



Branch 146

Sons In Retirement, Contra Costa CA

Call

MAY, 2022



Big Sir's Corner Richard Lyon

We had a slightly better turnout for April's Luncheon and, there were five SIR's who showed up without an RSVP. As usual, the Lady's Day Luncheon requires payment in advance. If you missed the eBlast for a Lady's

Day reservation form, please email **Steve Ybarra** (sybar@gmail.com) ASAP. Preliminarily, it was estimated that there may be a much larger turnout than we've had at the monthly Luncheons! Our Contra Costa Supervisor District 4 Karen Mitchoff is our featured speaker.

Please feel free to invite your friends to check out any Branch activity after checking with the activity chair. Guests can attend an activity 2 – 3 times without joining SIR. Bocce Ball is starting up soon and there may be a guitar and a poker group starting. If you are looking for a particular activity in our Branch or in the Area, or would like to start a new activity, contact **Bob Lucido** or **Frank Lucas**.

If after attending an activity as a Guest, your friends are interested in joining SIR, please ask **George Mon**, Membership, for a SIR application form and, request a Guest ("free") lunch from **Ben Gleason** and **Steve Oki** Luncheon Chairs. You and your Guest can be seated at the Guest table and a member information folder will be prepared for them. If you are comfortable doing so, you may be asked to introduce your friends to the Branch.

For the last two years, the Branch has remarkably retained its membership. Now that in-person restrictions are relaxed, activities are booming and the weather is spectacular have fun! Please invite your friends. If asked, please volunteer to help out with the luncheon at check-in or as a greeter, both are fun you get to meet a lot of new friends. The Branch could use your help as an assistant Treasurer who, helps organizes luncheons. The Branch is also looking for the first year of a two-year BEC Directorship to be on the RAMP team. The RAMP is the engine that organizes recruitment, activities, membership, and publicity. If you like SIR and want to help out please contact Past Big SIRs **Richard Hockenbrock** or **Brad Hatcher** to answer your questions.

There's been some interest in having an "extra" First Annual Luncheon in Park, somewhere nearby. It will require a small group of people with an experienced leader to kick this off! Most likely we'll Open It Up to Family and Friends! Please contact **Bob Lucido**, as summer fast approaches!

Sincerely,

Rich Lyon Big Sir, Branch 146

SIR Luncheon
Thursday, May 12th, 2022
Boundary Oak
12:00 Noon
Speaker: see page 3 for details.



Little Sir's Corner Robert Wilkenfeld

Our speaker for April, Mary Knox, has worked 37 years with the Contra Costa District Attorney's office. Ms. Knox provided us with fascinating insight into gang and

organized crime activity in our county and the many efforts to counter it.

Contra Costa County Supervisor (District IV) Karen Mitchoff will be our speaker for the May Ladies Day Luncheon. A County Supervisor for 11 years, she began her public service in 1981; was elected to the Pleasant Hill City Council in 2008; and served as Mayor of Pleasant Hill in 2010. Supervisor Mitchoff represents Contra Costa County on a multitude of regional committees, addressing a broad range of issues ranging from air quality, housing to land and water conservation. Supervisor Mitchoff is clearly qualified to help us understand the issues currently faced by Contra Costa County, as well as where our County is heading.

In June, our luncheon speaker will be Walnut Creek City Council-member Loella Haskew. First elected to the Walnut City Council in November 2012, she previously served as Mayor in 2016 and 2020. Over her years of service on

the Council, Ms. Haskew has been involved in public and performance arts, city finances, development planning, and regional transportation. She is well positioned to inform us of the City's plans for the next decade.

Finally, I would like to thank the many members who have welcomed me as the incoming Little Sir, as well as the handful of members who have greatly helped me to identify (and secure) interesting speakers for our luncheons.

Bob Wilkenfeld Little Sir Branch 146

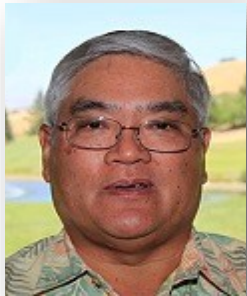


Luncheon Chairman Ben Gleason

Our Next Regular Branch 146 Luncheon Will Be Held On June 9

On April 14 Branch 146 held its second luncheon meeting of 2022. Our speaker Mary Knox was well received and attendance was 108 members, one guest and one speaker. Please make an effort to recruit guests. One guest per lunch as we had in April won't come close to meeting our goal for the year. We plan to continue our opt-in reservation system for the foreseeable future. When it comes time to opt-in for the June lunch, if possible, please email to attendlunchbr146@gmail.com rather than to my personal email. It helps me to better keep track.

If you have any questions, please call **Ben Gleason** at (925)330-0680.



Membership George Mon

Four new members joined our branch in April. **Steve Taylor** is from Moraga. He is a Urologist and did his residency at UCSF Urology. His sponsor is **Bob Ford**.

Steve Schlossberg is from Alamo and was an Executive Partner with Gartner. He is sponsored by **Larry Kaye**. **Tom Amann** is from Walnut Creek and was a Purchaser for Clare Computer Solutions. His sponsor is **Jeff Baily**. And finally, **Nick Jabuka** who is also from Walnut Creek and was a Database Analyst for Wells Fargo. He is sponsored by **Paul Dubow**. Past SIR member **Lo McCarley** passed away on February 4th. He recently resigned his membership in 2021. The 2022 membership count is at 274. We ended 2021 with 280 members. The Membership Directory is located on our website and is updated monthly. There is an updated section describing the new process to opt-in for the monthly luncheons. It is important that any changes to your contact information, especially to your email, phone or address, are sent to me in an email (gckk@comcast.net) so that we can update the directory with the most current information.

George Mon



Editor's Ramblings Clint Collier

I'm noticing an increase in the number of articles coming in late as the months go by. It is really important to get your input to us (or let us know to re-run) on a timely basis. There is a lot for us to do after that deadline for formatting as well as proofing the newsletter so, please, get your articles in before the deadline!

Deadline for submissions for the June issue is May 26th.

Last month we ran the second of three historical documents relating to the start of our branch. This we conclude with the last set... under Notes from Members.

Don't forget, we encourage member contributions to SIR-Call so, if you have something you would like to say, send it in to br146SirCall@gmail.com, putting "Member Note" in the subject line, and we will try to get it out in the next available issue.

Clint Collier — Editor SIR-Call

Cell / Text: 925.457.1489 br146SIRCall@gmail.com

SIR-Call Newsletter Group

Editor	Clint Collier
Assistant Editor	Bob West
Photographer	Henry Thatcher
Proofreaders	Jim Barry, Jonathan Korfhage
	Ron Polivka, and Calvin Tucker
Internet Posting	Ron Plachy

SIR Mission Statement

The Mission of SIR is to enrich the lives of its members through fun, activities, events, and luncheons — while making friends for life.



THE CLUBHOUSE
AT BOUNDARY OAK

SIR 146 Spring Ladies Day Luncheon

Thursday May 12th, 2022

Salad

Napa Cabbage Salad
Shaved Vegetables
Rice Wine Vinaigrette

Entrees

Boston Statler Chicken Breast
Rice Pilaf, Seasonal Vegetables, Orange/Mint Butter Sauce

or

Teriyaki Glazed Salmon
Rice Pilaf, Glazed Carrots, Pineapple Salsa

or

Vegetarian Option

Dessert

Strawberry Shortcake
Whipped Cream

2022 Branch 146 Officers and Directors

Big SIR.....	Vacant
Little SIR.....	Rich Lyon
Secretary	Bob Wilkenfeld
Assistant Secretary	John Kluesener
Treasurer	John Alexander
Assistant Treasurer	Vacant
Director 2nd Term	George Mon
Director 2nd Term	Henry Thatcher
Director 2nd Term	Bob Lucido
Director 1st Term	Bob Ford
Director 1st Term	Ed Brands
Director 1st Term	Frank Lucas

RAMP – Chair Members

Recruitment	Bob Ford
Activities	Bob Lucido
Member Relations	Ed Brands
Publicity	Frank Lucas

Refer to branch directory, accessible under
Members Only tab heading on our website, for phone
numbers & email addresses.



SIR 146 Spring Ladies Day Luncheon

Thursday, May 12th, 2022

Number of Tickets _____ at \$35 ea. Amount Enclosed \$ _____ We are sitting with: _____

Use this form to list yourselves and the guests at your table (if any) along with their choice of entrée. Check the "Pay?" box if you are paying for them, otherwise they will be assigned to your table when their payment is received.

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 made payable to SIR Branch 146 to:

Steve Ybarra
142 Leonard Dr.,
Concord, CA 94518-1213.

#	F Name, L Name	Chicken Breast	Salmon	Vegetarian	Total Paid
1					
2					
3					
4					
5					
6					
7					
8					
9					
10					

There will be no tickets sold at the door the day of the event!



Jeff Baily
 Robert Burley
 Cass Buys
 Tom Cranmer
 Ross Hallberg
 Bruce Kimmis

Joseph Lamanna
 Sid Landman
 Vern Laursen
 Roger Meyer
 Corrie Oranje
 Ron Polivka

Vince Rettew
 Don Seaton
 Stan Stricherz
 Sam Veneziano
 Bill Vizza

MAY BIRTHDAYS

Happy Birthday!



Congratulations to **Jim Burk** who was the March Birthday hat winner!

Remember... If our meeting is via Zoom you have to be Zooming to WIN. If we are having a live meeting you have to be present to WIN!

Winners receive a sharp SIR cap!

Sunshine

Brian McCarthy



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

Consider contacting a sick SIR member to offer support and encouragement during his illness. A friendly call is usually welcome.

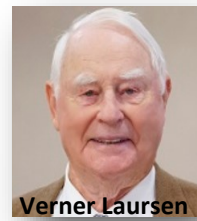
Cards and letters are always appreciated. If you become aware of a SIR member who is ill please let me know by email at brimacc@comcast.net or by phone 925.324.2463 so that our SIR members can be advised.

Stay Healthy.

Brian McCarthy
brimacc@comcast.net



Hugh Ferguson



Verner Laursen



Jim Saavedra

The Branch Honors Super Senior Bob Burley on Turning 95 !!

Our Honoree presentation at the April 14th luncheon was for **Bob Burley** as he turns 95 in May of this year. Being the bright guys that you are, you have already figured out that we are awarding the “Super Senior SIR” early, as we have traditionally not complicated the spirit of the Ladies Day Luncheon with business matters such as Honoree Awards.



Bob was born on May 19, 1927 in a farm house east of Lancaster, California with the aid of a midwife. **Bob** tells us that a country doctor came by a day or two later to collect his \$5 to fill out a birth certificate. **Bob** stayed in the Antelope Valley for the next eighteen years, attending a 4 room grade school with 4 very good teachers through 8th grade. He next took long bus rides to attend a high school that was 11 miles away and it covered a 50 square mile radius.

Bob's high school advisor predicted that he would fail, but instead he graduated with honors and was accepted at Occidental College. However, his college career was immediately cut short by the draft. He was sent to Camp Roberts for infantry training and was about to set sail for fighting in Japan when the atomic bomb led to the Japanese surrender. Instead he was sent to Korea as part of the occupation army. About a year later in Korea, **Bob** was discharged and returned to Occidental College.

He earned his bachelor's degree there and then went on to dental school at the University of Southern California. In 1954, **Bob** took his dental board exams and married **Sally Reynolds**. They moved to Walnut Creek where Bob opened a dental practice and he never left. **Bob** and **Sally** have 3 children, Brian, Steve, and Cheryl. They all live in the Bay Area and each has 2 children . . . thus, 4 granddaughters and 2 grandsons.

Bob joined SIR Branch 146 over 20 years ago on July 12, 2001, sponsored by **Douglas Carlson**. We proudly congratulate **Bob** who will become a “Super Senior Sir” this May of 2022.

Presenter was **Jim Burk** at the April 14th Luncheon

NOTES

from Our Members

Blast from the past...

Looking Back in Branch History (Jerry Kaplan & Clint Collier)

Two months ago we began running copies of our organization's newsletter from its inception back in 1989. This month we conclude that series with a newsletter for last month but from the year 1990.

- The rooster made its first appearance.
- The name of the newsletter had become *The Pleasant Hill Call*, denoting the factor that we were meeting at Zeo Fraedo's in Pleasant Hill... on the third Thursday of the month; not yet the second.
- We already had a Ladies Day program for May, a tradition that obviously has continued to today... but at approximately 3 times the cost. Anyone remember Elaine Corral?

Do you play Rummikub?

On a recent SIR sponsored cruise I noticed a lot of people were playing a game call Rummikub. Appeared to be a combination of rummy and dominoes as it is played with domino like tiles. I'm curious, does anyone in the branch play this game on a regular basis? Although it is a game for only 4 players, it might be an activity we could encourage. If you play this, on a regular basis, or only once in a while, drop me a line at:

Clint Collier
sirclint@the-colliers.org



PRIDE · DIGNITY · INDEPENDENCE

The Pleasant Hill CALL

PLEASANT HILL SIRS BRANCH 146

APRIL 1990

NOTICE NOTICE NOTICE NOTICE

We meet at Zio Fraedo's, 701 Gregory Lane, the third Tuesday of each month.

Our next meeting is April 17, 1990

Social - 11:00 a.m....Lunch - 11:30 a.m.

If you cannot attend, please call SIR John Eliason (932-0436)
at least 2 days prior to the meeting.

GREET SUNNE McPEAK

This April, Sunne Wright McPeak from the Contra Costa Board of Supervisors will be our speaker. Mrs McPeak is a native Californian, born and raised on a dairy farm in Livingston. Her husband is John McPeak and they have two sons, Scott and Todd. She earned her BA degree from the University of California, Santa Barbara and a Master in Public Health Administration from UC, Berkeley. Prior to entering public life, she was the owner of McPeak Associates, a management consulting firm in human services.

She was first elected to the Board of Supervisors in 1978 and was reelected in 1982 and 1986, serving as chairperson in 1983 and 1987. During this period, she served on a number of Board Committees including Internal Operations (Chair), Budget, Water and Medical Services Joint Conference. She is or has served as Chair of the Committee for Water Policy Consensus (12 Bay Area-Delta Counties); member of the Bay Area Air Quality Management District Board; President of the Contra Costa Health Coalition; Initiator of the Contra Costa Hazardous Waste Task Force; and member of the Bay Area Council Steering Committee.

Mrs McPeak is very active in community affairs serving as a member of Soroptimist International, Business and Professional Women, National Organization for Women,

1990 OFFICERS AND CHAIRMEN

BIG SIR	Gilbert Rhodes	943-6421
Little Sir	Eugene Hackett	935-0983
Secretary	Charles Bartsch	283-0336
Asst. Sect.	Donald Merchant	933-9310
Treasurer	David Hammons	945-6333
Asst. Treas.	Charles Thompson	935-2385
Directors:	Ned Alexander	932-1835
	Oliver Holmes	228-7049
	Walter Koop	932-2782
	Bill Larkins	682-8858
	Jack Lytle	685-8790
	John Rose	672-2385

CHAIRMEN

Attendance	John Eliason	932-0436
Bowling	Bill Ashcraft	458-5342
Bridge	David Hammons	945-6333
Bulletin	John Fontenrose	686-1016
Chaplain	Elmer Kaprielian	934-5760
Circulation	Jack Lytle	685-8790
Golf	Lynn Freeman	687-8654
Historian	Walter Koop	932-2782
Membership	William Larkins	682-8858
Music	John Philip	934-9441
Pianist	Walter Passante	939-9187
Radio	Charles Unfried	687-1724
Sunshine	Ellis Holland	935-4208
Wagonmaster	Rusk Rigor	682-5054

League of Women Voters of Diablo Valley, Contra Costa Council, Concord Century Club, Contra Costa farm Bureau, and a lifetime member of NAACP. In all, she has received more than twelve awards and honors in the public and community activity fields during the past decade.



MASHIE MATTERS

We have 46 players with about 30-35 playing each week. By the middle of the year, we will need additional help to assist with the many details of phoning, scheduling, calculating and recording of the various activities associated with running a golf tournament each week. Please let Lynn Freeman know if you are willing to help. (Remember that ol' saying - "Many hands make light work").

April Schedule

Apr 4	Wed	9:00	Boundary Oaks
11	Wed	9:00	Boundary Oaks
18	Wed	9:00	Boundary Oaks
25	Wed	9:00	Boundary Oaks

March "Buck-a-week" club winners:

March 7	John Griffin	Charlie Kiser
March 14	Joe Suta	Joe Silva
March 21	Hal Lindstrom	Dave Hammons/ Joe Silva



WAGGIN' TALES

The RVers recently returned from another trip. This time, they spent three nights at the Laguna Seca Recreation Area. From this location, they visited the Monterey and Carmel areas with SIR Ernie DeRoia and his wife Virginia as Wagon Masters.

SIR Gene Hackett and his wife Vera have volunteered to be Wagon Masters for the next undertaking. They are planning a three or four day trip to the Sierras in late April. Other wagon master volunteers are working on two future caravans and progress reports will be presented at the next planning meeting which will take place at the home of SIR Don and Lea Merchant on Friday, April 6th at 1:30 p.m. Any SIR who is interested in joining the group is urged to attend the meeting. If you do, bring your wife so that she can get in on the planning, too.

For more information, please call SIR Rusk Rigor (682-5054).

LET'S GET ACQUAINTED



KNOW YOUR SIRS

Charles H. Bartsch - Secretary, Branch 146

Charles was born in Cleveland, Ohio in 1922. All his schooling was in Cleveland where he attended Fenn College and earned a BS degree in mechanical engineering in 1947. The same year, he married his wife, Wanda. He worked as a draftsman for the AAF for several years and later for the Sherwin Williams Company where he held the position of Plant Manager prior to his transfer to their plant in Emeryville in 1963. Charles held the same position at the Emeryville plant until his retirement in 1984.

Charles' immediate family, namely three girls and a boy, all reside in the Bay Area. His hobbies include contract bridge and anything to do with model railroads. He also enjoys gardening and is off to a flying start this spring. Club-wise, he is a member of the Rossmoor Engineers Club, and he is one of the SIRS 146 early members.



LADIES DAY - MAY 15

We urge to plan ahead and give the lady of the household a chance to see the SIRS in action. SIR John Rose is in charge of arrangements and we are hoping for a real good turnout. This is the only chance for the ladies to meet with our group except for thre Christmad luncheon. Elaine Corral, Anchor Lady for KTVU/Channel 2's 10 O'clock News will be our speaker. Tickets will be available at the April 17th luncheon, or they can be obtained after that date by contacting SIR Dave Hammons (945-6333). Ticket cost for this special ebvent is \$12.50 each.

MISCELLANY

No reports from the bowling and radio groups. Anyone interested in either of these groups should contact the appropriate chairman.

Do you want to form a new group? Don't be bashful. Let us know your interests and we'll plug it in the next PLEASANT HILL CALL - anything from Bocce Ball to Bird Watching.

By the way, did you ever hear about the Sierra sportsman who went nuclear fission?

SUNSHINE

We are happy to report that Little Sir Gene Hackett is recovering nicely from his recent operation and expects to be in full regalia at the April luncheon. Good to have you back, Gene!

FUTURE DATES

- May 15 Elaine Corral, Channel 2 (KTVU)
- Jun 19 Stephan Taylor, MD (Urologist)
- Jul 17 Cal-Trans Representative (I-680/Hwy 24 interchange)



SPRING

TURISTA AMERICANA

GRAND SLAM

Dates to remember:

April 16-25 American Heritage Tour
 July 12-20 Calgary Stampede/Canadian Rockies
 Sept 6-17 (1991) Dixie Jubilee
 (Contact Charles Hinckley-935-4433)
 July 16-24 Colorado National Parks
 Sept 4-16 Alaska & the Yukon
 (Contact Dick Gretler 934-3227)

SIR Chuck Thompson will host the next bridge session on Monday, April 23rd at 10 a.m. As usual, each player is asked to bring his own brown bag lunch and the host will provide refreshments. Please contact Dave Hammons (945-6333) if you wish to play. The usual sign-up sheet will be available at the regular April 17th meeting. Winner of the March session was Lee Williams with Charles Bartsch as runner-up.



MEMBERSHIP

Happy April Birthday To:

Glen Furlow Bill Moresi Al Wiseman Fred Miller Gil Rhodes

New Members:

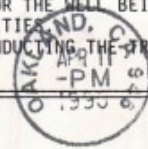
117 Charles Marsh (Iris) 4805 Terra Granada #1A Walnut Creek, CA 94595 943-5662	118 Andrew Samson 35 Helen Avenue Concord, CA 94518 687-8977	119 Frank Boyle (Marion) 1668 Foothill Park Circle Lafayette, CA 94549 932-0867
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Losses:

74 Scott Montgomery - resigned.

1. REGULAR MEMBERS MISSING THREE (3) CONSECUTIVE MEETINGS WITHOUT NOTIFYING THEIR ATTENDANCE CHAIRMAN, OR ATTENDING LESS THAN 7 MEETINGS WITHIN THE LAST TWELVE MONTHS, SHALL BE NOTIFIED BY FORM LETTER NO. 4 OF THEIR MEMBERSHIP TERMINATION. CERTIFICATION OF ATTENDANCE AT ANOTHER BRANCH MEETING WILL BE CONSIDERED AS A CREDIT TO THE ATTENDANCE RECORD. ABSENCE SHOULD BE REPORTED TO ATTENDANCE CHAIRMAN.
2. NON-RESPONSIBILITY CLAUSE: ALL TOURS, TRIPS AND OTHER ACTIVITIES ARRANGED FOR OR BY SONS IN RETIREMENT, INC., AND ITS BRANCHES ARE FOR THE CONVENIENCE AND PLEASURE OF THE MEMBERS AND THEIR GUESTS WHO DESIRE TO PARTICIPATE. SONS IN RETIREMENT, INC., AND ITS BRANCHES DO NOT ASSUME THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE WELL BEING OR SAFETY OF THE PARTICIPANTS OR IN ANY MATTERS PERTAINING TO SAID TOURS, TRIPS OR OTHER ACTIVITIES.
3. CHECKS FOR TRIPS (3 NIGHTS OR LESS) MUST BE MADE PAYABLE TO THE BRANCH CONDUCTING THE TRIP. CHECKS FOR TOURS (IN EXCESS OF 3 NIGHTS) MUST BE MADE PAYABLE TO THE TRAVEL AGENCY INVOLVED.

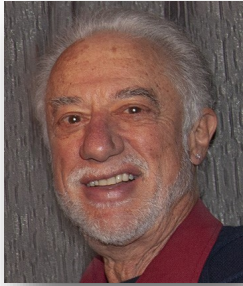
SIRS BRANCH 146
 John Fontenrose
 956 Bannock Court
 Concord, CA 94518
 686-1016



SIR Walter Koop
 3160 Broncho Lane
 Walnut Creek CA 94598



Looking for something to do...



**Activities Coordinator
Bob Lucido**

I will be attending a SIR state meeting next week. The idea of this meeting is to discuss ways to increase activities in every branch and drink some beer.

Activities are the heart of SIR.

A few members have suggested new activities. I will send out an eblast soon describing the activities.

Bob Lucido

925-899-0974 Bobwendy3@comcast.net

SIRS ACTIVITY REPORT 4.13.22					
Activity	Chair	# of Participants	Meeting Frequency	New members	Co-Ed
Bocce	John Kendrick	12 to 24 couples	8:30 2nd & 4th Mondays May through October	yes	yes
Book Corner Chair	Peter Plante	open	Jan > every other month	N/A	N/A
Book Corner Asst. Chair	Dick McElroy				
Book Group	John Pearl	5 to 10	variable - every 1 to 2 mo.	yes	no
Bridge - Couples Party	Tony Greco	6 Couples	Monthly	Yes	yes
Bridge Couples Duplicate 1	John Kluesener	6 Couples	7:00-10:30 PM Third Wednesday	yes	yes
Bridge Couples Duplicate 2	Dave Pierce	6 couples	Monthly - 2nd Tues. 7 PM-10 PM	yes	yes
Bridge Men's Duplicate 1	Max Hinkle	16 plus subs	Monthly - 3rd Monday	yes	no
Bridge Men's Duplicate 2	Dick DeVoe	18 plus subs.	Monthly - 1st Friday 10-2:30	yes	no
Bridge Men's Duplicate 3	Mike Whitaker	18	Monthly - 3rd Friday	yes	no
Bridge Men's Party Co-Chair	J.Pope/J. Steadman	16 plus 4 alt.	9:45-3:00 Monthly - 1st Monday	yes	no
Cooking II	Steve Ybarra	8	Monthly - 2nd Monday	no	conditional
Cooking Lunch & Wine	Syd Whalen	8 plus 3 subs.	Monthly - 3rd Wednesday	no	conditional
Cooking Tres Gourmets	Ron Binder	8	Monthly - Jan. to Oct.	no	conditional
Cribbage Chair	Ron Afdal	8 to 10	12:00 - 4:00 pm 4th Wednesday	yes	no
Cycling	Larry Kaye	10 to 15	every week	yes	yes
Dining Out	Bruce Borgman	~20 to 30 couples	Every other Month	yes	yes
Dinner/Dance Social	Jonathan Korfhage	25 to 40 couples		yes	yes
Explore and Eat Co-Chair	H.Thatcher&J.Pope				
Fishing	Paul Dubow	~10 to 15 Br 146	7:30-9:30 Breakfast mtg. 4th Thurs.	yes	conditional
Golf - 18 hole Chair	David Steinberg	~100 to 115 active	9:00 Every Tuesday	yes	no
Golf - 18 hole-away games	Ed Marlovics				
Golf - 9 hole	Bob Ford	~25 members	9:30 every Thursdays	yes	no
Hiking	Mark Curtis	6 to 12	10:00 am - varies Monday or Friday	yes	yes
Ladies Day Luncheon chair	Steve Ybarra	~250 people	*Semi-annually	N/A	N/A
Men's Hearts	Bob West	6 to 12	Meet 2X a month - 2nd & 4th Friday 12:45-3:30	yes	No
Mexican Train Dominoes (1) Uno	Jerry Kaplan	16 to 18	Monthly -plays Friday eve. after luncheon	yes	yes
Mexican Train Dominoes (2) Dos	Ron Plachy	14 to 18	6:30-10:00PM 4th Friday	yes	yes
Mex. Train Dominoes (3) Tres	Walt Busenius	18 to 20	Monthly - 4th Friday eve.	yes	yes
Mex. Train Dominoes (4) Quattro)	Jim Pope				
Mex. Train Dominoes (5) Cinco	Dave Pierce	12	monthly -3rd Thursday eve.	yes	yes
Mex. Train Dominoes (6) Seis	Moose Kelly	10 to 20	6:30-10:00PM 4th Tuesday	yes	yes
Mex. Train Dominoes (7) Siete	Bob Lucido	14	monthly -2nd Wednesday eve.	no	yes
Mex. Train(8) Ocho Dominoes (8)	Richard Hockenbrock	18	Monthly - 1st Wednesday of every month	yes	yes
Photography Co-Chair	John "Moose" Kelly	10 to 20	meets 4th Fri. of every other month	yes	yes
Pinochle Co-chair (Br 146 & Br 8)	P.McNeill/S.Johnson	8 to 12	2nd and 4th Wed after lunch	yes	yes
Poker Group #1	Dan O'Sullivan	7	Monthly - 2nd Wed. 1:00-4:00	no	no
Poker Group #3	Sig Kalteis	7	Monthly 4th noon	yes	no
Poker Group #4	Rich Hanford	7	Monthly 4th Monday 1-4 pm	no	no
Poker Group #6	Brad Hatcher	6	Mo.-1st Thurs 12:30-3-30	No	no
Song Sirs	Peter Plante	about 20 active	Monthly - 1st & 3rd Wed.	yes	no
Sushi no tomodachi	Clint Collier	undecided	One a month	yes	yes
Table Pool	Bill Weinberg	10 to 16	Every Monday 11:30 AM	yes	no
Theater	Gary Schaub	~30 - 40 people	2 to 3 theatre parties/yr.	yes	yes
Travel	Milt Smith	~15 - 50 people	*As scheduled	yes	yes
Wine Tasting	Brian McCarthy	~30-50 people	4th Wed. 2:30 - 5:00p.m.	yes	yes

SIR 146 Activities Calendar

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

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
2	3	4	5	6
9:45 AM - 3:00 PM Men's Party Bridge 10:00 AM Hiking 12:00 PM Table Pool at Masses	9:00 AM Golf 10:00 AM Photography outing at the Migration Winery 1451 Stanley Lane, Napa 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM Couples Party Bridge	8:30 PM - 10:00 PM Mexican Train Dominoes Ocho (8)	9:30 AM NINE HOLE GOLF-1 12:30 PM Poker Group #6	10:00 AM - 2:30 PM Men's Duplicate Bridge 2 1:30 PM - 3:35 PM Table Tennis at the ARC Gymnasium 8:00 PM Theater Party "Our Town" Lesher Center
9	10	11	12	13
8:30 AM Bocce Newhall Park, Concord Ayres Rd & Turtle Creek 10:00 AM Hiking 12:00 PM Table Pool at Masses	9:00 AM Golf	1:00 PM - 3:00 PM Pinochle Rocco's Italian Restaurant 1:00 PM Poker Group #1 8:45 PM - 10:00 PM Mexican Train Dominoes Siete	11:30 AM - 1:30 PM LADIES DAY LUNCHEON	12:45 PM - 3:30 PM Hearts Rocco's Italian Restaurant 1:30 PM - 3:35 PM Table Tennis at the ARC Gymnasium 8:45 PM - 10:00 PM Mexican Train Dominoes Group 1 (Uno)
16	17	18	19	20
10:00 AM Hiking 12:00 PM Table Pool at Masses 5:30 PM Couples Dining Out #1 Uncle Yu's 999 Oak Hill Road, Lafayette	9:00 AM Golf 5:30 PM Couples Dining Out #2 Uncle Yu's 999 Oak Hill Road, Lafayette	7:00 PM - 10:30 PM Couples Duplicate Bridge 1	9:30 AM NINE HOLE GOLF-2 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM Mexican Train Dominoes Group 5 (Cinco)	10:00 AM - 3:00 PM Men's Duplicate Bridge 3 1:30 PM - 3:35 PM Table Tennis at the ARC Gymnasium 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM Mexican Train Dominoes - El Quattro
23	24	25	26	27
8:30 AM Bocce Newhall Park, Concord Ayres Rd & Turtle Creek 10:00 AM Hiking 12:00 PM Table Pool at Masses 1:00 PM Poker Group #4	9:00 AM Golf	12:30 PM - 3:30 PM Cribbage Rocco's Italian Restaurant 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM Pinochle Rocco's Italian Restaurant 1:30 PM Sums in Retirement Via Zoom 8:45 PM - 10:00 PM Mexican Train Group Seis	7:30 AM - 9:30 AM Area 16 Fishing Group Legends Sports Bar Diablo Creek GC 9:30 AM NINE HOLE GOLF-3	12:45 PM - 3:30 PM Hearts Rocco's Italian Restaurant 1:30 PM - 3:35 PM Table Tennis at the ARC Gymnasium 8:30 PM - 10:00 PM Mexican Train Dominoes Dos 8:30 PM - 10:00 PM Mexican Train Dominoes Group 3 (Tres)
30	31	Jun 1	2	3
10:00 AM Hiking 12:00 PM Table Pool at Masses	9:00 AM Golf 9:45 AM Explore and Eat Black Diamond Mine Tour 5175 Somersville Road, Antioch	8:30 PM - 10:00 PM Mexican Train Dominoes Ocho (8)	9:30 AM NINE HOLE GOLF-1 12:30 PM Poker Group #6	10:00 AM - 2:30 PM Men's Duplicate Bridge 2 1:30 PM - 3:35 PM Table Tennis at the ARC Gymnasium



Nine Hole Golf Group Bob Ford

I wanted to say how much we have enjoyed our new members that recently joined the 9-hole golf group. We have been having some really good turnouts in this excellent spring weather. Also the course is

looking really good with the recent rains. Our group tees off at 9:30 am at the Diablo Hills Golf Course on every Thursday, except the second Thursday of the month when we go to the SIR luncheon. It is open to all, and you don't need to be a member of the NCGA or have a handicap to play. It takes us about two hours to play, then most of us also have lunch at the Greenery which is the restaurant at the course.

If you are interested, let me know and I will put you on my list. On Sundays, I will send out an email asking who is coming for golf and if you plan to walk or ride. On Wednesdays I will send out an email with who signed up for Thursday morning. I hope to see you there!!

Bob Ford

scubabob.ford@gmail.com



Bocce John Kendrick

Per the calendar on your cell phone, the World famous 2022 SIR 146 Bocce Ball activity officially starts on Monday, May 09.

As much as I would like to join you on opening day, my wife and I will be on holiday in Europe and unfortunately will miss the May Bocce Ball activities. I will join everyone in June.

The Bocce Ball courts are located near the corner of Turtle Creek and Ayers Roads in Concord. Bocce Ball is played on the 2nd and 4th Mondays, 8:30 am to 10:00 am, May through September.

Join us for some Monday morning entertainment and fun. Ladies are welcome.

Have fun, stay safe and healthy.

Rain Cancels Play.

Ladies are welcome. Come and join us.

John Kendrick

925.827.0585 jmkendrick23@gmail.com



146 Hiking Mark Curtis

So here we are in almost a post pandemic environment. Are you still sheltering at home and asking your kids to pick up and deliver your groceries? Holy

Crap, Batman, I hope not. Seriously, I hope all of you very geriatric folks are getting out, moving the body parts, and enjoying the magnificent nature we have around us.

The hiking activity is still active, although I sometimes am discouraged that of the 30 names that I have on my email list, I only see 10 smiling faces maximum. I suspect that some of those 30 are no longer members, but I have not checked. I also suspect that those that do not participate can't do the moderate or difficult stuff. If would invite those same guys to challenge me to present to them a walk/hike that they can do and enjoy. I am very willing to lead some easy walks (less than 2 miles and no elevation change). Just let me know if you are interested in short and easy, and I will schedule it.

Mark Curtis

Cell (925) 360-3449 Mocurtis1657@gmail.com

As you get older you've got to stay positive.
For example,
the other day I fell down the stairs...
Instead of getting upset I just thought, "Wow,
that's the fastest I've moved in Years."



Book Corner Peter Plante

The Book Corner is sorry to miss the Ladies Day Luncheon, but will return in June.

Til then Happy Reading!!





GOLF

Ed Marlovits

As I announced in March, SIR State Golf will be holding a number of events. Among them are the State Team Championship and the State Individual Championship. In order to qualify to play in those championship events, one needs to finish top two in an Area Qualifying event. Branch 146 is in SIR Area 16 and the Area 16 Qualifiers will be held at Blue Rock Springs on May 26 for the Team Qualifier and July 7 for the Individual Qualifier. These will be shotgun starts as long as we meet the course's minimum of 12 four-somes. Sign-up information will be circulated in the near future.

The State Team Championship event will be held Monday, August 8th, 2022 at Rancho Solano. The State Individual Championship will be held Tuesday, October 11 also at Rancho Solano.

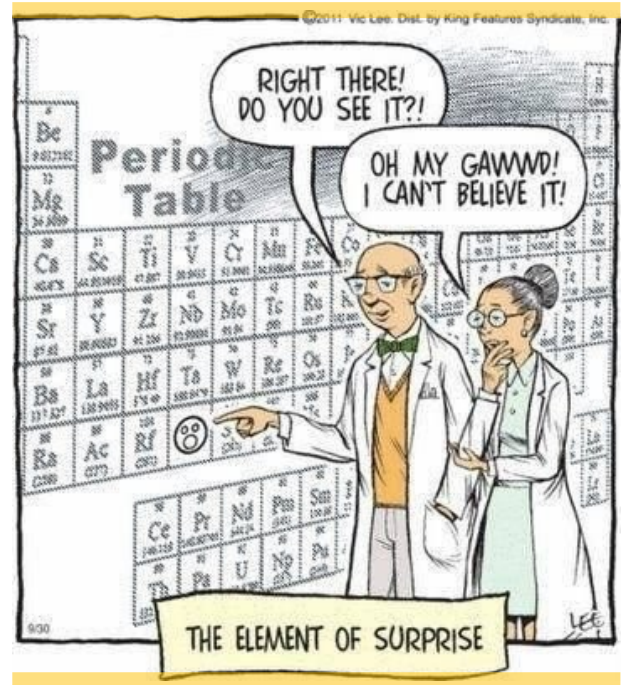
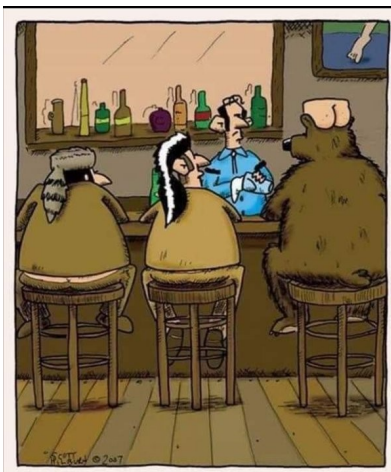
The annual "Spring Fling" was held on April 19-20 at Chardonnay and Eagle Vines in Napa. The State Golf Committee was hoping for 100 participants and over the two days they had 98.

The next State event is the Reno golf trip which will be held June 13-17. Details are also posted on the state golf website. The Atlantis Hotel will be the host venue, and we will have events at 3 courses:

- Lakeridge GC – Tuesday 6/14
- Toiyabe – Wednesday 6/15
- Wolf Run – Thursday 6/16

The Fall Classic event which is similar to the Spring Fling event is planned for mid-September. Details have not yet been finalized.

Ed Marlovits



THE ELEMENT OF SURPRISE



SongSirs

Peter Plante

SongSirs continues to rehearse and develop their repertoire in preparation for our next performance which will be at Concord Royale Assisted Living on July 20. Unfortunately our performance at

The Kensington in Walnut Creek was canceled on April 20 due to illness within the facility. We will try to reschedule that gig for the fall.

SongSirs rehearse on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month at Walnut Creek Presbyterian Church from 1:30 to 2:30. If you have a love of music and singing and enjoy the camaraderie of singing together, please come and join us. We welcome one and all. No audition required. We are beginning to work on a whole new series of songs. Many thanks to **Steve Dinning** and **Bruce Borgman** for helping develop our new repertoire.

Peter Plante



Explore & Eat
Henry Thatcher & Jim Pope



Black Diamond Mine Tour

May 31, 2022



Only 12 Spots Left

Explore & Eat is resuming activities in 2022 with a tour of the Black Diamond Mine on May 31st. We will meet at the EB Regional Parks Office at the Black Diamond Mine in Antioch at 9:45 to get organized. Their address is: 5175 Somersville Road Antioch, CA. There will be two (2) tours in the morning, so we will need to split the group up in half. One group will do the Hazel-Atlas Mine Tour and the other group will do the Coal Mine Experience Tour. Then we will meet up and the groups will switch tours. After both tours are complete, we will go into Antioch for lunch at Smith's Landing.

Henry Thatcher 925-997-5032 and
Jim Pope 925-699-6447

Coal Mine Experience Tour Overview

Hazel-Atlas Mine Tour one hour

From the mid-1920s to the mid-1940s, the Hazel-Atlas Mine produced silica sand to make jars, bottles, and other glass items. Today, tour participants can take a 1309-foot walk into the mine to see mine workings, ore chutes, the shifter's office, and ancient geological features. For safety reasons, you may tour the mine only as part of a guided tour and all participants must be at least seven years old.

Tour the new Coal MineCoal Mine Experience Tour 30 minutes

Experience exhibit to immerse yourself in the history of the Mount Diablo Coal Field. Discover the story of miners who toiled underground as you experience a replica coal mine. We'll discuss the dangers of working deep in the layers of the earth and explore the area's fascinating geology on your guided tour.

The cost for both tours is **\$8 per person**. The limit for the tours is **40**. Parking is **free** and located near the park offices. Please make your checks for \$8 per person payable to **SIR 146** and send your checks to: Jim Pope 385 Bryan Drive, Alamo, CA 94507. Please put your name and name of your guest with your check.



AREA 16 Fishing Report Paul DuBow

The primary area for our fishing activities in April was the Delta and San Francisco Bay where we were able to find both halibut and stripers with some very good results. Although the salmon and rockfish seasons opened at the

beginning of April, we did not try our luck in that area because of a generally rough ocean. We hope to have reports of salmon and rockfish trips in the next issue. However, the salmon season is split with a closure during most of June. Here are some of the results of our endeavors:

Ron Lew of Branch 146 fished with a friend in the Delta and caught several stripers.

Lee Clark of Branch 146, along with **Carl Moyer** and **Gordon Linebaugh**, caught halibut fishing from party boats in the Bay.

Mike Corker fished in Honkers Bay, an arm of the Delta near Suisun City, and caught several stripers but just one was a keeper (over 18 inches). However, a large number of catfish hookups made his day.

Rich Fiscina of Branch 146 fished with **Pedro Contreras** and **Ken Bellindir** on Pedro's boat in the Bay and caught three halibut, one of which was a keeper (over 22 inches) and lots of stripers, none of which was a keeper. Unfortunately, a halibut in the vicinity of 10 lbs. that was hooked by Rich was lost in the attempt to net it.

Tom Kostik made four trips to the Delta and landed 25 stripers and 17 catfish, all of which he released. He also fished in Spoonbill Creek, an arm of the Delta, where he caught six stripers, four of which were keepers.

Mike Browne of Branch 146 and **Phil Scimonelli** caught steeper shakers (fish below the minimum size) at Eckley Pier on San Pablo Bay. Phil also caught about 50 shakers on the Antioch-Oakley pier, his favorite shore fishing venue. One was a tantalizing 17 ½ inches. Bear in mind while these shakers are under the minimum and are required to be released, they are not small fish and fight very well.

Chuck Vanoncini journeyed several miles up the Sacramento River and caught seven stripers. Four were keepers, two of which were released.

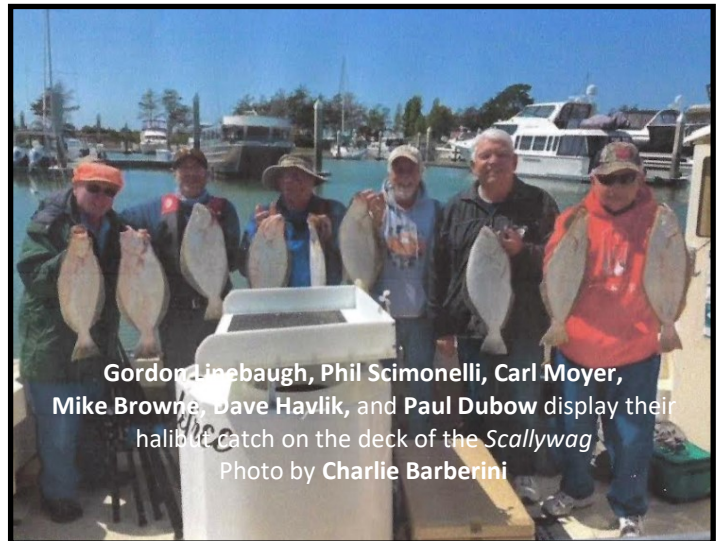
Paul Dubow and **Mike Browne** of Branch 146, along with

Dave Havlik, Phil Scimonelli, Carl Moyer, and Gordon Linebaugh fished on the *Scallywag*, a six pack, and caught 23 halibut, nine of which were keepers. On the following day, **Paul** and **Gordon** joined **Karl Droese, Ken Fischer, and Dick Thomson** on the Sacramento River near Rio Vista, where they caught 19 stripers, of which ten were keepers. The largest was a 10 pounder that Paul caught on his first cast of the day.

Stan Wong caught a small halibut on the Eckley Pier and then picked up three keeper stripers fishing from the shore at Benicia.

We also had some action in the fresh water arena. **Carl Moyer, Gordon Linebaugh, and Phil Scimonelli** caught rainbow trout in San Pablo Reservoir. A group of eight that included **Mike Browne** of Branch 146 spent two days at **Tom Chapman's** vacation home in the Sierras and fished in New Melones Reservoir where they caught 11 kokanee and near limits of trout (including one brown trout) on the first day and 35 black bass on the second day.

All Branch 146 members are welcome to join our fishing outings and attend our monthly meeting. Our next meeting is on Thursday at the Legends Bar and Grill at the Diablo Creek golf course on Port Chicago Highway in Concord. The meeting begins at 8:30 am, but many of us gather at 7:30 am for breakfast and/or fishing stories at 7:30 and so please join us at that time.



Gordon Linebaugh, Phil Scimonelli, Carl Moyer, Mike Browne, Dave Havlik, and Paul Dubow display their halibut catch on the deck of the *Scallywag*
Photo by Charlie Barberini



Book Group

John Pearl, Interim Chair
mcpearl@astound.net

Six members of the Branch's Book Group met Monday, April 18th, at the Greenery. Our book for discussion was *The Night Watchman*, by Louise Erdich. The book earned

a Pulitzer Prize, but this award may have been for the author's whole body of work, and not just for this particular book. The author is the daughter of a Chippewa mother and a German-American father.

The main setting for this book is the Turtle Mountain Reservation in the north-east corner of North Dakota adjacent to the Canadian border in the early 1950's. While there are two main characters, Thomas and Patrice, there are many "side stories" that the reader may find distracting.

Thomas Wazhashk is the night watchman at a defense plant that employs many Native American women in what seems to be the manufacture of components for missile guidance systems. He is based on the author's grandfather. Thomas, like the author's grandfather, works at night so as to have time for his main interest as the leader of the Tribal Council. And, like the author's grandfather, he is concerned with putting together a way to block the passage of a bill in Congress, locally called the Termination Bill, that proposes to end the reservation system that provides much of the support for the tribe.

Patrice Paranteau, 19, is her high school class valedictorian. She is ambitious and independently minded and has many of the interests and cares of someone of that age. She provides much of the financial support for her family by working on the assembly line at the factory. She does have obligations at home and is much loved by her family. Her main concern is the fate of her sister Vera, her baby, and her husband, who seemingly disappeared into the big city of Minneapolis, the center for young people looking for jobs.

The book meanders with several side stories of boxing matches and boxers (one a champion, a friend and rescuer), Patrice's alcoholic and abusive father, who is in and out of her life, and the lives of her friends and their boyfriends. It also includes two young Mormon missionaries who come to the reservation to recruit new members and who come across as silly fools. There is no real reason for them to be in the book and one suspects that their inclusion is the result of the author's possible antipathy toward Mormons. It happens that the senator (a real person) who introduced the bill was a Mormon who displayed enmity

toward Native Americans during his entire career.

Patrice takes it upon herself to travel to Minneapolis to find her sister Vera and her baby, and rescue them if necessary. She uses her sick leave from work, along with days donated by her co-workers, gets her savings from under the floor boards, and armed with a couple of names and addresses, takes the train to Minneapolis. There she finds out what a tough life it is for Native American women, and she begins to see the lurid side of the sex-trafficking business, but persists in her quest. She is joined by her friend Everett "Wood Mountain" Blue, who is also a local champion boxer. He had been scheduled for a match that was on a train stop on the way to Minneapolis. When the match falls through, he becomes concerned about Patrice, and goes on to Minneapolis to track her down. He rescues her from a bad situation that could have put Patrice into a sex-trafficking situation, and together they continue their search. They find Vera's baby at the home of a relative of Wood Mountain. The relative, who probably was in the sex trafficking business, gives Vera's baby to Patrice and Wood Mountain, who take the baby home to live with Patrice and her family. Wood Mountain becomes a better friend and helps a lot with the baby.

In the meantime, Thomas sees an apparition of an old friend, Roderick, which encourages him to continue his efforts to thwart the legislation in Congress while doing it on a shoe string and working nights. He persists, and with the help of a young and well-educated tribal member, Millie, who is living in Minneapolis, puts together a small team that travels to Washington D.C. via the train and thwarts the bill by presenting a well thought out case why the legislation will cause significant harm to Native Americans who are barely surviving at the poverty line.

Later, Vera turns up at the family home, having escaped the life of a prostitute in Duluth after being left for dead along a country road in the area. Luckily she was found by a very nice older gentleman who gets her back together and sees that she makes it back home to the family and her baby.

The author strives to illustrate the plight of the Native Americans in that area, including the sex trafficking of the women and the poverty. It also illustrates how well the Native Americans are able to turn anything that grows into a decent meal and effectively displays their spiritual sides. There are about 100 chapters, most of which are short, but it does interrupt the story flow a bit. We recommend the book to those who have an interest in Native Ameri-

Continued on next page

cans in that period of time.

A summary comment by an on-line reviewer: "The Night Watchman is still a competently told story that is a worthwhile read, if you have the patience for it."

The Book Group meets again on Monday, May 16, at 9 am at the Greenery. Our next book is *Portrait of a Thief* by Grace Li.

John Pearl, Chair
Paul Dubow, Editor



Travel

Milt Smith

Time to see some more stuff..

Bob Wilkenfeld, Clint Collier, and their brides recently finished a cruise from Ft. Lauderdale thru the

canal to SF. Pictures to the right...

I am now looking at 2023 so if you'd like to go somewhere let me know...could be a cruise...could be by land. I am also looking for interest in local day trips.

I believe the trips listed below, from other Branches, still have room, if interested please contact them directly.

ALASKA LAND & SEA May 23 June 4th. 2022 SPACE AVAILABLE 8-DAY CRUISE Aboard the Majestic Princess " Anchorage/Whittier " Hubbard Glacier Scenic Cruising " Glacier Bay Cruising " Skagway " Juneau " Ketchikan " Vancouver Anchorage CONTACT Larry Yarberry (925) 890-9245 l.yarberry42@comcast.net Or Talbot Tours 800 662-9933 info@talbottours.com Land & Cruise including roundtrip Airfare \$2995. DBL. OCCUPANCY \$4250. SINGLE SIRMtDiablo8PrincessAlaskaLandandSea.05.23.2022.pdf

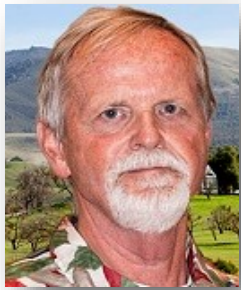
8 Night Columbia and Snake River Cruise May 12, 2022, via the American Harmony of the American Cruise Lines. Explore the Pacific Northwest with your fellow SIR members following the path of Lewis and Clark. Unpack once and enjoy the beauty of the lush forest of the River Gorge and the high desert bordering the Snake River and Hells Canyon. Prices range from \$5,600 pp. double occupancy. For more information contact Tan Matosian Branch 128. tgmatt54@gmail.com Or contact The Travel Center in Pleasant Hill directly at 925-937-2223 be sure to mention Branch 128.

Discover the Magical Rhine and Moselle Rivers Sept. 12-25, 2022 with Bill Britton from SIR 101. 14 Days 25

meals. Amsterdam, night River Cruise, Cologne, Moselle River, Cochem, Wine Tasting, Koblenz, Rudesheim, Siegfried's Music Museum, Mannheim, Speyer, Strasbourg, Lucerne, Zurich. Prices range from \$5,999 - \$9,199pp depending on cabin. Includes round trip air from San Francisco. Contact Bill Britton 925-443-9913 bill.britton@comcast.net

Milt Smith
miltsmith549@gmail.com 925-285-2897





Photography Group
John "Moose" Kelly & Henry Thatcher

SIR Branch 146 Photography Group met on Friday, April 15th for an in-person meeting at Rocco's Pizzeria in Walnut Creek. Nine members of the Photography Group attended; **Bill Holly, Ken Studer, Clint Collier, Peter Plante, Bobbie Schmidt, Rich Lyon, Bob Wilkenfeld, Rich Ahlf and Henry Thatcher.** The themes for this month's meeting were open photo sharing from members that



A walking path at Armstrong State Park
 Beseeching Woman at the Albany bulb
 ...Peter Plante

took the March "photo field trip" to the Presidio in San Francisco. Our host for the Presidio Field Trip was Sir Mike Rothman who took us to locations to see the Goldsworthy sculp-

tures, as well as a private tour of the Presidio Officers Club and Museum.

There was also sharing of photos by SIR member **Ken Studer** who just recently returned from a



Road Scholar photography trip to Costa Rica. **Ken** told stories from the trip and shared photos he took of birds, frogs, spiders, monkeys and a lot more. Other members also share photos they took while on vacation and/or day trips in the Bay Area or photographs showing Fall foliage and Scenes of the Holiday. Included with this issue of the SIR Call are some of the many photos that were shared by

the group and while there isn't enough room in the newsletter to show all, some examples are included with this addition of "Say Cheese".

Our next meeting of the SIR Branch 146 Photography Group will be on Friday, June 17th at Rocco's Pizza in Walnut Creek. We will gather at 8:30 AM with the meeting starting at 9 AM and concluding by 11 AM. **Our featured speaker will be SIR member John "Moose" Kelly who will be sharing photo's, videos and telling stores from his scuba diving vacation in Palau in April 2022.** Other agenda item will be announced in the June addition of SIR-Call.

If you are not on the Photography Group email list and would like to join us for future meetings, then please contact either of the activity leaders listed here:

Be safe, be well and be sure to "Say Cheese"!

John (Moose) Kelly

610.517.0152 rollingstone911@yahoo.com

or

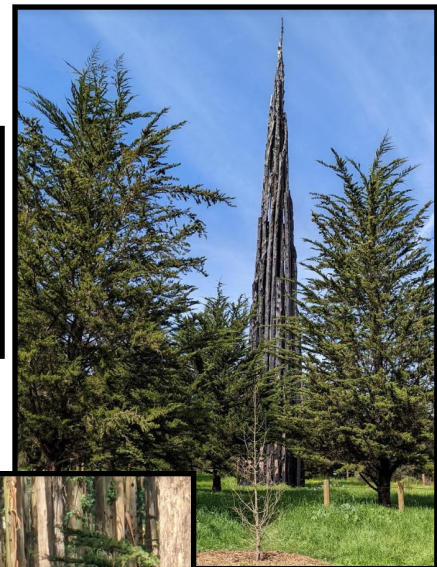
Henry Thatcher

925.997.5032 1henrythatcher@gmail.com

Goldworthy Spire

Log defined walking path

...Mike Rothman



More
 On next page



Golden Gate Bridge in fog
Presidio Officers Club Garden plant
Henry Thatcher



Goldsworthy
Sculpture
Presidio
Officers club
Bill Holly



Presidio
Home
Bill Holly



Images from Costa Rica
Ken Struder



Cooking II Steve Ybarra

The Cooking II group met at the home of **Richard Hockenbrock** on April 11, 2022. **Richard** provided the group with a nice spread of appetizers which included a Spanish meat selection of salami, ham and chorizo. This was **Richard's** first lunch to host and it was a huge success. The lunch began with a perfectly tossed Cæsar salad followed by a tasty serving of lasagna. **Richard** appreciated the assistance of **Sue Sheldon** with the shopping and preparation of the meal. **Bruce Borgman** also assisted with the cooking and plating. A welcome dessert of fresh strawberries and whipped cream completed the meal. As a bonus to the group, **Richard** treated us to an excellent bottle of Silver Oak Cabernet Sauvignon, vintage 2008. The Cooking II group will next meet at the home of **Corrie Oranje** for lunch on May 9, 2022. The Cooking group II also celebrated the Spring season with a BBQ tailgate and A's baseball game on April 30.

Steve Ybarra



Wine Tasting Brian McCarthy



Thanks to everyone who attended yesterday's wine tasting at **Brian and Mary McCarthy's** home.

We tasted ten red and four white wines. The winners voted for bringing the favorite Chenin Blanc wine were **Henry and Barbara Thatcher**. The winners voted for bringing the favorite Zinfandel wine were **Bruce Kimmis and Christina Stratton** (as an aside, Bruce says he is willing to provide a bottle of the Rombauer Vineyard's 2019 Zinfandel for those who want it for \$30 a bottle).

As usual we had an excellent assortment of appetizers. They are always a highlight of the wine tasting.

Larry Kaye emailed that he was "touched" by the outpouring of well wishes by the group for his speedy recovery from his recent heart surgery.

Please mark your calendars for the next wine tasting on Tuesday, July 26th at the home of **Bob and Wendy Lucido**.

Brian McCarthy

925-324-2463 Br146winetasting@gmail.com





寿司の友達

Sushi no tomodachi

We had a smaller than usual turnout for our April lunch. Only three of us, **Bill Holly**, **Brian McCarthy** and myself braved the stormy weather to visit Wasabi Bistro, a small restaurant in Livermore. The trip was worth it however... great sushi and a good selection, although no Aji which seems to be a pattern lately. Oh well, will find it eventually!



Maybe in June when, at **Brian's** suggestion, we will visit Tachi Sushi Bar at the corner of Ygnacio Valley Blvd. and Clayton Road. We will be going on June 16th. Save the date!

I would like to recommend an article on the future of Sushi that is in the current issue (May 2022) of Bon Appétit Magazine on page 65 entitled *Can Sushi Survive?* It discusses the ramifications of Sushi's phenomenal success in the restaurant world, especially in the United States; definitely worth a read!

Clint Collier

SirClint@the-colliers.org

Putin dies and goes to hell, but after a while, he is given a day off for good behavior.

So he goes up to Moscow, enters a bar, orders a drink, and asks the bartender:

"Is Crimea ours?"

"Yes, it is."

"...and the Donbas?"

"Also ours."

"...and Kyiv?"

"We got that too."

Satisfied, Putin drinks up, and says:

"Thanks, how much do I owe you?"

"That'll be 5 euros." the bartender replies.





Couples Dining Out Bruce Borgman

Hello Diners,

As we related in the last issue of the Sir Call, we arranged to “buy out” Montecatini Ristorante for our April 12 Couples Dining Out event since we would have had too many diners during one of their usual evenings. It turned out that we maxed out the capacity of the restaurant and wound up with 66 diners for the evening. By all accounts, it was a splendid evening. We were scheduled to start at our usual time of 5:30, but a few our group were waiting at the door even before 5:00pm. I think we overwhelmed the bar initially, but all were gracious and accommodating and everyone got their drinks and found their seats with old friends and new. The restaurant provided some complimentary appetizers as an antipasto tray and caprese salad. Then, we were served our minestrone soup or Caesar salad, followed by one of the several excellent entrees. Finally, dessert with coffee or tea. All agreed that the service was excellent the food was wonderful, and all had a good time. You will find some pictures of the event taken by **Henry Thatcher** to the right.

As we indicated in our last report, we planned to go back to a May Dining Out event even though we had a dinner in April to get back to our regular schedule. We decided to go back to one of the top Chinese restaurants in our area – Uncle Yu’s restaurant at 999 Oak Hill Road in Lafayette on Monday, May 16. Since this type of cuisine is served family style, the cost of the meal is a bit less (\$46 per person) but we are able to enjoy a variety of dishes of the excellent cuisine that Uncle Yu is known for.

Since their separate banquet area is limited, we had to limit participation to 50 diners. We tried one new approach by sending the initial announcement first to the SIR members who have joined in the last two years. Several took advantage of this, so we’ll have some new diners! Once the general notice went out, we quickly filled up and started a wait list. After we had over 20 on the wait list, we decided to add a second evening on Tuesday May 17. **Jim and Renie Pope** have agreed to serve as hosts for this evening. As of now, we still have plenty of space on the Tuesday, May 17 date so if you wish to join us, please send an email to **Bruce** at bgborgman@aol.com, and confirm with a check made out to Sir 146, sent to **Bruce**.

The menu, on the next page, for both evenings is the same. You may bring your own bottle for a \$20 corkage

fee, or buy a bottle and share the cost!

Parking is somewhat limited in their small parking lot, or park in the shopping area lot across the street.

We are looking forward to a wonderful **two** evenings with many of our members being able to enjoy this social event and culinary adventure.

Looking forward to another fun evening!

Bruce Borgman and Sue Sheldon

Dining Out hosts

bgborgman@aol.com



April Dine Out Scenes
Photos by **Henry Thatcher**

COUPLES DINING OUT

First evening: Monday May 16, 2022

Second evening added: Tuesday May 17, 2022

Social hour / nohost cocktails 5:30pm

Dinner: 6:15pm

Menu

Assorted Appetizers: Cheese puffs, Egg Rolls and Potstickers

Prawns with Honey Walnuts

Crispy prawns sauteed in a white cream sauce with honey glazed walnuts

Mongolian Beef

Slices of beef sauteed with onions in a spicy Mongolian sauce

Crispy Chicken

Fried chicken nuggets glazed with a spicy tangy sauce

Du Breton Peking Spare Ribs

Fried baby ribs and lean pork glazed with a sweet aromatic sauce

Buddha's Delight

Mixed vegetables and fried tofu in a light sauce

Vegetable Fried Rice



Uncle Yu's

Fine Chinese Cuisine

999 Oak Hill Road, Lafayette

Cost per person is \$46 (including tax & gratuity)

Email Bruce Borgman, confirm with check to SIR 146, mailed to Bruce

3611 Winchester Place, Walnut Creek, 94598 phone 932-3961

Questions? email Bruce at bgborgman@aol.com

MEXICAN TRAIN Dominoes

Group Uno 1



Mexican Train Dominoes "Uno" Corrie Oranje

A fun evening was had playing Mexican Train Uno at **Richard Hockenbrock's** home in Walnut Creek.

We started with our usual social gathering at 6:45pm on April 15th and play commenced at 7:00pm.

A smaller group than usual, so an intimate gathering of two tables of six each.

Alicia Baily, wife of **Jeff**, stunted everyone by winning six out of eight games played with at the lowest game average of 8.1 points.

Second place was awarded to **Sue Sheldon**, wife of **Bruce Borgman** (average hand of 21.7) and coming in third was our gracious host, **Richard Hockenbrock** with an 23.2 average hand.

Highest scores of the night, and recipients of the constellation prize of Lotto scratchers were **Corrie Oranje** and **Peter Plante**.

Our May game will be hosted by **Jim Stedman** on "Friday the 13th"



Richard Hockenbrock, Alicia Baily and Sue Sheldon; Peter Plante



Mexican Train Uno, April 15, 2022 (Bottom L to R) :

Jim Stedman, Jeff Baily, Virginia Tygart, Bruce Borgman, Sue Oranje, Sig Kalteis, Alicia Baily, Corrie Oranje, Martha Plante, Sue Sheldon, Richard Hockenbrock, Peter Plante

Group Dos 2



Mexican Train Dominoes "Dos" Ron Plachy

We played our April 2022 game on Friday, April 22nd. We met at the home of **Chuck and Mary Denney**. The **Denney's** had a bevy of snacks and beverages

made your mouth water.

We had a repeat of our March winners with **Rich Ahlf** coming in 1st this time with an 11.7 average. **Ismini MacLean** took 2nd with a 15.1 average, closely followed for 3rd by **Dan Holland** with a 15.3 average. We had an almost full compliment of players with only **Etta Dotson** traveling and unable to join us.

Ron Plachy
rplachy@icloud.com





Mexican Train Dominoes "Tres" Walt Busenius

We held our second gathering of MTD#3 (Tres) since the pandemic shutdown on Friday afternoon, April 22nd at the home of **Linda and Larry**

Brown. **Linda** and **Larry** are excellent hosts and gave us first class Pullman Service as everyone had a wonderful time sitting in the beautiful hills of Clayton. In attendance were the **Brown's, Baily's, Richmond's, Baldrige's** and **Jim Barry.**

This afternoon the dominoes favored **Linda Brown** (1st place) with 171 points and going out 3 times; **Alicia Baily** (2nd place) with 194 points and going out 3 times; and **Jeff Baily** (3rd place) with 195 points but going out 4 times. Note that **Alicia** beat out hubby **Jeff** by one single point. That's almost too close to call.

We meet in May at the home of **Alicia** and **Jeff Baily** where the choo choo train leaves the barn for another excursion.

Walt Busenius

925.457.7428 walterbusenius@gmail.com



MTD 3 winners: **Alicia Baily** 2nd, **Jeff Baily** 3rd and **Linda Brown** 1st.

I'm a multitasker. I can listen, ignore, and forget all at the same time!



Mexican Train Dominoes "Quattro" Jim Pope

The El Quattro Mexican Train Dominos group attempted to meet on April 22nd. But we had a low turnout so we had to cancel the April meeting, but we are rescheduling for Friday, May 13th at **Renie** and **Jim Pope.**

Jim Pope



Mexican Train Dominoes "Cinco" Dave Pierce

On April 21 st after some spring rain, we were warmly hosted by **Dennis** and **Ann Hallett**, even though Ann was still hobbled a bit following some foot surgery. Kudos to the hosts. **Dennis** was rewarded with first place, averaging 14.1, and he went out four times in eight games. A dominant performance. **Judy Baldrige** held up the women's honor with second, 16.0. That said, the women overall outperformed the men, 20.1 to 22.1. In May we will welcome back **Jim** and **Anne Burk**, who will host us at Sequoia Via Monte.

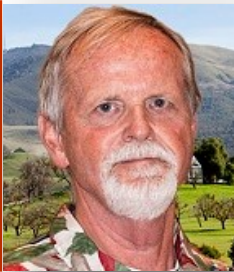
Dave Pierce

925.932.3877 dwp@astound.net

IN ORDER TO MAKE AN APPOINTMENT, HE FIRST HAD TO UPDATE HIS OPERATING SYSTEM, DOWNLOAD AN APP, GET A USERNAME, CHOOSE A PASSWORD, LOG IN TO A HEALTH PORTAL, NAVIGATE TO MESSAGES AND WRITE HIS DOCTOR...BY THEN IT WAS TOO LATE.



Group Seis 6



Mexican Train Dominoes "Seis"

Mexican Train Dominoes Group 6 will be convening for our Mexican Train Duel on Wednesday, April 27th at 7 PM at the home of **Richard Hockenbrock**. I will be reporting the results of this meeting in the following month's SIR-Call. Happy Cinco De Mayo!!!!

Moose Kelly

610.517.0152 Rollingstone91@yahoo.com

Group Ocho 8



Mexican Train Dominoes Group "Ocho"

Richard Hockenbrock

Mexican Train Dominoes OCHO met on Wednesday, April 6th with 15 members

and guests in attendance.



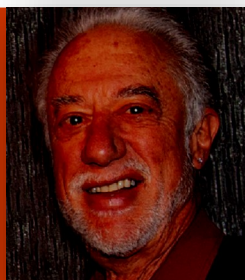
Top L to R:
Richard Hockenbrock, Pam McAllister, Steve Loftin, Bill Holly, Sue Loftin, Jan Ondeck, Virginia Tygart, Victoria Polivka, Jim Barry, Joyce Wells, Larry McAllister, Steve Ondeck, Steve & Dana Ybarra

Picture by Ron Polivka

Winners for the evening were 1st place **Richard Hockenbrock**, 3rd place **Victoria Polivka**, and 2nd place **Steve Loftin**

Our next outing will be played on Wednesday, May 4th

Group Siete 7



Mexican Train Dominoes "Siete"

Bob Lucido

Many thanks to **Bob & Judy Wilkenfeld** for hosting this month's MTD 7.

Congrats to **Mary Ellen Dalgaard** for winning the MTD tournament and **Bob Wilkenfeld** for taking the consolation prize for highest score!!

Bob Lucido

bobwendy3@comcast.net



Mary Ellen Dalgaard and Bob Wilkenfeld



Richard Hockenbrock, Victoria Polivka, Steve Loftin

starting at 6:30 pm. All games are played at the home of **Richard Hockenbrock**, 3616 Winchester Pl, Walnut Creek. If you would like to play, send **Richard** an email to get on the list.

Richard Hockenbrock

RLHOCK@OUTLOOK.COM

Cell / Text: (925) 324-1713



CARD GAMES

...we play



MEN'S Hearts Bob West

Since the last SIR-Call reporting, we have had in person matches on March 25th and April 8th at Rocco's. Our April 22nd meeting will be reported next month.

The big winners were **Bill Vizza** who won 3 games, and **Brian McCarthy** with two wins. **Frank Lucas** and **Bob West** each had two seconds. **Bill Vizza** also leads with the highest winning percent of 50% this year, followed by **Bob Finlayson** at 46%.

The only persons to "Shoot the Moon" were **Frank Lucas**, **Bill Vizza** and **Bob Finlayson**. **Frank** shot his in hold hand.

Bill Vizza had the lowest average score of 59, followed by **Brian McCarthy** with 71.

YTD: **Bill Vizza** is the new leader with 7.5 games followed by **Bob Finlayson** with 6 and **Brian McCarthy** and **Ron Polivka** with 4. **Ron Polivka** leads YTD seconds with 5 followed by **Frank Lucas** with 4.5. **Brian McCarthy** is the most improved over 2021 with a winning percent of 36% which is 257% higher than his 2021 performance. **Bill Vizza** is 2nd with his 50% win rate which is 170% over 2021.

Future Meetings: We are playing at Rocco's on the 2nd and 4th Friday of each month Our May games, will be Friday, May 13th and 27th at 12:45 pm., with an optional lunch at noon.

Please call me at 925-518-8472 or email robtawest@aol.com if you have any questions or are interested in playing.

CAMPING

Where you spend a small fortune to live like a homeless person



Men's Duplicate Bridge 2 Dick DeVoe

It was April Fools Day indeed. Crazy things happened, some of which had never occurred before- and they didn't even involve Farley-dog, affectionately titled the

White Tornado!

- We found after the 1st hand that all our travelers were mis-numbered from our last event; that shut us down for awhile as the travelers were renumbered and placed in the proper boards.
- A couple of cards disappeared after being played in a hand. They turned up inside a bidding box between bidding cards.
- One board had to be voided due to a mix-up in play.
- Our coordinator couldn't get the scoresheet off the laptop in order to distribute it by email.

No one seemed to care; it was good to be back again socially and to be playing one of our favorite games!

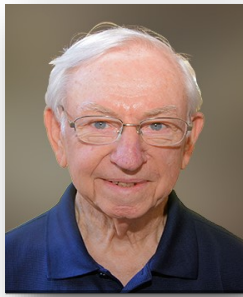
1st Place- **Dave Steinberg**, 29.5 points.

2nd Place- **John Boyan**, 27.5 pts.

3rd Place- **Joe Fuchs** with 27 pts.

4th Place- **John Kluesener**- 26.5 pts.





Couples Duplicate Bridge 2 Dave Pierce

Tony and Cindy Greco hosted us on April 13, as we experimented with a new starting time of 4:00 p.m. **Cindy's** bountiful snack table kept anyone from worrying about getting hungry as the

dinner hour approached. It is well known that subs do well in our game. Super-subs **Rich Ahlf** and **Marko Curtis** had a terrific game (67.5% and seven tops) and copped first place; **Brad** and **Lynne Hatcher** were second (56.3%, and seven tops); **Joan** and **Dave Pierce** were third (53.8%).

Consensus seemed to be that starting at 4:00 was best for most people, so that is when we will start in the future, on the second Tuesday of the month.

Dave Pierce

925.932.3877 dwpi@astound.net

Party Bridge

Jim Pope & Jim Stedman

The SIR Party Bridge group met for the first time in about 2 years at Jim Stedman's abode on April 4th. We had 16 players in attendance; **Rich Ahlf**, **Dick DeVoe**, **Steve Dinning**, **Doug Eisner**, **Joe Fuchs**, **Brad Hatcher**, **John Kluesener**, **Ed Marlovits**, **Bud Pearse**, **Jim Pope**, **Bill Schaaf**, **Bill Synder**, **Ray Spears**, **Jim Stedman**, **Dave Steinberg** & **Bob Yolland**.

The Winners were 1st-**Joe Fuchs**, 2nd **Doug Eisner** and 3rd **Jim Stedman**. Photo shown at left.

The SIR Party Bridge group will meet next on May 2nd at **Jim Pope's** home. If you are interested in Party Bridge, please contact **Jim Stedman** or **Jim Pope**.

Co-Directors

[Jim Stedman](#) or [Jim Pope](#).

Couples Duplicate Bridge 1

John Kluesener



Our group met on Wednesday, April 20 at Margot Somerville's home where we enjoyed her fine wine and excellent tastings. The

cards were pretty good as well and we certainly enjoyed the pitter-patter of the raindrops on the roof, something that has been absent for far too long! First place honors went to Janet and Bob Yolland whose score for the evening was closely followed by that of Rich and Ismini. Margot and her partner, Daphne Merritt took the third place honors. Gloria Pearce was disappointed that she didn't win for the evening but she did manage to sneak into the left side of my picture! Our next event will be on the 18th of May at the Yolland residence.

John Kluesener

john@klueseners.com

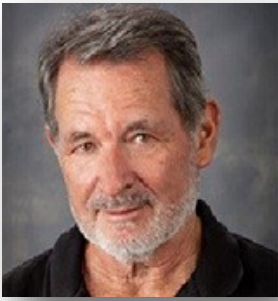
ADVANCED MATH



If Joe is 64 years old and his girlfriend is 23, How much money does Joe have?



I made a huge to do list for today.
I just can't figure out who's going to do it!



**Men's Duplicate
Bridge 1
Max Hinkle**

Our group is seeking to add new members. If you are an experience bridge player (any level above a novice) interested in joining us for a congenial game please message me at hinklemax3@gmail.com or (925) 408-6004. We meet at a member's house on the third Monday of each month for a 10:00 am start. Players pay a one dollar fee which is paid out in prize money at the end of the game. Our games usually end around 3:00. We take turns hosting, either a three or four table game, depending upon the host's accommodations. The host usually provides beverages, snacks and a dessert though this is not obligatory. The coordinator takes care of all of the other game preparations. Our next game is scheduled for May 16. I hope to see you there around 9:30 for a little pregame conviviality.

Max Hinkle
hinklemax3@gmail.com



**Cribbage
Ron Afdal**

Cribbage players met at Rocco's Pizzeria on Wednesday, 4/27, 12:30 to 3:30, where the matches were hard fought and winners had to be determined not by the games they won but by the points they won in excess of those earned by their opponents. First timer Steve Dinning, welcome Steve, took 1st place with a 2 point win over 2nd place Jim Nelson. 3rd place was also decided with John Pearl's winning by several points over Jim Pope. A good time and fun play was expressed by all!

Ron Afdal
ronafdal@comcast.net

I never thought I'd be the kind of person
who'd wake up early in the morning
to exercise...

..and I was right!



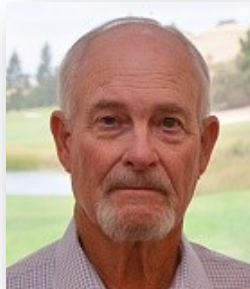
**Old Money Poker
Group 6
Brad Hatcher**

April 7th saw Poker Group 6 convene at **Brad Hatcher's** home for our afternoon game. Six players enjoyed the sunlight, wine and snacks. Two players (**Brad**

Hatcher and Rich Ahlf are happy about "sweet sixteen" as each profited at that same amount thanks to the assistance from the other four players.

We look forward to playing on the first Thursday in May hosted by recently returned from Hawaii **Paul Dubow**.

Brad Hatcher
bhatcher1942@gmail.com



**Pinochle
Pete McNeill &
Stan Johnson**



We play on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month at Rocco's Pizzeria, 2909 Ygnacio Valley Road in Walnut Creek (in the Encino Grande shopping center near Whole Foods). Optional lunch is from Noon to 1:00 and card playing from 1:00 – 3:00 PM.

This is a multi-branch activity open to women. Beginners are welcome as are partners of members. We provide instruction as requested, and most beginners learn a great deal within the first session. Before the pandemic we were getting 10 to 16 participants, and we have plenty of room for more players.

If you're interested in joining our group, or if you'd like to just attend a session to observe, either call or email either of us (contact information below) and we'll get back to you.

Please note that anyone attending must be fully vaccinated and have signed the SIR waiver form.

Pete McNeill
925-858-9666
petemcgolf@gmail.com

Stan Johnson
925-938-7016
stanjohnson88@gmail.com

Area 16 Activities



MUG Mac User Group

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.

Please note that **Max** and **Verner** are here to help Mac users with problems and solutions and there are not formal meetings. They will inform members of new items of interest.

If you are a Mac user and want to be included, please let **Verner** know.

Verner Laursen Vern.laursen@gmail.com

Max Burchett Meburchett@astound.net

Area 16 \$UMS Investment Group

We will again join Branch 128's (San Ramon) Investment Group Zoom meeting on Wed May 25 at 1:30 PM.

This will be a presentation by a Citibank representative discussing the services they have to offer.

Email Dave Sutton to be included.

Chair - Tom Henry Branch 174 tomhenry925@gmail.com

Co-chair Dave Sutton - Branch 8 - davesutn@comcast.net

SIR Branch 8 Car Enthusiasts Group

Last month **John Pearl** and I [**Jim Nelson**] attended a Cars and Coffee get together in Danville. This was a low key event where local car enthusiasts brought their classic or specialty cars to Danville to share with others. **John** and I joined a group of 14 from the Branch 8 Car Enthusiast Group. The CE Group typically has one automobile related activity each month in addition to their regular meeting on the first Tuesday of each month. Members from other SIR Branches are welcome. You don't need to own any particular car, just have an interest in automobiles. If you are interested in finding out more about the Branch 8 CE Group you can contact Chick Lowry at (925) 708-8730 or clowry2845@gmail.com.



Jim Nelson, John Pearl and Tom Mohman (Branch 8).

SIR State Information

<https://sirinc.org/>



This is the state SIR web page. is a wealth of information about SIR, SIR training, and SIR merchandise you can purchase. [The current state newsletter can be found by clicking here.](#)

There are also copies of the many forms SIR uses; in short everything SIR can be found here!

Parting Shot

*TODAY IS THE OLDEST YOU'VE EVER BEEN,
YET THE YOUNGEST YOU'LL EVER BE,
SO ENJOY THIS DAY WHILE IT LASTS.*

