

SIR CALL

br146sircall@gmail.com

September 2018

Published For Our Members And Friends

Sons in Retirement Branch 146 of Contra Costa

WE ARE SIR – MAKE FRIENDS FOR LIFE



Big Sir's Notes

Bruce Borgman

We continue to have success in inducting new members, and in August we welcomed five new Sirs to the branch. They are, with their sponsors, as follows: **Ray Waletzko (Peter Plante)**, **Jitu Patel (Joe Fuchs)**, **Roland Mailhot (Rob Melrose)**,

Gene Weisbrod (Russ Anderson), and **Ben Smith (Mark Curtis)**. We also welcomed four guests in August!

A notable event was the election of officers for 2019 – which was done by acclamation when there were no further nominations from the floor. A fine group of volunteers indeed to lead us in the coming year. **Jonathan Korfhage**, our Little Sir, continued hitting home runs by bringing us another fascinating speaker – Mike Stapleton, retired FBI Special Agent who related an interesting career of some notable cases with which he was involved.

For our September meeting **Jonathan** has again arranged for a speaker whose presentation you will enjoy and whom he will reveal in his report.

We honored two of our members this last month. **Dave Pierce**, our tireless membership chairman was presented with the Branch Certificate of Appreciation. **John Lewis** achieved ninety years of age and I presented him with the Senior Sir Award at his home since he has trouble getting around. A picture of him receiving his award is on page 2.

This next month's luncheon on September 13th will be the one where you get to wear your **team colors**, so whether you are proud of your alma mater, or a fan of one of the professional sports team, wear a shirt, a hat, or other memorabilia to proclaim your loyalty.

Now I must address a problem in our luncheon meetings. As our membership grows, the noise level during the meeting has approached an intolerable level – particularly during the time when we conduct our business – that is, when we present awards, introduce guests and speakers. This has been a problem in times past – several past Big Sirs have commented to me that they dealt with this issue as well. But, the problem was
(Continued on page 2)

Luncheon— Thursday, September 13th
Boundary Oak Clubhouse

Guest Speaker
Dr. William Hosfield
Specialist in Psychiatry, Pediatrics, and Neurology
“Neuropsychology of Inclusion”
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, September 7th



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

Our August speaker was Special Agent Michael Stapleton who retired from the Federal Bureau of Investigation after a career that spanned over 34 years. He detailed insight in how he and the FBI solved the Polly Klaas kidnapping & murder investigation in nearby Petaluma in the mid-90s.

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.

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

(Continued from page 1)

particularly notable at the last luncheon. We will research an improved sound system. We understand that table conversations are important, but it is also very important to everyone that while someone is addressing the group, full attention must be given by all. After the bell rings, no more talking. Thanks very much for your cooperation in this regard.

We will see you in September – remember to wear your favorite team’s colors!



Membership

Dave Pierce

Sponsors are doing great work for us. In August, we inducted four new members: **Roland Mailhot, Ben Smith, Ray Waletzko, and Gene Weisbrod**, bringing the active membership to 297.

September is looking like another big month which might get us to our goal of 30 new members for the year with two months to spare. Thank you all for helping to keep the branch young and vibrant. Don't forget that a first-time guest gets a lunch paid for by the branch.

Dave Pierce

(925) 932-3877

dwpi@astound.net



Photo by Bruce Borgman

Big Sir **Bruce Borgman** presents **John Lewis** with the Senior Sir Award at his home for having attained 90 years of age.

Little Sir's Corner

Jonathan Korfhage



The speaker for our September luncheon will be Dr. William Hosfield, who has been a doctor for over 51 years. He is a specialist in the fields of psychiatry, pediatrics, and neurology in Minnesota. He will be talking about “NEUROPSYCHOLOGY OF INCLUSION”. It should be quite interesting in that he will relate this subject to our lunching Sirs. All of us enjoy being included.

Speaking about inclusion, our ‘motto’ in SIR is “making friends for life” which should encourage members to join in the fun that our SIR Branch 146 offers. Our 47 monthly activities are there for all of our members and their wives to be included in the fun. You really don't need to be an expert or know how to participate in any of the activities to join them. If something looks like you might enjoy it, check it out! If you need help, let me know.

For our next luncheon bring out your old jerseys and all those old sports colors from the back of your closets (I know you have them!!) – if they are wacky or impressive enough, you might win a ‘valuable’ prize and your picture in the SirCall.

“We live in a world where people profile and label each other, size each other up. What if we shifted our focus to our similarities? To welcoming one another, listening to stories, learning from one another? It's time to change the conversation. I believe most social ills can be healed or prevented by the simple act of talking to one another, face-to-face, at a common table.”

Kristin Schell, *The Turquoise Table: Finding Community and Connection in Your Own Front Yard*



Sunshine

Calvin Tucker

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

- ◆ Bob Greulich
- ◆ Howard Nemir
- ◆ Ron Ragno
- ◆ Jim Saavedra

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

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

Cal Tucker

phone: (925) 389-6070

Email: calvinctucker@gmail.com

Photo by Richard Hockenbrock



At the August meeting, **Dave Pierce** was presented with the Branch Certificate of Appreciation by Honoree Chair, **Doug Eisner** for his support over the years in many SIR functions



Glen Renk was the August Birthday drawing winner



THE CLUBHOUSE

AT BOUNDARY OAK

SIR 146 Luncheon

September 13th, 2018

Salad

Spinach Strawberry Salad

Baby Spinach, Strawberries,

Feta Cheese,

Poppy Seed Balsamic Vinaigrette

Entrees

Chicken Piccata

Sour Cream Mashed Potatoes,

Seasonal Vegetables,

Piccata Lemon Sauce

Or

Potato Crusted Cod

Alaskan Cod, Rice Pilaf,

Seasonal Vegetables,

Lemon Chive Butter Sauce

Dessert

Pineapple Coconut Cake

Vanilla Cake, Caramel Sauce,

Chantilly Cream

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Walt Busenius, Rob Melrose

Cal Tucker, Jonathan Korfhage,

Pat Lucia, and Jim Barry

Ron Plachy



Henry Thatcher



THE WALT
DISNEY
FAMILY
MUSEUM



Jim Pope

SIR 146 Explore & Eat **Tour the Disney Museum**

November 30th Presidio-San Francisco, California

The Walt Disney Family Museum presents an inspirational journey through the life of Walter Elias Disney. You will experience the animation, innovation, and inspiration in the remarkable life story of Walt Disney, the man who raised animation to an art, tirelessly pursued innovation, and created a distinctly American legacy that transformed the entertainment world. The Museum features contemporary, interactive galleries with state-of-the-art exhibits narrated in Walt's own voice along with early drawings, cartoons, films, music, a spectacular model of Disneyland, and more.

The tour will start at 10:00 checking in at the **Museum at 104 Montgomery Street** in the **Presidio** and then at 11:00 we will be joined by a Disney "Storyteller" for a one to 1 1/2 hour tour of the museum displays. After the Storyteller's tour we will have an hour to view the museum on our own.

At 1:15 pm, we will proceed to the **Presidio Social Club** for lunch, located at 563 Ruger Street on the Presidio grounds. The cost of the Museum tour is **\$22/person (\$44/couple)** which includes admission and the Disney Storyteller. Please make your **check payable to Jim Pope and mail to: 385 Bryan Drive, Alamo, CA 94507**. Please include your name and the name of your guest with your check. Parking costs about \$2.00 / hour at the museum. We need a minimum of 20 people so ***please get your checks in by November 14th***.

We are looking forward to your participation!

Co-chairs: **Henry Thatcher (925) 997-5032** and **Jim Pope (925) 699-6447**



Walking Group Farewell? or Not?

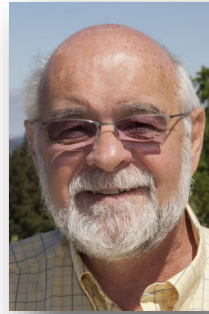
Frank Ascagnò

It has been a great run! Some 23 years ago SIR **John Lewis** started a walking group in SIR Branch 146 that enjoyed walks and hill climbs all over the bay area every Friday morning.

As the years went by participants aged and many experienced ill health, some of the men passing away. Their widows continued to walk with us and meet for coffee afterwards. The walks, by choice, became more limited, with the coffee socials afterwards doubling in size.

There is now a small group of friends who will continue to walk and get together for coffee, but there is no longer a real connection to SIR Branch 146. This being said, the Walking Group bids a fond farewell to Sir Branch 146. If one of you wants to start a new active walking group with younger SIR members, I will gladly turn over the binder of great trails, and coffee shops that will welcome you, and help you get started. It doesn't have to be every week, it can be once or twice a month.

(925) 429-2232



Luncheon Chairman Rob Melrose

I hope everyone is enjoying the summer even though some days are scorchers. Please make sure you are drinking enough water to keep yourself healthy.

September 13th Luncheon

- Cost: \$26
- Preferred payment method is check
- Opt Out Deadline: September 7th before Noon
- Email: NoLunchBranch146@gmail.com
- If you need to call: (925) 979-5146

Special Requests: If you have dietary restrictions, want a vegetarian meal or can't consume a meal, please send email to NoLunchBranch146@gmail.com before the Opt Out Deadline.

If you are bringing a guest: please notify Lunch Chair with guest's name at the same email address: NoLunchBranch146@gmail.com

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



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

August Greeters, **Ray Minahan**,
Erling Horn and **Dave Kingsbury**

What did the stamp say to the envelope?

You stick with me and I will take you places!

2018 Branch 146 Officers and Directors

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

RAMP – Chair Members

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

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



SongSirs

Bruce Borgman

The SongSirs were invited to sing for the Walnut Creek Senior Center on Tuesday, August 21st. We performed a series of songs that we had been practicing. They included a number of our Romantic Songs repertoire as well as some new ones, such as “Greenfields”. We ended with our usual “Thanks for the Memories” – Sir version, and did an encore of “God Bless America”. This was on the occasion of Senior Citizen Day and our performance was enthusiastically received by the group of about 35. **Lynn Shafer** did the narration for the songs, which added a bit of history of many of the songs. Many in the audience sang along with some of the familiar tunes. Below are pictures of our group and our talented pianist, **Steve Dinning**.

We are pleased to welcome **Bob West**, a new member, to our group. We’re also happy to recently have **Larry Gray** join us. If any of the rest of you like to sing, we are always looking for new talent! Join us at our practices which are held at Walnut Creek Presbyterian Church on the first and third Wednesday of the month at 1:30 pm.



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

Nice to see long time member **Larry Mitchell** back on his feet and attending the August Luncheon



Photo by Bruce Borgman

SongSirs—(L to R) **Bob Yolland, Peter Plante, Ron Lew, Frank Ascetigno, Bill Rees, Paul Beretz, Lynn Shafer, and Bruce Borgman**



Photo by Bruce Borgman

SongSirs pianist, **Steve Dinning**

Billy was excited when Grandma came to visit. Finally Grandma asked why he was so excited.
 Billy: “Because Mom said next time, you come to visit, Daddy’s going to do his tricks!”
 Grandma: “What tricks?”
 Billy: “Daddy’s going to climb the walls!”

Oh, they were laughing when I told them I’m becoming a stand-up comedian.

Well, ha! They’re not laughing now!



Travel

Milt Smith

**Blue Angels / Fleet Week
October 6th—Cancelled!**

**Bus Tour to Modesto area:
Sciabica’s Olive Oil, Hilmar Cheese
Factory, and Duarte Farms.** No date

yet but will be November or December with the cost in the range of \$80 to \$120 depending on number of people. Park & Ride a motor coach from Mitchel Dr. in Walnut Creek to the Sciabica Olive Oil Co where you will enjoy a tour, presentation, and olive oil tasting. After your tour and tasting, you can browse the gift shop.

After a short ride south to Hilmar, a guide from the Hilmar Cheese Factory will step on the bus and educate you as your motor coach drives through the facility. An “Everything Cheese” sandwich lunch buffet will be served after your tour of the factory where you will view the “Big Cheese.” Hilmar Cheese Company is the largest single site cheese and cheese byproduct manufacturer in the United States. You will have the opportunity to view and taste cheese being made the “old fashioned way.” then visit the country store to enjoy samples of Hilmar’s gourmet cheese.

After lunch you are off to Duarte Farms known for their beautiful Holiday Poinsettias. Their greenhouses hold one of the largest selections of Poinsettias in a variety of colors and species making your choice of a favorite a difficult decision. You will tour the facility with time to shop before departing with a complimentary 6.5 inch Poinsettia plant to enjoy at home.

Other Travel Opportunities:

Crystal Serenity Cruise and land tour sailing from Athens to Rome May 2nd- May 13th, 2019. Crystal is a step up when you visit Rome, Sorrento Naxos, Valletta, Athens, Nafplion, and Santorini. Call me for more information and flyer. We have six people on this cruise right now so sign up soon! The price is approximately \$5,400—\$7,600 per person including airfare from San Francisco.

Crystal Symphony 12 Day Land and Sea Scenic Alaska Adventure: August 23rd - September 3rd, 2019. Four day pre-cruise to Denali then Ports of Call Whittier, Hubbard Glacier, Juneau, Skagway, and Ketchikan. Price range from approximately \$5,300—\$6,000 per person Including airfare from San Francisco. Call me for more information. We have seven signed up for this cruise right now but shooting for more!

Are you interested in Machu Picchu and the Galapagos? Travel 19 days with dates to be set for June 1st, 2019. The cost is about \$7K from SFO. A pre-trip is available to the Amazon-Jungle for about \$1,200. Call me ASAP if interested. This is a closed group like our recent trip to Africa. We have 10 signed up now with room for six more; that is just three couples.

We Travel to Machu Picchu and the Galápagos Islands with O.A.T. (*Overseas Adventure Tours*) to discover two of Latin America’s most fascinating destinations. First, follow in the footsteps of the ancients as you walk among the impressive ruins of the “Lost City of the Incas” and experience Peruvian culture in the Andean landscape of the Sacred Valley.

Continue to Ecuador's Galápagos Islands, where you may swim in unspoiled waters with rollicking sea lions as your playmates. You will also find a living laboratory of Darwin’s theory of evolution in these “Enchanted Isles.” From the city to the countryside, we will delve into the cultural legacies of Peru and Ecuador.

We visit Machu Picchu twice, giving us ample time to explore the site without crowds, hike to its storied peak Huayna Picchu, and see its mysterious beauty in varying lights.

In Ecuador, we glimpse the legacy of the Spanish Empire in Quito, the best-preserved colonial city in South America. And in the Galápagos, our private, exclusively-chartered ship allows us to slip into secluded coves and land on pristine shores, all in the comfort and camaraderie of our small group. No trip to the Islands is the same, as the islands we visit—as well as the wildlife we will see are dictated by Galápagos conservation authorities and nature herself.

Milt Smith

(925) 285-2897cell



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

Assistant Travel Chair **Ken Studer** manning the Travel Desk



Fishing Report

Paul Dubow

This has been the best ocean fishing for salmon season ever! Over twenty of us sailed through the Golden Gate at various times to catch limits or near limits of salmon. The participants from Branch 146 included **Brion Beetz**, **Lee Clark**, **Paul Dubow**, **Rich Fiscina**, and **Ron Lew**. Ling cod and rockfish fishing were equally productive and **Brion Beetz** and **Rich Fiscina** were the Branch 146 members who brought home this delicious fish. **Ron Lew** had success in the Bay, landing both shark and halibut.

Harry Sherinian also landed a large thresher shark while fishing for salmon. Black bass fishing in the Delta continued to be productive. The successful fishermen were **Tom Kostik**, **Harry Sherinian**, **Terry Miller**, and **Mike Corker**.

We also tried our luck outside of the Bay Area. **Bob Fuller** caught striped bass in Georgia and then moved on to the Florida Keys for yellowtail. **Pete Gates** and **Tom Boltz** of Branch 146 made their annual trip to Prince of Wales Island in Alaska, where they caught salmon, halibut, and rockfish. **Karl Droese** picked up some beautiful dorado in Baja California. **Paul Dubow** was not quite as successful as the other travelers as he and his son and grandson could only land two mackinaw between them on an outing in Lake Tahoe.

Our next meeting will be on Thursday, September 27th, at the Legends Sports Bar and Grill at the Diablo Creek Golf Course, 4050 Port Chicago Highway, Concord. All fishermen, former fishermen, and Sirs who would like to start fishing are welcome. The meeting begins at 8:30 am, but join us for breakfast, beginning at 7:30. For further information, call **Paul Dubow** at (415) 495-6504.



Photo by Paul Dubow

Brion Beetz (center, rear) and friends show off the salmon they caught fishing on the Sundance



Cribbage

John Pearl

Wednesday, August 22nd, found seven of our group gathering at the home of our usual host, **Barney Meade**. Our able assistant chair, **Ron Afdal**, brought a guest, Paul Beber, who quickly relearned all he knew about cribbage from yesteryear. Senior Sir **Barney Meade** took first place, winning all his games. **Ron Afdal** came in second, while his guest, Paul Beber also did very well, coming in third place. The Chair brought his new electric playing card shuffler, which everyone oohed and awed over. It was a gift from **Al Munayer**, who picked it up at the thrift store where he and Diane volunteer.

We meet again on Wednesday, September 26th, at 12:30 pm.

John Pearl, Chair
mcpearl@astound.net



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

Ray Kan & Jim Koeppen ready to begin their lunch at the August meeting



Photography Group

Richard Hockenbrock

Our next meeting will be September 14th. As is customary, we invite all attendees to bring a USB thumb drive with pictures they would like to share with the group. A number of new members joining SIR have expressed interest in photography. I encourage them to come to the next meeting and get involved with our exciting activity. Besides showing pictures, we have some seminars and blog presentations from You Tube keeping you up to date on the latest innovations. Speaking of new innovation, Nikon has announced two new Full-Frame Mirrorless Cameras, the Z7 And Z6. We'll see if there is more information available by our next meeting.

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: New Camera Announcements

When: September 14th, 9:00 am—11:00 am



Bocce Ball

Martin Lyle / Jim Whitsett

This year's Bocce play will continue through September, so we welcome new and regular players, weather permitting. Recent turnouts have been very satisfactory. Location

details are shown below.

As stated before, we are in need of several sets of Bocce balls to replace sets turned back to their owners. Contact **Martin Lyle**, (925) 687-4893 or **Jim Whitsett** (925) 689-5493 to make arrangements.

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. Rain Cancels Play. Ladies are welcome.

Come and join us.

Martin Lyle (925) 687-4893

mvlyle@yahoo.com

Jim Whitsett—(925) 689-5493

AFRES056789@gmail.com



Pinochle

**Charlie Kahsen /
Jeff Morrow**

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



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

*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.*

In our game this month we again had a nice turnout, most of whom enjoyed lunch, followed by a little over two hours of card playing. We had entertaining games of six- handed pinochle consisting of two teams, each with 3 players. Games were very competitive with the losing team in game #1 recovering to come from behind to win game #2, led by the strategic play of **Roy Hodgkinson**.

Our next game is scheduled for Wednesday, September 19th. We hope to see you there.

Charlie Kahsen

(925) 943-1750

cwkahsen@gmail.com

Jeff Morrow

(925) 944-7009

jeffrey.morrow@gmail.com

Photo by Richard Hockenbrock



Martin Lyle discusses his excitement with **Jim Whitsett** on his volunteering to take on the chair of Bocce Ball for next year's play



Activities Coordinator

WANT TO START A NEW ACTIVITY?

Our branch has over 45 different activities that members can join and take part in! Still, there may be another favorite pastime that someone who has recently joined the Branch doesn't see available. If you are interested in discovering if another one of the Branch's almost 300 members want to share one of your favorite hobbies or activities, let me know. I will help you develop an article for the SIR CALL and make an announcement at a meeting to learn if there are others interested.

SOME ACTIVITIES ARE INVITING NEW MEMBERS TO PARTICIPATE

There are two Branch activities that are looking for more SIRs to join them in their pursuit of happiness! POKER GROUP 6, chaired by Sir **Brad Hatcher**, is looking for a few good men to join their first Thursday of the month afternoon game. Call **Brad** at (925) 935-1571 to find out more. Similarly, Sir **Sid Landman**, chair of men's DUPLICATE BRIDGE GROUP 3, would like to have a few more branch members join the group as substitutes and/or regular players. **Sid** especially wants to invite any new member or members who have not been playing and are ready to play! Contact him at (925) 673-8817 or email sidlandman@aol.com.

Sir **John "Moose" Kelly** recently started the sixth MEXICAN TRAIN DOMINOES group and has space for additional players to join the group. He is looking for a couple who would like to share in hosting the group about every nine months. They play on the fourth Tuesday evening of each month. The game is easy to learn and fun to play. Contact **Moose** at (610) 517-0152 or rollingstone911@yahoo.com.

BRANCH WALKING GROUP IS DISBANDING

As noted elsewhere in the newsletter, the FRIDAY WALKERS GROUP activity is sun-setting as an official Branch activity. The group is one of the very early activities of the branch and was started 23 years ago. If any member wants to start a new walking group with younger SIR members, Sir **Frank Ascatigno**, the current chair, will be happy to help get it started. See his column for more info.

(925) 930-7076
mtdana@aol.com



SIR 146 Hiking

Rich Ahlf

On Friday, September 14th, we will be hiking in Tilden Regional Park. This will be in Wildcat Canyon and will be about 5 miles. We will hike to Wildcat Peak. This hike is rated moderate. This scenic loop hike takes you from the Tilden Park Environmental Education Center to the summit of Wildcat Peak via the Jewel Lake, Sylvan Peak and Laurel Canyon Trails. Terrific views of the Bay Area and a variety of plants and birds keep this well shaded route interesting throughout. From Wildcat Peak we can see the Golden Gate and Bay Bridges and San Pablo Dam Reservoir. Great picture taking. We will also hike over to the nearby United Nations Peace Grove.

Directions: From Highway 24 just east of the Caldecott Tunnel, take the Fish Ranch Road exit and go 2 miles uphill to a junction with Grizzly Peak Blvd. Turn right and go 5.4 miles to the intersection with Wildcat Canyon Road, Turn right here for the Nature Area, Little Farm and Wildcat Canyon. Go downhill 0.3 miles to a junction with Central Park Dr. Turn left and go 0.1 mile to a large parking area. The trail begins at the Environmental Education Center, which is a short walk north from the parking area on a paved road. We will meet in the parking lot.

If anyone wishes to carpool, we'll meet at El Nino Road just off the St. Stevens turn off on Hi-Way 24/680 at about 9:15 am. Hike starts at 10:00am.

Spouses / Significant Others Always Welcome
Rain Cancell
Hike starts at 10:00 am

Rich Ahlf
E-mail: rahlf@sbcglobal.net
Cell (925) 550-4967

Attention

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

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



Couples Dining Out

Bruce Borgman

We had a particularly tough time finding a restaurant for September that had the combination of a good menu at reasonable cost. It is challenging in these days of increasing food prices. We visited approximately seven different restaurants and actually ate at two of them! A major limitation is that we strive to accommodate all who wish to participate in this popular SIR activity. Last month, at Il Fornaio, we turned away a number of couples. For September, we were on the verge of dining at the Walnut Creek Yacht Club, planning to split the Dining Out event over two evenings. But, in the end, the menu and cost did not work out. In the final analysis we decided to return to La Veranda Café in Clayton, a place where we have been before. It has always been a great restaurant that can accommodate over 60 of us.

We will go there on Monday, September 17th, following our normal plan of having our social time at 5:30 with dinner at 6:15 pm. We decided to select some of the finer entrée choices so that our discriminating group will be pleased with their dinner out. We will have a selection of appetizers, which includes grilled prawns wrapped with Italian bacon, calamari fritti, and an antipasto misto selection followed by a Caesar salad with anchovy dressing. For the entrees, you will have a choice of filet mignon with a mushroom sauce, a grilled filet of salmon with a lemon cream sauce, or pollo piccata – a chicken breast sautéed in white wine, lemon, garlic and capers. We will finish with cheesecake for dessert and coffee, tea or sodas are included. The restaurant’s wine prices are very good, with \$5 for the house wines and \$15 for corkage if you bring your own.

The total all inclusive cost for the dinner is \$50. If you wish to join us, please send an email to me at bgborgman@aol.com. Then follow it with your check payable to Sir 146 and mailed to 3611 Winchester Place, Walnut Creek, 94598. Even though we have reasonable capacity, please respond quickly since we are somewhat late in selecting the restaurant.

Going forward, we have decided that we will probably have to select restaurants with a smaller capacity, and possibly do the event over two evenings or restrict the number of participants. Therefore, we are looking for a couple willing to host the second evening, since it is harder for us to do both evenings. Please let us know if you are willing to assist to keep this popular activity vibrant with new restaurants!

See you on September 17th.



Pickleball

Jim Burk

Branch 146 Sirs (some with their spouses) are now regularly playing this exciting and active game at the Activity and Recreation Center (ARC) of the San Ramon Valley United Methodist Church. The ARC is located at 902 Danville Boulevard in Alamo and has three beautiful courts for playing Pickle Ball. Everyone is welcome to play there during any of the drop-in times on Monday thru Friday between 9:00 am and 1:00 pm, and between 1:00 pm and 4:00 pm. A player will pay \$5 per session. Each player will be allowed to get in as many games as the number of players that day allows using the traditional player wait list approach.

There is also instruction available on Thursdays from 1:00 - 2:30 p.m. The cost of instruction is \$10 per player, plus the \$5 drop-in fee referenced above. A player would be allowed to play until 4:00 pm, space permitting, before or following their one and 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 (space for 8 players maximum is available)."

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

Jim Burk

(925) 946-1192

jimanneburk@sbcglobal.net



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

Dave Devincenzi & Don Del Bene at the August Luncheon

Mexican Train Dominoes Groups



Mexican Train Dominoes Group 1 (UNO)

Jerry Kaplan

The Group One players met on August 10th for another fun Game Night at the attractive Martinez Creek home of SIR **Sig Kalteis** and his wife, **Nancy**. Guests SIR **Jeff Baily**

and his wife **Alicia** were on-board to help fill all three tables as the group tried their luck at choosing the winning tiles. The hosts provided treats that were delicious and enjoyed by all.

The evening's big winner of \$20.00 was Sir **Jeff Baily**. **Jeff** went out first in four of the nine games played at his table and finished with an average of 15.1 points over the nine games. Second place went to SIR **Jim Stedman** with a score of 15.6, followed by **Martha Plante** (18.3), wife of SIR **Peter Plante**.

We are three months into the second half of the year. This half of the semi-annual pot (From June to November) is funded by the \$1.00 that each player contributes for each game night they participate in. A total of \$90.00 to \$100.00 is expected to be available at the end of the six months to be divided among the three best averages over the period.

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

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

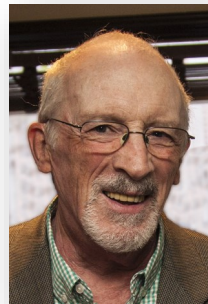
(925) 930-7076

mtdana@aol.com



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

MTD Group 1 winners (L to R) 2nd place Jim Stedman, 3rd place Martha Plante, and in 1st place Jeff Baily



Mexican Train Dominoes Group 3 (TRES)

Jeff Baily

We were treated to an enjoyable game night at the home of **Corrie and Sue Oranje** who did a great job hosting their first time for group 3. Our winning hostess **Sue**, at table blue, took first place with an average of

11.5. She only went out 1 time but kept her other game scores mostly single digit and teens and a couple in the twenties, handily overtaking **Alicia Baily** who managed to go out 4 times but then mixed in some high scores.

Jeff, your "humble correspondent" at table red, placed second by going out 3 times before the mid time break but mixing high and low scores during the 2nd half for a nightly average of 12.2.

At table white our money manager **Steve Siljestrom** took 3rd prize with a 13.2 score to edge out **Dick Richmond** after going out twice and scoring single digit on another game. We look forward to meeting again on September 28th at the home of **Walt and Sue Busenius**.



Photo by Alicia Baily

MTD Group 3 winners for August were **Sue Oranje**, **Steve Siljestrom** and **Jeff Baily**

Mexican Train Dominoes Groups



Mexican Train Dominoes Group 4 (El Quattro)

Jim Pope

Friday night the El Quattro Mexican Train Dominos group met at the home of **Renie and Jim Pope**. We had a hardy 15 in attendance with 3 tables of 5 each: **Henry & Barbara Thatcher, Bill Weinberg &**

Yvonne Killips, Ron Louis & Fran Matthews, Dick Firth, Darlo Boone & Mariwyn McComb, Dick & Christy DeVoe, Rich & Kim Pace, and Jim & Renie Pope. With only 5 at each table, the dominos action was "fast and furious".

The low score winners of each table received 5 California Lottery tickets each with a chance to win \$1000. The winners were: **Christy DeVoe, Dick DeVoe and Renie Pope**.

Absolutely lovely sweets and savories and several bottles of tasty wine were provided by the group which made for a very festive evening.



Photo by Dick DeVoe

El Quattro Mexican Train Cool Dominos game shape with **Rich Pace, Barbara Thatcher, Mariwyn McComb and Bill Weinberg**



Photo by Jim Pope

El Quattro Mexican Train Dominos winners, **Christy DeVoe, Dick DeVoe & Renie Pope**



Mexican Train Dominoes Group 2 (DOS)

Dick Woodman

Rich Ahlf and Ismini McLean

put on a great game night. In addition to the good food, games and socializing we were in awe of the recent remodeling **Rich** has done to his house. It is spectacularly open, bright and cheery!

The players were exceptionally competitive, not as low scoring as we have seen in the past but very close together overall. **John Pearl** took first place with 19.0 average points per game. **Rich** was close behind him with 19.9 for second place and **Janice Woodman** was close with 20.2 for third place. **Phyllis Meehan** was very close to **Janice** with 20.3 and **Bill Holly** and **Dick Woodman** tied at 20.7. Congratulations to all our winners!

Our next game night was at **John and Nancy** (Linda) **Pearl's** home on August 24th (*results will be published in the October SIR CALL*). The mystery of **John's** wife's name deepens. We have always known her as **Nancy** but her name tag switched to Linda at the Couples Dining Out in July. Now her picture in the SIR CALL has identified her as Linda. Stay tuned.



Photo by Bill Holly

California Condor or Turkey Vulture at home on the Discovery Bay shores. Just one of many wild birds seen on the Explore and Eat Tour.

Mexican Train Dominoes Groups



Mexican Train Dominoes Group 6 (SEIS)

John "Moose" Kelly

Rob Melrose, Carmen Schiavone, and Bruno welcomed the Mexican Train Dominoes 6 Group to their home in Martinez with plenty of delicious snacks (love the fresh figs) and unfortunately, a ruptured wine bottle. My thanks to them for hosting such a lively and spirited event.

There were a total of 15 competitors: **Rob Melrose, Carmen Schiavone, Mary Schmidt, Kathe Mitchell, Richard and Sherry Hockenbrock, Brian and Mary McCarthy, Bruce Borgman, Steve and Jan Ondeck, and Steve Lane** as well as yours truly. The low score, in the money winners were **Mary (McCarthy), Mary (Schmidt), and Joyce (Wells)**. Do you see a pattern developing here?! The high score contestants with a scratchy award each were **Brian McCarthy and Steve Lane**. Congratulations to the winners!!!

I will be sending out an email in the not too distant future to solidify a date for our next event in late September which will be at **Kathe Mitchell's** home located at 1911 Devil View Place in Walnut Creek. Thanks everyone to a super time with the MTD 6 team.



Photo by Moose Kelly

MTD Group 6 August 28th winners, (L to R) **Mary Schmidt, Mary McCarthy, and Joyce Wells**



Mexican Train Dominoes Group 5 (CINCO)

Chuck Campbell

The women's 'A' trains – **Ann Hallett & Anne Burk**—pulled into **Campbell** station first and second at a rousing MTD re-match of women v. men. After their short derailment in July, the ladies again carried the night.

Joan Pierce and Steve Sprague chugged in at third with 131 total points each...accounting for the silence from the men's table, perhaps? Lots of 'pips' to add up after each round.

All aboard for the next match: **Jim & Anne Burk's** home on Thursday, September 20th.



Photo by Moose Kelly

MTD Group 6 (L to R) **Rob Melrose, Joyce Wells, Kathe Mitchell, Carmen Schiavone, Steve Ondeck, & Mary Schmidt**



Photo by Moose Kelly

MTD Group 6 Blue Table (L to R) **Richard Hockenbrock, Mary Schmidt, Rob Melrose, Steve Ondeck & Bruce Borgman**



Photo by Moose Kelly

Bruno looking for any available handout



Couples Duplicate Bridge 1 Bob Yolland

On Wednesday, August 15th, **Margot Somerville** hosted a fun evening of Couples Duplicate Bridge 1. As always, **Margot** and **Daphne** provided a great selection of goodies and wine. This month's winners were **Jim Brown** and **Anne Johnson** in first with 23.5 points, **Margot Somerville** and **Daphne Merritt** in second with 22 points, and **Bob and Janet Yolland** in third with 20.0 points. Congratulations to all the winners. Our next game will be at **Bob and Janet Yolland's** on Wednesday, September 19th.



Couples Party Bridge Tony Greco

Tony & Cindy Greco hosted the August 7th event. We started the evening with most of us drinking homemade wine from the **George Rammell** collection and ended the evening enjoying a homemade berry dessert from the **Cindy Greco** collection. What happened in between was of lesser importance, but if you really want to know continue reading below.

Thank you to **John & Kathy Kluesener** for subbing for **Brad & Lynne Hatcher**. And thank you especially to **Rem Barnard** for subbing for **Jerry Benoit** at the last minute when **Jerry** wound up with a cold and cough. Our subs have been very reliable when we have been short on players. Thanks again!

Bridge play was competitive with **Rich Ahlf & Ismini MacLean** finishing in THIRD PLACE with 2540 points. Due to unexpected results there was no SECOND PLACE finisher. 'But why?' you may ask. Well that's because there was a tie for FIRST PLACE! **Rem Barnard & Christine Benoit** tied with **Tony & Cindy Greco** for FIRST PLACE with exactly 3480 points each. A motion to award a 50 point bonus to the hosts was voted down. Lol. **Tony & Cindy** edged out **Rem & Christine** by 30 points in the final round of play to gain a tie. It was a nail biter. I calculated the odds of a tie to be 250,738 to 1. This indeed was an historic event! Lol. Stay tuned for next month.

Next month's event will be held on September 4th and hosted by **Larry & Linda Brown**. If anyone is interested in playing some low key couples party bridge and is interested in subbing once in a while, give me a call at the contact information below or catch me at the next SIR luncheon.

Tony Greco

(925) 934-0395 almanorwest@sbcglobal.net



Couples Duplicate Bridge 2 Dave Pierce

Larry and Linda Brown, newly returned from travel, hosted us August 14th. **Cindy and Tony Greco** had a solid game (54%) but so did **Joan and Dave Pierce** (59%).

Who was first? Yikes: **Christy and Dick DeVoe**, edging out the **Pierces** with 60%. Many thanks to our subs, **Rich Ahlf, Ismini MacLean, Jerry and Chris Benoit**, who we invited back for better luck in September. **Linda** served delicious homemade ice cream for dessert, certainly well worth our modest card fees.

Dave Pierce, 932-3877
dwp@astound.net



Party Bridge Fred Bolton

We played two tables of bridge on August 6th at the home of **Bob Burley**. First place went to **Doug Eisner** with 4550 points, second went to **Bob Burley** with 4070, and third to **Lo McCarley** with 3550. Our next game will be hosted by **Jim Brown** on September

3rd.

Q: Why did the bee marry?

A: He finally found his honey.

A SIR Conversation at Home

SIR SPOUSE: I see **Tony** is looking for subs for Couples Party bridge. I'd like to play some bridge again, why don't you call him and put us on his sub list?

SIR: But I'm so busy with SIR golf, fishing, poker, table pool, bocce ball and the monthly luncheon.

SIR SPOUSE: But they have free wine, beverages, snacks and homemade desserts. We could skip making dinner that night and that would make me happy! Don't you want me to be happy, honey?

SIR: Yes dear. I'll call **Tony** tomorrow.

SIR SPOUSE: Honey you're wonderful.



Men's Duplicate Bridge 1

Doug Eisner

Dave Pierce hosted three tables of Duplicate Bridge Group 1 on August 20th. The morning session was tightly contested with **Doug Eisner** emerging in first place with 15.5 pt, followed very closely by **Dave Pierce's** 15.0 pt and **Brad Hatcher's** 14.5 pt, for second and third places, respectively. However, the afternoon session was not kind to **Doug** as his 27.5 pt were good enough for only third place overall while **Dave** took over first place with 30.0 pt and **Brad** followed closely with 29.5 pt for second place.

Dick DeVoe will host our September 17th game.



Men's Duplicate Bridge 3

Sid Landman

Our August 17th Duplicate Bridge 3 event was smartly hosted by **Jim Pope**.

First PLACE (TIE)- **Joe Fuchs** and **Jerry Milano** with 29.0 points each. **Joe's** FIRST PLACE in the 1st half and **Jerry's** consistent play in both halves were sufficient to keep everyone else at bay.

THIRD PLACE- **Max Hinkle** with 28.0 pts. He was easily the COMEBACK KID, with 10 (!) points difference between his low 1st half and super 19 pt. in the 2nd half.

Reported by **Dick DeVoe**



Men's Duplicate Bridge 2

Dick DeVoe

Our August 3rd Duplicate Bridge 2 event was graciously hosted by **Rich Ahlf**.

FIRST PLACE - **John Kluesener** with 32.5 points, while taking FIRST PLACE in both halves as well!.

SECOND PLACE - **Tony Greco** with 26.0 points.

THIRD PLACE - **Ed Marlovits** with 25.0 points.

BEST PARTNERSHIPS (maximum 6 pts. available) - **Byron Nelson** and **John Kluesener** each had four partners earning high points. **John Kluesener / Joe Fuchs** was the only partnership earning the maximum of 6 pts.



Photo by Bill Schultz

08/17/2018

Men's Duplicate Bridge 3 winners showing off their loot are (Left) **Joe Fuchs** and (Right) **Jerry Milano** who ended in a first place tie, along with (Center) **Max Hinkle** who came in third



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

SIR Branch 146 Golf Committee holding their meeting prior to the start of the August luncheon



Photo by Bill Schultz

08/17/2018

Jim Brown, Brad Hatcher, Max Hinkle, Bob Yolland, Joe Fuchs, Tony Greco and **Jerry Milano** enjoy lunch on **Jim Pope's** patio

What is black – white – black – white – black – white?
A penguin rolling down a mountain!



Poker Group 1

Dan O'Sullivan

Poker Group 1 met at the home of **Don Del Bene** on Wednesday, August 8th. As always a good time was had by all including good snacks and conversation.

Our next outing will be at the home **John Lewis** on Wednesday, September 12th.



Old Money Poker Group 6

Brad Hatcher

It seemed many in the group had vacation or other plans. Thus, on our usual first Thursday date, we were unable to fill a table of players. We expect better participation in September. Also, we are looking for players to join our group

Brad Hatcher

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 4

Rich Hanford

Poker Group 4 met on August 27th at the home of **Joe Stengel**. We had two subs join us; a good time was had by all!



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.*



Cooking Lunch & Wine

Bill Hartman

The LAW cooking group meets on the 4th Wednesday of each month at a different member's home with one member responsible for preparing the menu for the rest of the group.

We gather at 11:00 am for good conversation, appetizers and wine followed by lunch. Couples are an integral part of this group as we have two dinners each year with our partners which are scheduled for March and September.



Book Corner

Peter Plante

The Book Corner is back in September. Come by and pick up a book from your favorite author. Let me know if you're looking for a specific title and I will help search for it.

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

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



SIR 146 Explore & Eat Event Bay Delta Cruise

The SIR 146 Explore & Eat event on August 22nd was a great success with 33 SIR members and their guests showing up at 9:45 am for Captain Morgan's 10 am safety presentation at the **Boardwalk Grill** restaurant in the Discovery Bay Marina. We then boarded the vessel, **Rosemarie**, for a 2-hour cruise around the Bay Delta. The vessel was named after Captain Morgan's mother. Refreshments were readily available and several Parrot Punch's, Bloody Mary's and Mimosa's were consumed. On the cruise we saw a number of local birds, fishermen on the waterways and the agriculture on the Delta Islands. During the cruise Captain Morgan gave a 30 minute overview of some of the Delta's history and traditions. Near the end of the cruise, we cruised around several Discovery Bay peninsulas and observed homes on the water, one of which recently sold for \$4M. We, also, saw that one homeowner had a sea plane out their back door at their dock on the water (nice way to commute to work).

After the 2-hour cruise, we met at the **Boardwalk Grill** on the marina for an excellent lunch on the patio with a view of the marina and all the boats. Those in attendance were: **Jim Barry, Paul & Jane Beretz, Cass Buys, Dick & Christy DeVoe, Dick & Leslie Firth, Max & Ardith Hinkle, Richard & Sherry Hockenbrock, Bill & Lynette Holly** and their daughter, **Diane, Bob & Wendy Lucido, Ron Louis & Fran Matthews, Jim & Renie Pope, Don Rhoads & Barbara Elenteny, Ken & Elaine Richter, Bob Royster, Tony & Jean Shebanek, Ken & Carol Sault, Henry & Barbara Thatcher, and Ken Studer.** *(See their bright, shiny faces in the group photo above provided by Fran Matthews)*

Reported by Henry Thatcher and Jim Pope





Photo by Carl Tilchen

Acoustic Musicians

Carl Tilchen

The SIR Acoustic Music Group has changed its location to **Vinnie's Bar & Grill** because it offers the opportunity to present a greater choice of music, a bigger audience, with more musicians & the ability to learn more music. This includes an Open Mike, Jam Night, & House Band Trio. All musicians with acoustic or electric instruments are welcome. Listeners who enjoy music are welcome too. Join us at **Vinnie's Bar & Grill**, 2045 Mt. Diablo St., Concord, CA. Monday, September 10th from 9 pm-1 am. There is No Cover Charge. If you would like to play, write your name on the list when you arrive.



Cooking II

Bob Yolland

Steve Ybarra hosted a great lunch Monday, August 13th in his spacious backyard on a beautiful and delightful day, weather-wise. This was **Steve's** maiden voyage and it went off without a hitch. He began with a variety of cheeses including a Triple Cream Camembert, an excellent Mushroom Brie, and a nice Jack all served with crackers. **Steve** also served two excellent Salamis, a Volpi soppressata and Chianti red wine Artisan Salami. All were accompanied by a variety of tasty red and white wine. This was followed by a Tomato Basil Tart with mozzarella, garlic, basil and mayo, an excellent BBQ'd Flank Steak and a Corn, Tomato and Avocado salad. Lots of good food. **Steve** then finished the meal with a delicious home-grown Apricot Cobbler with Vanilla Ice Cream. Thanks **Steve** for a fine lunch and thanks to our group for lots of good conversation.

We had a follow-up event six days later on Sunday, August 19th which was highlighted by our group attending a A's—Astros game with our wives courtesy of Steve, who is an A's season ticket holder. Although the A's eventually lost, **Steve** made up for it by hosting a fantastic tailgate where he and **Dana** provided the majority of the lunch while everyone else brought something to share.

Our next Cooking II lunch will be at **Bob Yolland's** home on September 10th.

More Explore & Eat Pictures



Photo by Bill Holly



Photo by Bill Holly



Book Group

Chuck Campbell

We have been reading *Sapiens: A Brief History of Humankind* by Yuval Noah Harari. The book surveys the entire length of human history, from the evolution of homo sapiens in the Stone Age to the political and technological revolutions of the 21st century. The first part of the book deals with past changes in our group culture and the latter part presents some of the author's ideas about future cultures. Before reading the book you might go to the author's website (www.ynharari.com) to learn more about Harari's background and views of the future.

For our next book we have chosen *The President is Missing* by Bill Clinton and James Patterson. We'll meet at 8:30 am on August 27th at the Greenery Restaurant to discuss this book.



GOLF

Ed Marlovits

The last Tuesday of July was a special Tournament Tuesday with a modified Ryder Cup format and a shotgun start. A perfect day for golf of any kind finished with free drinks and camaraderie in the Grill. We

finished in about four and a half hours and members were asking why we couldn't do this more often. This was the first time we used Golf Genius to set up the pairings and show the results. We had three flights with one winning team per flight. In terms of overall performance, the **Binder-Kratz** team blew everyone away with a net 57.

After skipping AWAY GOLF in July, we played Blue Rock Springs West on August 2nd. It was a fine day for our event, the course was in great shape but we only had nineteen participants. Gary Brown with a gross 80 and a net 64 topped an elite group of eight who shot net scores in the 60s. And eleven of us shot a net par or better.

The next AWAY GOLF will be Thursday, September 6th at Blue Rock Springs' East course. We have said this before but if you normally play only at Boundary Oak, or haven't played AWAY GOLF, Blue Rock is a great place to try it.

Boundary Oak has scheduled its green renovation for the first Tuesday of October so we have set up an AWAY GOLF at Eagle Vines for that Tuesday instead of Thursday.

The results from the SIR Division 4 individual qualifier at Hiddenbrooke on August 22nd are not in yet, but, at last count, we had just three Branch 146 participants -- as opposed to 24 Branch 146 members who participated in the Area Team Qualifier in June.

The number of Tuesday golfers has declined somewhat this year. Over the past two months we have had as few as 35 players and as many as 48. Attendance did not seem to correlate with high temperatures.



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



Table Pool

Bill Weinberg

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. All Sirs in Area 2 are welcome.

SIR Branch 146 Executive Committee (BEC) for 2019



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

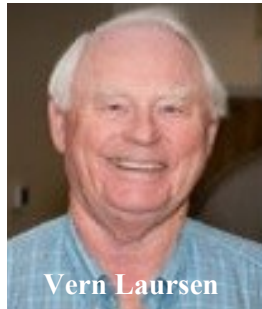
Max Hinkle, Tony Greco, Bruce Borgman (retiring), Jonathan Korfhage, Richard Hockenbrock, Jerry Kaplan, Ben Gleason, George Mon, Milt Smith, Pierre Mebane, and Ron Lew (missing Brad Hatcher)

Area 16 Events

Mac User Group (MUG)



Max Burchett



Vern Laursen

The Mac Users Group (MUG) meets the first Monday of each month from 12 noon until 2:00 pm at the Thurman G. Casey Ygnacio Valley Library, 2661 Oak Grove Road, Walnut Creek, CA 94598.

Max Burchett and **Verner Laursen** are the leaders and are available to help Mac, iPhone and iPad users with their questions. Please note that Mac users do not have problems. We do have suggestions on software and where to get the best deals on Mac related products. We will also demonstrate various software products.

If you have or may have an interest, please contact us and we will put you on our mailing list. If you are on the list, you will receive an email from time to time about items that are of interest to Mac Users.

Area 2 \$ums Investment Group

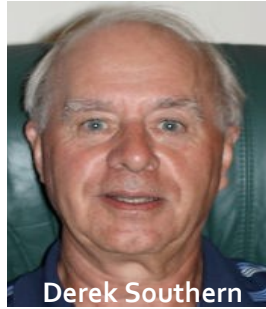
\$UMS in Retirement is back from its summer break. We will meet again on Wednesday, September 26th at 8:00 am in Legends Restaurant at Diablo Creek Golf Course on Port Chicago Highway, Concord, just north of Hwy 4.

Our speaker will be one of our regulars, John W. Hutchinson of Stifel, Nicolaus & Co. in Walnut Creek. His topic is "The place for municipal bonds in your portfolio." The Legends opens at 7 am. Come early and have a leisurely breakfast with your colleagues prior to the meeting.

Also, see the \$UMS website which lists topics covered at \$UMS meetings which started in 2013. Many of these include attachments with speaker's outlines and slides. See: <http://www.a2sums.sirinc2.org/>

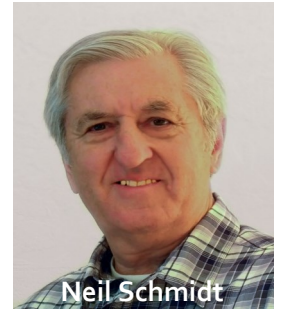
\$UMS Chairman **Tom Henry** tomhenry925@gmail.com
Co-chair **Dave Sutton** davesutn@comcast.net

Computers and Technology



Derek Southern

PCs



Neil Schmidt

The next meeting of the Area 16 Computer and Technology Group will be at the Walnut Creek Elks Lodge on Thursday, September 20th, starting at 9:30 am. Sirs from all branches and their guests are welcome and invited to attend. Plan to come early for coffee, goodies and chat.

SIR **Phil Goff** will present detailed instructions about downloading, installing and running the most popular password manager program called **LastPass**. It is the best way to store all of your passwords and have the program automatically enter them when you visit a secure website. **LastPass** works on desktops, laptops, smartphones and both PCs and Apple. Once you start using it, you will wonder how you ever got along without it. No more forgotten passwords or nasty messages that your username or password is incorrect.

Additionally, **Phil** will show you how to send and receive text messages with ease. As most of you know, younger people and all business people constantly use texting.. We know that typing text messages on those small screens is nearly impossible, so **Phil** will show you how to dictate and edit your messages with ease. Also, we show how to attach photos and even send emojis. We will do it in real time, so bring your smartphones and you will become a texting pro.

Presentation notes should be available on the CAT Web page (a2cat.sirinc2.org) several days prior to the meeting. We look forward to seeing you Thursday, September 20th, around 9:15 am. We ask for a donation of \$5 to cover the cost of the hall rental, coffee and cookies. See you there.

“Sir, you cannot fish here!”

“Don’t worry, I’m not fishing, I’m just teaching my worm to swim.”

SIR 146 Activities Calendar

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

2017

Jan

Feb

Mar

Apr

May

Jun

Jul

Aug

Sep

Oct

Nov

Dec

2019

September 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Aug 26	27	28	29	30	31	Sep 1
	8:30 AM Booze Ball 9:30 AM Book Group Greenery Restaurant 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 6:45 PM - 10:00 PM Mexican Train Group Sals	10:00 AM Bowling 9:00 AM Bowling 1:00 PM Poker Group #1 1:30 PM Song Str 1st	9:30 AM NINE-HOLE GOLF-1 7:00 PM SIR Theater Party - Shakespeare's Wars of the Roses at Cal Shakes, Orinda	9:30 AM Walkers 9:30 AM Walkers	
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	1:00 PM Party Bridge 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 1:00 PM Poker Group #6 4:15 PM Poker #5	9:30 AM - 10:45 AM BEC Meeting 11:45 AM - 1:05 PM SIR LUNCHEON	9:30 AM - 2:00 PM Men's Duplicate Bridge 2 9:30 AM Walkers	
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
	8:30 AM Booze Ball 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 7:00 PM Couples Duplicate Bridge 2	10:00 AM Bowling 12:30 PM - 3:30 PM Poker Group #6 4:15 PM Poker #5	9:00 AM - 10:45 AM BEC Meeting 11:45 AM - 1:05 PM SIR LUNCHEON	9:00 AM - 11:00 AM Photography Group Thurman Casey Ygnacio Valley Library 9:30 AM Walkers 9:00 AM Hiking Moderate 6:45 PM - 10:00 PM Mexican Train Dominoes Group 1 (UNO)	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
	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	10:00 AM Bowling 11:00 AM Cooking Lunch and Wine (LAW) 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM Pirochle Rocco's Italian Restaurant 1:30 PM Song Strs 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 Tires Gourmet 2:00 PM Acoustic Musicians 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM Mexican Train Dominoes Group 5 (Circ)	9:30 AM Walkers 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM Men's Duplicate Bridge 3 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM Mexican Train Dominoes - El Cuatro	
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
	8:30 AM Booze Ball 8:30 AM Book Group Greenery Restaurant 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 6:45 PM - 10:00 PM Mexican Train Group Sals	9:00 AM - 10:00 AM Suns in Retirement 10:00 AM Bowling 10:30 PM - 1:30 PM Cabbage	8:00 AM - 10:00 AM Fishing 9:30 AM NINE-HOLE GOLF-3	9:30 AM Walkers 6:30 PM - 10:00 PM Mexican Train Dominoes Dos 6:45 PM - 10:15 PM Mexican Train Dominoes Group 3 (Tres)	

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