**

(filed by **Dave Pierce**)

**Dick and Christy DeVoe**, hoping for home field advantage, hosted us on August 11<sup>th</sup>. Subs often do well in this group, so it was no surprise that **John and Linda Boyan** eased into 3rd with 21 match points. **Ruth and Jim Adams** had the fewest bottoms and coasted into 2nd with 23 points. **Joan and Dave Pierce** were very fortunate to score 28.5 (but **Dave** was scorer). As usual at the **DeVoe's**, we were all rewarded with great snacks (especially the guacamole), wine, and dessert. Thanks!



## GOLF

### Ed Marlovits

Congratulations to the **Burk (Laws, Baietti, Kan)** and **Harrington (Holland, Passaglia, Spellman)** scramble teams who qualified for the State Team Championship at Poppy Ridge in Livermore on August 10<sup>th</sup>. While neither team won, they were competitive.

Congratulations also to **Mike Whitaker** who qualified for the annual SIR Individual Championship event which is to be held October 28<sup>th</sup> at Poppy Hills Golf Course in Pebble Beach. **Mike** finished first in his flight in qualifying play at Franklin Canyon on August 18<sup>th</sup> and was the only Branch 146 golfer who qualified for the championship. We did have two other golfers who were just one stroke away from qualifying.

*Golf is one of our most popular activities with over 100 registered golfers. We are fortunate to have a large assortment of venues and formats. We play Tuesdays at Boundary Oak. Players are randomly paired and starting tee times are emailed to each player. In addition to regular stroke play, we have many Tuesday tournaments specifically set up for our players. In the summer we also have "away golf" at nearby courses and State SIR Golf offers numerous other fun events at interesting courses.*

*Since we have so much going on, we publish a weekly golf email (GEM) outlining upcoming events and results from past events. All of our golfers receive GEMs. If you would like to be included in the distribution, please email us at [sir146golf@gmail.com](mailto:sir146golf@gmail.com).*



## Couples Golf

### Paul Masta

*We play at local courses on the 4th Wednesday of each month April thru October. Monthly tournaments are planned by volunteer coordinator couples who schedule the golf course and choose the tournament format. Emphasis is on fun contests involving both players and contributions. We enjoy the awards session and socializing after every tournament.*

*We have room for new members so please contact **Paul Masta** if you are interested in joining the group. 925-933-3612 or [pamasta03@yahoo.com](mailto:pamasta03@yahoo.com).*



## Men's Duplicate Bridge

### 2

### Dick DeVoe

The Duplicate Bridge 2 Group was hosted at **Brad Hatcher's** home on August 7<sup>th</sup>. **Carl Johnson** now has won 1st place for two straight months, this time with 29.0 points. Congratulations, **Carl!** **Dave Steinberg** took 2nd with 28.5 pts, **Bill Schultz** 3rd with 26.5 pts., and **Brad Hatcher** 4th with 26 pts. **Brad:** hosts don't normally get in the top 4, and it complements your tie for 3rd last month.

**Charlie Abrams and Dave Steinberg** scored the maximum on 10 of the 24 boards, two more than the 3-way tie for highest last month. **Rich Ahlf** distinguished himself with the least zeros (3). Good work, gentlemen!

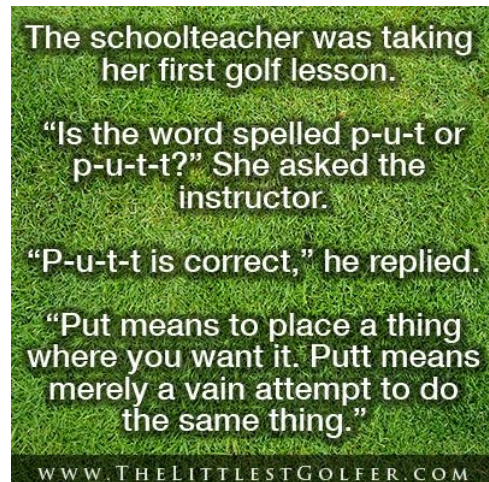


## Nine Hole Golf Group

### Verner Laursen

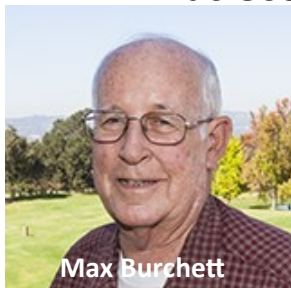
*The SIR 146 golf group tees off at 9:30 am at the Diablo Hills Golf Course on most Thursdays. The exceptions are the 2nd Thursday when we normally go to the SIR luncheon.*

*If you are interested let me know and I will put you on my list. On Monday I will send out an email asking who is coming for golf, who is walking and who plans to stay for lunch? On Wednesday 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. The lunch, most of the time, is better than our golf game. [vlaursen@astound.net](mailto:vlaursen@astound.net)*



## Area Two Events

### Mac User Group (MUG)



The Mac Users Group is back to the first Monday of every month at the Thurman Casey Library at 10 am. We finish by noon. **Max Burchett** and **Verner Laursen** are the leaders and we try to help Mac users with their questions or problems. Since we are using Macs we don't have problems, but only need some help in how to accomplish the task. We do have suggestions on software and where to get the best deals on products related to your Mac.

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 us from time to time and I will let you know about items that are of interest to Mac users.

### Area 2 \$ums Investment Group

The September meeting of the Area 2 \$ums Investment Group will be on **Wednesday September 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2015**, at 8:00 am at the Legends restaurant at the Diablo Creek Golf Course, 4050 Port Chicago Highway, Concord.

Our guest speakers in September will be Robert Gallo and Matt Gallo of the Gallo-Carneto-Gallo Global Wealth Management Group at Merrill Lynch in Walnut Creek. Their presentation will address: "Money Printing, Currency Wars, & Rising Tension in the World", a timely topic indeed.

Robert Gallo is a 35-year veteran of Merrill Lynch and is currently Managing Director – Wealth Management and Wealth Management Advisor and is a specially qualified Senior Portfolio Manager. For the sixth consecutive year, Robert was recognized in Barron's Top 1,200 Advisors report as one of the Top Financial Advisors in the nation.

### Computers and Technology



PCs



The Area 2 Computer and Technology Group announces that our next meeting will be at the Walnut Creek Elks Lodge on Thursday September 17<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 am. We look forward to seeing you at 9:00 am to enjoy coffee and chat before the presentation.

The topic will be "Personal Information Available on the Internet." Just how much information is on the internet about you? How do you find information about old friends and relatives? Phil Goff will show us the data that is publicly available for just about everyone. It's fascinating and a little scary but it's the reality of the internet.

*Meetings of the Area 2 Computer and Technology Group are held the 3rd Thursday of each month (except June and December) from 9:30 to 11:30 am, 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. Some months we ask for a donation of \$5 to cover the cost of the hall rental, coffee and cookies, while other months are free. Sirs and their guests are welcome and invited to attend.*

Matt joined the Gallo-Carneto-Gallo group in 2014. He holds Series 7 and 66 FINRA Registrations and works closely with the team to provide wealth management advice and guidance to high net worth clients.

The Legends restaurant opens at 7:00 am, so come early, bring a guest, and have a leisurely breakfast with your colleagues prior to the meeting.

Co-Chairmen: **Gary Moore** (Br-174) 925-254-8742  
**David Sutton** (Br-8) 925-686-0158

SIR CALL *Newsletter*

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