



Big Sir's Notes

Bill Holly

As we approach the 26th anniversary of our charter, Branch 146 continues to gain membership. Three new members joined in September: **Malcolm Harrison** sponsored by **Charlie Abrams**, **Steve**

Ondeck sponsored by **Jim Kohl**, and **Roger Peters** sponsored by **Glen Renk**. In addition, I'm happy to report that both **Kap Kaprielian** and **Baha Zarah** returned to active status.

Phases two and three of renovations to the Clubhouse at the Boundary Oak will be happening early next year. These renovations will affect the kitchen and golf cart storage area, which will necessitate another temporary change in the location of our monthly luncheons. The luncheon negotiating committee consisting of Little Sir **Walt Busenius**, Luncheon Chairman **Max Hinkle** and me, will be meeting with the Concord Hilton in early October to negotiate a contract for the months of January through April of 2016. In anticipation of the impending move, we'll reprise the Concord Hilton slideshow from earlier this year during the October luncheon for the benefit of some of the newer members. In the words of the late Yogi Berra "It's déjà vu all over again."

In October you will be receiving a letter in the mail concerning our 2016 dues. As in the past, you will have the option to either pay the annual dues or take advantage of a discount for making a single payment covering both the annual dues and 10 regular luncheons.

The annual member survey will be done electronically this year. Our Member Relations chairman **Brad Hatcher** along with our Sir Call editor and director **Richard Hockenbrock** designed the survey to make it easier for you to fill out. The annual survey is sent to one third of our members each year. If you receive an email with the survey, please take the opportunity to give us your feedback on how we are meeting your expectations. We appreciate your participation. Your input will help us formulate future plans for the branch.

Luncheon – Oct 8th
At the Boundary Oak Clubhouse

Guest Speaker:
Marty Brounstein
"Two Among the Righteous Few: A
Story of Courage in the Holocaust"

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, Oct 2nd



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

Our ever present greeter, **Jonathan Korfhage**, always has us guessing what he will wear next. This one related to politics

Finally, if you know someone who might be interested in joining our branch, bring your guest to our next regular luncheon on Thursday, October 8th. If you do, please be sure to notify our luncheon chairman before noon Friday, October 2nd.



Little Sir's Corner

Walt Busenius

It is fall and hopefully the forecast El Niño rain is on its way. More importantly, it is time for you to mark our next meeting date, October 8th, on your calendar, when our speaker will be Marty Brounstein. Marty has a very special story to tell – one you want to hear. It is titled “Two Among the Righteous Few: A Story of Courage in the Holocaust”. The courage and compassion to do the right thing is the prevailing theme of his presentation.

Marty tells the true story of a Christian couple, Frans and Mien Wijnakker, who saved the lives of over two dozen Jews in The Netherlands during World War II and the Holocaust. In his book of the same title, this story has all the elements of intrigue, complete with hiding rooms and Nazi soldiers showing up on doorsteps only to retreat when they find nothing of interest. As it turns out, we will discover that this remarkable story has a very meaningful personal connection to Marty.

Since 1991, Marty Brounstein has served many clients in industry from his home in San Mateo on issues of leadership and organization effectiveness through seminars and 8 books. However, his latest book has been a labor of love, and the past 4 years Marty has revealed his true story to large audiences and at special events in 10 cities and over 400 speaking engagements. I am excited that Marty will be able to share this remarkable story with us.

We marked September with another fantastic luncheon turn out and welcomed 3 new members and 4 guests. Thank you fellow Sirs for your commitment to making 146 a growing and vibrant branch. And remember, there is never a better time to invite a guest than to the very next luncheon. Don't forget the Annual Dinner/Dance on Wednesday, October 21st at Zio Fraedo's Restaurant in Pleasant Hill starting at 6 pm. Not much time left to contact **Dick Kincaide**, 925-479-9935. It is always a un event and we hope to see you there.



Photo by Bill Schultz

Two guys, **Al Elnick** and **Jim Barry** ready to break some new course records



Membership

Ben Gleason

We continued to increase our membership in September. At our BEC meeting on September 10th, we approved three new members and welcomed back two members to Active status. Sadly, one of our long-time members passed away and one has moved out of the area. The net increase of three members increases our total active roster to 289 members (including our seven Honorary Life Members).

New Member Additions in September 2015



Malcolm Harrison



Stephen Ondeck



Roger Peters

Status Changes

- Moved from Inactive to Active: **Baha Zarah Kap Kaprielian**
- Active Member Deceased: **Bill Baltezare**
- Active Member Moved: **Jim Adams**



Photo by Jerry Kaplan

From far left: **Lucy Danzig**, (with caregiver Nuka), **Ron Louis**, **Sue Sheldon**, and **Don Seaton**

SIR Call Newsletter Group

- | | |
|--------------------|---|
| Editor | Richard Hockenbrock |
| Assistant Editor | Jeff Baily |
| Proofreaders | Jeff Baily, Cal Tucker |
| | Jonathan Korfhage, & Pat Lucia |
| Labeling & Mailing | Bill Cammerer |
| Internet Posting | Ron Plachy |



Couples Dining Out

Bruce Borgman

We had yet another very enjoyable evening on September 21 when, for the first time in several years, we returned to a restaurant we had been to before. The restaurant – La Veranda Café in

Clayton - see picture below - did not disappoint our selection. We had 36 diners this time – somewhat fewer than our usual crowd because a number of our regulars were out of town. But, it worked out fine – we had a bit more elbow room during our cocktail hour and were particularly pleased to welcome a number of Sirs and spouses who had not attended before.

This restaurant started us with three appetizers, then a choice of salads and for the entrée we could select either a NY steak, a chicken dish, filet of sole, or prawns scampi. All were wonderful dishes. We ended with a cheesecake for dessert and all agreed that the restaurant was an excellent choice, which we will probably visit again at some time in the future. We all lingered a bit longer in this very comfortable dining spot.

Our next Dining Out experience will be in November – and to avoid the rush during the Thanksgiving week, will likely have our event on Monday, November 16. The restaurant has not been selected and you are encouraged to send me your favorite place for consideration. Mark your calendar now as a way to kick off the holiday season with your fellow Sirs.



Photo by Bruce Borgman

Part of a light but lively group enjoying the popular Couples Dining Out group at the La Veranda Café.

A senior citizen drove his brand new Corvette convertible out of the dealership. Taking off down the road, he pushed it to 80 mph, enjoying the wind blowing through



THE CLUBHOUSE

AT BOUNDARY OAK

SIR 146 Luncheon

October 2015

Salad

Gorgonzola Salad

Baby Field Greens, Julienne Pears,
Crumbled Blue Cheese,
Candied Pecans Champagne Vinaigrette

Entrees

Pork Milanese

Panko Breaded Pork Tenderloin,
Whipped Potatoes, Seasonal Vegetables,
Parsley Lemon Butter Sauce

Or

Alaskan Sole

Flour Dusted Sole,
Rice Pilaf, Seasonal Vegetables
Roasted Tomato Butter Sauce

Dessert

Black Forest Cake
Raspberry Sauce
Chantilly Cream

what little hair he had left. "Amazing," he thought as he flew down I-95, pushing the pedal even more. Looking in his rear view mirror, he saw a State Trooper, blue lights flashing and siren blaring. He floored it to 100 mph, then 110, then 120. Suddenly he thought, "What am I doing? I'm too old for this!" and pulled over to await the trooper's arrival.

Pulling in behind him, the trooper got out of his vehicle and walked up to the Corvette. He looked at his watch, then said, "Sir, my shift ends in 30 minutes. Today is Friday. If you can give me a new reason for speeding – a reason I've never before heard – I'll let you go."

The old gentleman paused then said, "Three years ago, my wife ran off with a State Trooper. I thought you were bringing her back."
"Have a good day, Sir," replied the trooper.

SIR 146 & Friends Dinner/ Dance

OCTOBER 21st, 2015 (corrected)

SAVE THIS DATE!

BE THERE OR BE SQUARE

Wednesday, October 21st, 2015

6 pm to 10 pm at Zio Fraedo's Restaurant

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

Live music for listening and dancing

Your choice of: Beef – Fish - Chicken

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

Richard Kincaide

10750 Inspiration Cr.

Dublin, CA 94568

Phone: 925-479-9935

Tables of eight are encouraged

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

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

Total Number of Tickets _____ at _____ each
Amount Enclosed _____

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



Photo by Carl Tilchen

Acoustic Musicians

Carl Tilchen

The next meeting of the Acoustic Music Group is scheduled for Thursday, October 15th at 2 pm.

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

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

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



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

New member **Jim Edmunds** talking with **Harvey Oxman**



Luncheon Attendance

Max Hinkle

Please remember that your deadline to opt out of the October luncheon is **NOON ON FRIDAY OCTOBER SECOND**. If you are unable to attend, please send an email message to nolunchbranch146@gmail.com before that deadline (“no show deadline”). Please provide your badge number in that message. If you do not have convenient access to a computer please call **(925) 979-5146** before the no show deadline and follow the prompts given there. A non attending member who without good cause fails to meet this deadline is required by our rules to reimburse the Branch \$25 for the liability we will incur for his meal. Here’s a good place to extend our compliments to the “Advance Payers” who timely notify us that they cannot attend a luncheon. We appreciate this courtesy that results in an economic benefit to our Branch.

Confirmation of No Show Notices: My practice is to confirm via reply e-mail or phone call to each “no show” notifier the receipt of his notice. **If you have not received such confirmation within a day or two after communicating your notice please call me at 925.408.6004.** This is important because there have been times when emails, for a variety of reasons, were not displayed in the “no lunch” mailbox.

October Luncheon: The October luncheon will be held on Thursday, the 8th, at the Boundary Oak Golf Course in Walnut Creek. There will be the usual no-host bar. As usual the luncheon will be called to order at 11:45 a.m. Please allow enough time to check in and make payment. The price of the luncheon is \$25.

The preferred form of payment is a check for \$25 made payable to “SIR 146” delivered when you check in on luncheon day. **Remember, we assume you are coming unless you timely notify us that you are not.**

Last Month’s Attendance: There were 214 meals served at our September luncheon. 72% of our membership was in attendance. We had 17 unexcused absentees (“no shows”), representing 6.6% of our membership. Not as good as at the September luncheon, but still considerably better than the 10% figure used in calculating our meal guarantee. The 214 meals served were 6 more than our guarantee but 4 less than the kitchen’s commitment.

Bringing a Guest or a Visitor: If you intend to bring a guest or a visitor please so advise via an e-mail to nolunchbranch146@gmail.com by noon on the Friday prior to the luncheon (the ‘no show deadline’). If you do not have convenient access to a computer please call the phone number stated above and follow the prompts given there. **PLEASE REMEMBER TO SPELL THE FULL NAME OF YOUR GUEST OR VISITOR DURING THAT CALL.**

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

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

Max Hinkle, Luncheon Attendance Chairman

Sir: - “Knock knock”
Max: “Who’s there?”
Sir: “Justin”
Max “Justin who?”
Sir: “Justin time for the luncheon.”



Cooking II

Bob Yolland

Cooking II had its September Lunch at **Bruce Borgman’s** home. What a feast he put on. Two of our regulars, **Steve Dawkins** and **Bill Roberts** were unable to attend so we enjoyed having a guest, **Terry Marchione**. **Bruce** started us off with a variety of special appetizers. Deviled eggs topped with Norwegian caviar, smoked salmon spread with crackers, herring in wine sauce, hummus with pita chips and a variety of cheese.

For the main meal, which had a Greek flair, he served a wonderful Madras curried lamb over basmati rice with a home made mango chutney and pita bread plus a Greek salad. Dessert consisted of baklava rolls with vanilla ice cream. In our standard manner we enjoyed plenty of wine and conversation. Thanks **Bruce** for a super lunch.



SIR 146 Hiking

Rich Ahlf

San Francisco Coastal Trail

On the **third Friday** of October we will be walking from the Cliff House to Golden Gate Bridge We will see majestic views of Golden Gate straits, ship wrecks, battle scarred USS San Francisco and Robin Williams' Sea

Cliff home.

One way walk to Golden Gate Bridge; bus return one steep uphill, 5 miles. Easy hike. Bring a lunch Recommend taking Bart (I get on at Concord station just before 8:00am, no problem parking and plenty of seats available, by Lafayette usually standing room only and limited parking). 9:06 am Exit Montgomery station and walk 1 Block to Market & Montgomery, 9:15am take #38 Geary **Limited** bus to Pt Lobos & 48th Ave. 10:00 Meet @ Pt Lobos & El Camino del Mar above Cliff House.

Rain Cancels

Spouses Always Welcome

Hike starts at 10:00am

October 16, 2015 **Notice Date Change**

E-mail rahlf@sbcglobal.net

Cell: 925-550-4967

Photo by Richard Hockenbrock



Fred Kovar was the birthday boy drawing winner for September

SIR Happenings Newsletter

SIR Happenings is the statewide SIR newsletter. Click on the link in the SIR 146 webpage to read the current issue. You may enjoy reading about the activities of other branches.

Walking Schedule

John Lewis

*Every Friday at 9:30 am
at various locales.*

*Call **John** or just show up.*

Rain cancels any walk.



October walks planned by **Flo Lewis**

October Walks 2015

Oct. 2nd

Arbolado Park North

Meet: Arbolado Park parking lot

Walk: North to Ygnacio

Coffee: Deli Delight, Shadelands.

Oct 9th

Iron Horse Trail, Alamo

Meet: Alamo Plaza

Walk: South on Iron Horse Trail

Coffee: Panera Bakery, Alamo (NEW place)

Oct. 16th

Walnut Creek Civic Center

Meet: Civic Center Parking

Walk: North on Iron Horse Trail

Coffee: Panera, 1140 Locust, Walnut Creek

Oct 23rd

Osage Park Danville

Meet At Osage parking lot

I-680 South to Sycamore Valley Exit

East over freeway

Right on Camino Ramon,

Left on El Capitan, left Orange Blossom

Osage parking lot on right

Walk: So. on Orange Blossom Way

W. El Capitan Dr., So. Iron Horse Trail

Coffee: Pascal French Oven, Railroad Ave,

Oct. 30th

Lafayette Trail, St. Mary's Rd.

Meet: Lafayette Community Center

Walk: Trail following St. Mary's Road

Coffee: Terzetto's Cuisine, Moraga



Book Nook Hank James

The Book Nook won't be open until the November meeting. Donate and share with your fellow Sirs all those books you have read. While you are at it, donate those books you intended to read but haven't, that have been on your bookshelves for the past five years.

You may want to review your "To read" list—you might just find the book that is on the top of your list at the November Book Nook.

As I have mentioned before, I am happy that **Dick McElroy** has joined the Book Nook Project. You can meet **Dick** and talk with him as he arranges books at the November Book Nook. Contact **Hank James**: hankjames@hankjames.com or 925-351-7440 to volunteer.



Book Group Chuck Campbell

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



Sunshine Report John Pearl

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

Dave Obera, Joe Suta, Al Altman, Ken Richter, Steve Dawkins, Bob

Darius, Ray Garavaglia and Jim Hanck

I am sorry to report the death of Sir **Bill Baltezare** on September 4th. Please include his family in your thoughts and prayers.

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

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

John Pearl, Sunshine Chair mcpearl@astound.net
925-934-6920



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

Everyone was happy to see **Baha Zarah** (L) at the September luncheon after illness sidelined him from attending several previous luncheons; pictured here with **Baha** is **Pierre Mebane**



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

Bill Snyder, Tom Thomson, and Lo McCarley enjoying some wine and conversation before the luncheon



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

Lew Thompson and Fred Bolton awaiting lunch



Fishing Report

Paul Dubow

Catching fish is great but eating fish is even better. And thus members of the group enjoyed their annual invitation to the Sirs in the Kitchen fish fry hosted by **Ed Benson** of Branch 8. **Raleigh Davis, Carl Moyer, and Pedro Contreras**

were among those who contributed fish to the feast. It was a food orgy of epic proportions.

As for the catching, our efforts were spread across several venues. San Pablo Reservoir produced some good sized catfish for **Gene Schulting** of Branch 146 as well as for **Gordon Linebaugh, Carl Moyer, and Terry Miller**.

Rich **Fiscina** of Branch 146 landed a 20 lb. king salmon while fishing from his boat in the ocean. But an ocean trip for salmon proved to be fruitless for **Ben LaSala, Steve Paulick, Gordon Linebaugh, and Carl Moyer**. Nevertheless, a fifth member of the group, **Ron Maciak**, enjoyed himself. **Ron** had never caught a salmon before but, after a major effort, he landed an 18 lb. beauty. On another ocean trip, **Raleigh Davis** and **Carl Moyer** had a lot of fun catching rockfish. Out on the Delta, **Mike Corker** hosted **Pete Gates** of Branch 146 and **Harry Sherinian** and they caught and released quite a few black bass. In addition, **Sal Costanza** of Branch 146 caught a limit of striped bass in Montezuma Slough.

Our fall schedule includes an outing for cutthroat trout in Pyramid Lake, Nevada as well as the usual outings for salmon, striped bass, black bass, catfish, and trout. We welcome SIRs who have never fished or who haven't fished since they were kids. Please join us at our next meeting, which will be at 8:30 am on Thursday, October 22nd, at the Legends Sports Bar and Grill at the Diablo Creek Golf Course, 4050 Port Chicago Highway, in Concord. Breakfast begins at 7:30 am and so come early.



Rich Fiscina displays his 20 lb. king

Photo by Paul Dubow



Photography Group

Richard Hockenbrock

The Photography Group had its meeting at the Ygnacio Valley Library on August 28th. with six members in attendance. You'll recall that we planned to start the concept of having the membership show off their photos.

Roy Hodgkinson took this to heart as he presented recent photos of his vacation to Eastern Europe, and the Scandinavian countries. Very interesting photography indeed!

Harvey Oxman showed comparisons of photos he had recently taken of black and white vs color composition. It was interesting to learn how presenting a photo in black and white has the ability to shift the emphasis of the subject matter thereby highlight unexpected aspects to the picture.

Larry Fitzgerald used his botanical and gardening training and skills to highlight color close up pictures of flowers and there sultant intricacy of nature.

Richard Lyon, attending the branch 146 photography meeting for the first time, showed us a comparison of several water falls he had taken at very fast shutter speeds versus very long time exposures. Each looked vastly different depending on the exposure he had used.

Our next meeting will be held on the fifth Friday of October which is the 30th. This is a session you won't want to miss as **Terry Marchione** will be showing a DVD -a compilation of animals and locations he and his wife **Sharon** made of a photography trip to Africa several years ago.

Several new SIR members expressed interest in attending the next meeting and hopefully they will have some interesting pictures to show as well.

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

When: October 30th 9 am Fifth Friday of the Month. rlhock@yahoo.com

MAKING IT WORK:

Two times a week my wife and I go to a nice restaurant, have a little wine, good food and companionship. She goes Tuesdays, I go Fridays.

Henny Youngman



Mexican Train Dominoes

Group 1

Jerry Kaplan

Sig & Nancy Kalteis hosted the September 11th games of MTD Group 1 at their home in Martinez.

We are down to the last two months of play before the big prize money of about \$90 will be split among the top three players. You could feel the competition at each table as everyone was jockeying to improve their second half standings. Relatively high scores overall was also common for the night. Some players are now admitting to "practicing" on their computers to hone their skills. The group is always looking for a few more substitutes to play. Single Sirs are most welcome. Call **Jerry** at 930-7076 or send an email if you are interested to mtdana@aol.com.



Photo by Steve Siljestrom

At MTD#3, it looks like **Alicia Baily** left, with 3 tiles is about to walk away with a game, as host **Charlie Abrams**, **Judy Richmond** and evening winner **Walt Busenius** look on.



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

At MTD#1, **Barbara Stedman** scrambles for room to prevent her train from running off the table (a sign of good play) while sub, **Jeff Baily** looks on at the long meandering "Mexican Train" on his left that is free for everyone to play on.



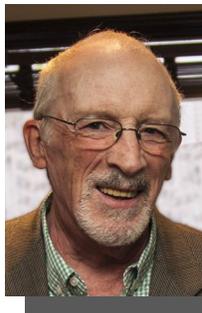
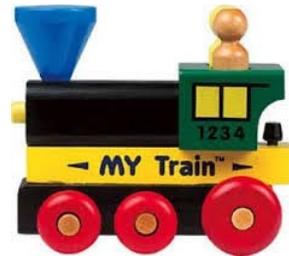
Mexican Train Dominoes

Group 4 (El Quattro)

Jim Pope

The El Quattro Mexican Train Domino group met September 18th at the home of **Renie** and **Jim Pope**. We had 6 couples made up of **Lo & Sue McCarley**, **Ron Lewis & Fran Matthews**, **Bill Weinberg** and

Yvonne, Dick & Christy DeVoe, **Henry** and **Barbara Thatcher**, and **Jim & Renie Pope**. (See attached pictures). The two table winners were **Sue McCarley** and **Christy DeVoe**. **Fran Matthews** organized the "Sweets and Savories" again; they were great! A fun evening was had by all. We will meet again on Friday, October 30th, due to several group members travel conflicts. The plan is to have all of us in costumes for the Halloween MTD night. There will be prizes.



Mexican Train Dominoes

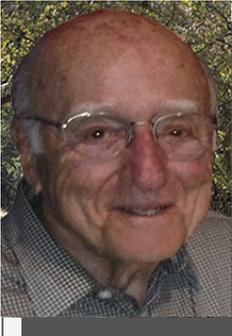
Group 3 (TRES)

Jeff Baily

The group met at the home of **Janet** and **Charlie Abrams** on Friday, September 25th. The game was one of opposites. **Walt Busenius** won four of seven games and finished with a

total of 51 points. WOW! **Marian Flosi** finish second with 92 points in five games and **Judy Richmond** sitting to the right of **Walt** tried to spoil his efforts finished third with 127 points. On the opposite end the scoring **Steve Siljestrom** was dealt the 50 point double blank tile and three other tiles each with more than 20 points three games in a row. Then **Alicia Baily** followed suit getting the 50 point double blank twice in a row. The craziest game was game two of the table of **Lynn Shafer**, **Linda Siljestrom**, **Sharon Varner** and **Tom Flosi** – Playing with the number eleven tiles, **Lynn Shafer** put down a double eleven tile. In the effort to satisfy the double eleven they exhausted the bone pile and the players ended the game with the tiles in their hand. Thank you to **Janet** and **Charlie Abrams** for the fabulous pastries and refreshments.

Written by Steve Siljestrom



Bocce Ball

Martin Lyle

October has arrived which means we have just two more regular dates to play this year for bocce ball. Normally, rain disrupts play after this date. We are enjoying good turnouts of a dozen or more, and new players are always welcome to learn this simple game. Call or write to Sir **Martin Lyle**, mvlyle@yahoo.com, for more information.

No experience necessary.

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



Photo by Jerry Kaplan

Sitting from L-R: Mexican Train Dominoes Quatro players are **Christy DeVoe, Bill Danzig, Bill Weinberg, Lo McCarley, and Renie Pope**

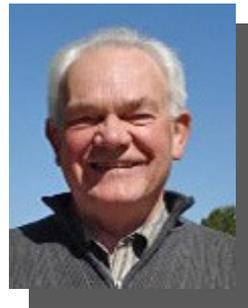


Men's Duplicate Bridge 3

Sid Landman

The Men's Duplicate Bridge group #3 was hosted by **Jim Brown** on Friday, September 18th. The host

Jim Brown won 1st place with 29.5 pts. Congratulations to **Jim**, though hosts are not supposed to win but we made an exception for **Jim**. **Dave Morris** came in second with 28 pts. and **Tony Greco** came in third at 27 pts. The above three players are on a streak having also placed in the top group last month. We are always looking for new members who would like to play bridge and will give preference to them so they can get into a game. The next game will be held in October at **Dave Pierce's** home.



Mexican Train Dominoes Group 2 (DOS)

Dick Woodman

This summer has been an interesting time for the MTD2 members. Illness in one family caused a change in the regular membership, a number of members have been traveling and, in August, the monthly game night was canceled due to an unexpected extension of a family commitment. We are all looking forward to our September gathering at **Chuck and Mary Denney's**. Since the game night occurs on the fourth Friday of the month the game results will be posted in the November Sir Call.

Photo by Richard Hockenbrock



Speaker **Kit Ohlman** from the Contra Costa Sanitary District at the September luncheon



Table Pool

Bill Weinberg



We meet every Monday at 11:30 am at Masse's, 2721 North Main in Walnut Creek. No advance notice is necessary. Just show up and play. Cost is \$5 for as long as you want to play. This is a special rate that Masses gives

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



Travel Opportunities

Ken Richter

Day Trips

October 23, 2015:

SIR Day at the Races. The horses are running again at Golden Gate Fields.

It is a popular day for all. Price includes admission, valet parking, daily racing program, buffet lunch, and taxes and tip. Cost is \$33. Contact **Ken Richter** (Br 146) 925-689-6217 or KERichter@astound.net.

December 7, 2015: The Holidays are Blooming in

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

February 3, 2016: Jersey Boys. This is the true

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

Longer Trips

March 25 – April 10, 2016: Big Band Voyage

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

March 13-17, 2016: Spring Training, Phoenix, Arizona. This 5 day/4 night trip has something for everyone. Included in the trip is all transportation starting after arriving at the Phoenix Airport. Your stay will be at the Embassy Suites and all meals will be hosted. There will be three Spring Training Games with the best seats available which should feature Giants and A's games. During your stay, morning activities will be planned and escorted by our guide. Cost is \$1,795 pp, double occupancy. Air transportation to and from Phoenix is not included. Contact **Ken Richter** (Br 146) 925-689-6217 or KERichter@astound.net.

May 3–5, 2016: Ronald Reagan Presidential

Library. A once in a lifetime opportunity to view the Vatican Splendors Exhibit and tour the Reagan Library with lunch under the wing of Air Force One. Also on this trip will be a guided tour of the Mission at Santa Barbara. Included in the trip is round-trip motor coach transportation, 2-night stay at the Pepper Tree (Santa Barbara), 6 hosted meals along the way and Driver Gratuity. Cost \$591 pp, double occupancy. 30 travelers are required for this trip. Contact **Ken Richter**, (Br. 146) 925-689-6217 or KERichter@astound.net.

September 13–27, 2016: Essence of the Elbe -

Prague to Berlin. This trip starts out with 2 nights in Prague , 7 nights aboard the M/S Allegro in an outside cabin and 3 nights in Berlin. Included are 29 meals with wine and beer served aboard the Allegro at lunch and dinner. There will be 10 exclusive tours with personal headsets and Discovery Series events. Cost starts at \$3,595, plus air. Contact **Ken Richter** (Br 146) 925-689-6217 or KERichter@astound.net.



Photo by Bill Schultz

New member **Jim Solomon** and **Roy Hodgkinson** at the Bluerock East tournament in September



Poker Group 1

Dan O'Sullivan

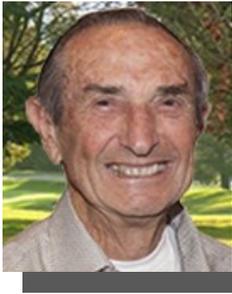
Poker group 1 met September 9th at the home of **Don Del Bene**. The big winner was **Frank McNamee**. As always, there were some small winners and losers. Our next outing will be at **John Lewis** home on October 7th.



Poker Group 5

Bill Roberts

*Poker Group 5 meets the Wednesday prior to the SIR luncheon. **Bill Roberts** is the permanent host for our event. The regular players going forward are **Bill Roberts, Bob Spellman, Charlie Koeber, Terry Marchione, Doug Eisner, Ken Richter and Frank Rockwell**. Subs are sometimes needed due to travel and the like. Play begins at 4:00 pm and ends around 8:00 pm with time out for dinner.*



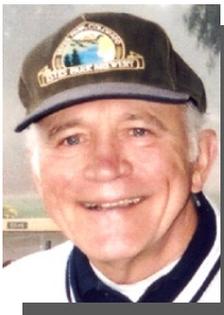
Poker Group 2

Al Zamolo

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

On August 31st, **Doug Cook** hosted the Poker 2 group. His wife had a wide selection of goodies which we all enjoyed as well as the pleasant outdoor setting.

Jim Stedman was our big winner and the rest of us had small winnings and losses. Our next session will be on Monday September 28 hosted by **Ken Kratz**.



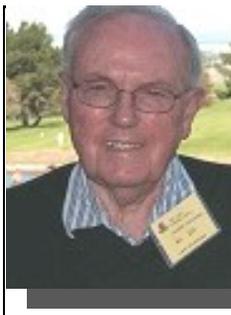
Poker Club 4

Chuck Bobinecz

Well, since we have all made our quarterly estimated federal and state tax payments, there might be a little amount left for our next poker session. Sir **Chuck Bobinecz** will be the host for our first fall session. He was a winner in the last session, but

as he said before, it is not how you start out the game but how you finish.

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



Old Money Poker Group 6

Al Twyford

Poker group 6 played on Wednesday September 9th at host **Sid Landman's** home in Clayton. Six players were in attendance: **Sid Landman, Al Twyford, Brad Hatcher, Frank Lucas, Rich Ahlf and Harvey Oxman**. It was another lively game with **Frank Lucas** earning our biggest winner share ever, \$14. More importantly, at least for **Al** was the it was made up of mostly **Al's** money, \$11. Other winners were **Sid** \$2, and **Rich** \$1. In addition to **Al's** loss, **Harvey** lost \$2 and **Brad** \$4. We drank **Sid's** good but unruly red wine and munched on snacks. It was a real hot day, but **Sid** provided a cool place to play. Our next game is scheduled at **Frank Lucas** house in Pleasant Hill on Wednesday October 14th. Hopefully **Norm Baietti** and **Bob Larson** will be back next game, and we can take their money for a change.



Couples Golf

Paul Masta

Special thanks to **Larry Gray** and **Sharon Nelson** for hosting the September Couples golf outing. Unfortunately they had to cancel Tilden event due to several late cancellations.

Thanks to **Terry** and **Sharon Marchione** for hosting the October 28 Couples golf outing at Boundary Oaks. They are also graciously hosting a dinner at their lovely Walnut Creek home nearby following the tournament. This is the last couples event for the year. We will begin again in April 2016.

Couples golf plays at local courses on the fourth Wednesday April thru October each year. We are planning for another fun series in 2016 and are anxious to add new couples to the group. Please contact **Paul Masta** for more information.



Men's Duplicate Bridge Group 1

Doug Eisner

Jim Todhunter hosted 4 tables of duplicate bridge on Sept 21. At the lunch break, **Jim Stedman** threatened to run away with the match with a fast start of 17.0 pt, well ahead of **Bill Schultz's** 15.0 pt and a tie at 14.5 pt between **Bill Snyder** and **Jim Todhunter**. However, the afternoon session resulted in an extremely unusual set of circumstances in which all 4 AM leaders fell out of the money and were replaced by 4 new leaders! Most unkind of the cards – or was it the partners they drew? **Fred Bolton** and **Jim Brown** came from deep in the pack in the PM to tie for first place with 35.5 pt. **Fred Kovar** was hot on their heels with 35.0 pt for third place, while **Tony Greco** took the fourth position with 34.5 pt. Our next game is scheduled for Oct 19 at **Bill Snyder's** house. This game will be a 3 table event. See group Pic on pg. 18



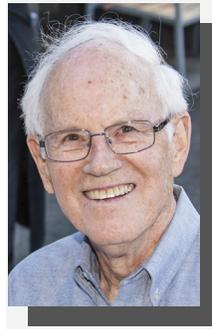
Some of the Duplicate Bridge Group 1 having fun during a break at the **Todhunters'** home on September 21. Left to right - **Bill Rees, Alison Todhunter, Dick DeVoe** and **Carl Johnson**.



Couples Party Bridge

Dave Pierce

It was so nice to have all our regular pairs when we gathered at **Terry and Sharon Marchione's** on September 1st. However, the cards were not nice to most pairs. **George and Pam Rammell** had enough for third place (2370 points). The cards were moderately kind to hosts **Terry and Sharon** (3110), but **Joan and Dave Pierce** enjoyed a bounty (5150) for first. Conversation flowed around the snacks bar, where crowds gathered frequently to enjoy the Marchiones' tasty hospitality and a summery ice cream sandwich dessert. Everyone was rewarded, cards or no cards.



Couples Duplicate Bridge 1

Lo McCarley

Eight couples had a great time playing duplicate bridge on September 16th at **Margot Somerville's** home. Everyone enjoyed **Margot's** snacks and wines. As for the bridge results, **Carl and Anne Johnson** came in first with 43 points. **Lo and Sue McCarley** for second with 41 points. In third place with 31 points were **Rich Ahlf** and **Ismeni Maclean**. In fourth place were **Bob** and **Janet Yolland** with 30 points. **Jim Brown** and **Adrienne Morrison** will host the next couples duplicate bridge on October 21st in **Jim's** home.



Party Bridge

Fred Bolton

We played two tables of bridge on September 7th at the home of **Jim Jackson**. First place went to **Jim Stedman** with 6020 points, second to **Jim Jackson** with 4220, and third to **Bill Snyder** with 3790. Our next game will be on Oct 5th at the home of **Fred Bolton**.

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



Couples Duplicate Bridge 2

Terry Marchione

Our September game was hosted by **Lynn** and **Dasha Freeman** on Tuesday the September 8th. Due to travel and other issues we played with three substitutes. **Terry and Sharon Marchione** managed to pull out a victory with 24 points. Second and third place were awarded to subs **Brad** and **Lynn Hatcher** (21.5 pts) and **Doug** and **Patty Eisner** (21pts). We also would like to welcome **Tony** and **Cindy Greco** to the group as they replace **Jim** and **Ruth Adams** who have relocated out of the area. Our next game will be on October 13th and will be hosted by **Dave** and **Joan Pierce**.



Men's Duplicate Bridge 2

Dick DeVoe

The Duplicate Bridge 2 September 4 event was hosted by **Sid Landman**. The name "**Bill Schultz**" was noted more times than his opponents would care to mention. It was indeed a fine day for **Bill!** 1st Place: **Bill**

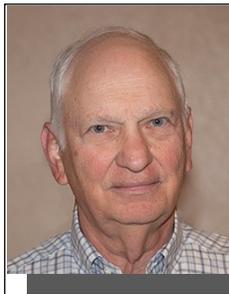
Schultz roared back from 7th place in the 1st half to blow everyone away in the 2nd half- ending up with 30 points total. That exceeds his 3rd place finish last month. 2nd: **Carl Johnson** with 29.0 pts., to go along with his 1st place wins the two months before. 3rd (tie): **Dave Pierce** and **John Boyan** with 27.5 pts. Most Twos: **Bill Schultz**, with 11, one higher than the 10-pointer last month, and two more than anyone else this month. Least Zeros: **Bill Schultz** with 4. Comeback Kid: **Bill Schultz**, with a 5 pt. difference, went from 12.5 pts. in the 1st half to 17.5 pts. in the 2nd half. That pales in comparison with his 8.5 pt. difference last month. We'll give him this- he's becoming more consistent. Can't wait for next month!

Photo by Bill Schultz



08.06.2015

Sirs **Bill Schultz, Gary Brown, Ron Binder** and **Pete McNeill** enjoy a day of "away golf" at Blue Rock East Golf Course



GOLF

Ed Marlovits

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

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



Nine Hole Golf Group

Verner Laursen

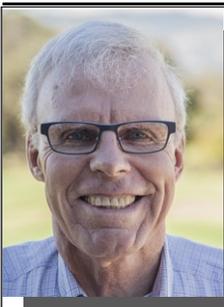
The SIR 146 golf group tees off at 9:30 am at the Diablo Hills Golf Course on most Thursdays. The exceptions are the 2nd Thursday when we normally go to the SIR luncheon.

If you are interested let me know and I will put you on my list. On Monday I will send out an email asking who is coming for golf, who is walking and who plans to stay for lunch? On Wednesday I will send out an email setting forth the pairings for Thursday morning. Thursday morning there may be adjustments based on who did or did not show up. The lunch, most of the time, is better than our golf game. vlaursen@astound.net

Photo by Richard Hockenbrock



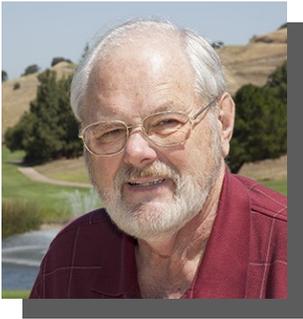
Bill Dastic and **Cliff Perkins** pose for a picture before the luncheon



Cribbage

In September we welcomed a new member to our Cribbage Group, **Roger Peters**, who is also a new member of our branch. When the dust had settled, our host **Barney Meade** was the winner, while our

chair, **John Pearl** was a very close second. We meet again on the fourth Wednesday of October, the 28th, from 12:30 PM to 3:30 PM, and always have a great time.



Theatre Gary Schaub



Daffy Comedy is SIR 146 Theatre Party for February 18th

Just in time for a hot election year, SIR Branch 146 gets ready for political tom foolery with a theatre party featuring one of America's classic comedies – *Born Yesterday*. Though it was first presented on Broadway almost seventy years ago, *Born Yesterday* proves that behind-the-scenes maneuverings of politicians and lobbyists hasn't changed all that much.

On Thursday, February 18th, 2016, Branch 146 members and guests can see this comedy classic at the Leshner Center for the Arts, presented by Center REP.

Born Yesterday shows what happens when a corrupt junk dealer brings his ex-chorus girl/mistress with him to Washington, D.C. To make sure that Billie's ignorance doesn't become a liability, the uncouth dealer hires a local journalist to educate the dippy girlfriend. Before long, sexy Billie puts a monkey-wrench in her boyfriend's plans to get special legislation passed that would allow his business to make more money.

Born Yesterday opened on Broadway in 1946 starring Judy Holiday and Paul Douglas, and went on to be a very popular movie starring Holiday and Broderick Crawford.

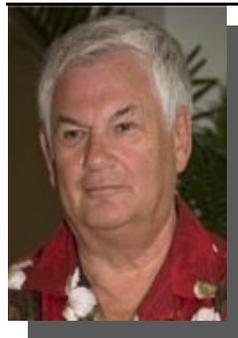
A limited number of discount tickets for this award-winning comedy will be available until January 14th at \$35.00 per person. Tickets may be ordered with a check payable to SIR 146, and sent to Sir **Gary Schaub**, 1400 Canyonwood Court, #8, Walnut Creek 94595. Questions? Call **Gary** at (925) 938-5454.

Tickets will be distributed in the Leshner Center lobby (1601 Civic Drive, Walnut Creek) at 7:30 p.m. on February 18th. Parking is available on the street or in the City's garage adjacent to the Leshner Center for the Arts.



Photo by Gary Schaub

May and Ray Kan, joined Bob and Althia Soldano before the show at SIR 146 Theatre Party of "A Streetcar Named Desire" in September at the Village Theatre in Danville



SongSirs

Bruce Borgman

The SongSirs are pleased to announce that one of our newest Sirs, **Steve Dinning**, has agreed to play for us as pianist for our rehearsals. **Steve** joined us for our practice in September, and added his wonderful lilting and rhythmic piano style to our current repertoire. We are very grateful to have **Steve!** We are busy practicing a series of popular and uplifting songs which include Heart, It Had to be You, Pretty Baby, Smiles, and others and are planning to sing this group of songs to the Assisted Living Facility "The Kensington" located on Geary Road on October 21.

Also, in November we will sing the Service Song medley during our regular SIR luncheon on November 12 – be there to cheer us on as we do our part to honor those who served in Armed Services! Then – the holiday season is not far behind when we will practice some well known Christmas carols! We are always looking for others who enjoy singing to join our group as we practice every first and third Wednesday at the Walnut Creek Presbyterian Church at 1:30pm. Come and see!



Photo by Gary Schaub

As part of the Eugene O'Neill Festival in Danville, **Jim and Lynne McManus** visited with **Ann and Pete Gates** at the opening of Tennessee Williams' "A Streetcar Named Desire"



Photo by Bill Schultz

Duplicate Bridge 1 pauses to pose.
 Left to Right Standing - **Bob Yolland, Jim Stedman, Tony Greco, Jim Brown, Max Hinkle, Bill Snyder, Jim Todhunter, Bill Reese, Lo McCarley, Terry Marchione and Dick DeVoe.** Seated are **Carl Johnson, Fred Bolton, Fred Kovar and Doug Eisner.**
 Missing is **Bill Shultz** who snapped the picture



Photo by Bruce Borgman

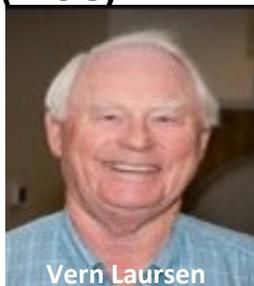
Branch 146 SongSirs in action... L to R **Bill Rees, Peter Plante, Lo McCarley, Russ Bliese, Mike Varner, Ken Kratz, Peter Miller, Bruce Borgman, Dave Obera and Harry Tutton** performing at the Walnut Creek Senior Center recently

Area Two Events

Mac User Group (MUG)



Max Burchett



Vern Laursen

The Mac Users Group (MUG) has changed its meeting time from 10 AM until noon to noon until 2PM. You will need to change your lunch schedule. This change is required because someone else has taken our earlier time at the Thurman Casey Library.

Max Burchett and Verner Laursen are the leaders and we 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 and email from time to time about items that are of interest to Mac Users.

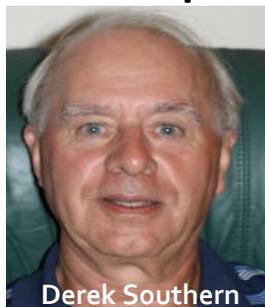
Area 2 \$ums Investment Group

The next meeting of the Area 2 \$ums Investment Group will be on Wednesday October 21st, 2015, at 8:00 a.m. at the Legends restaurant at the Diablo Creek Golf Course, 4050 Port Chicago Highway, Concord. Note that this is the third Wednesday in October, a week earlier than our usual meeting day.

Our guest speaker in October will be Kevin Gahagan of Mosaic Financial Partners, Inc. in San Francisco. Kevin's presentation will address: "Fixed Income Investing in a Rising Interest Rate Environment". Kevin says "With interest rates at forty-year lows, it is not a question of if, but when rates will rise. When rates do rise, investors who have pursued higher yields in the current environment and those who bought bonds for safety will experience risks they had not anticipated." His presentation will cover how different bond classes performed in past periods of rising rates. He will also discuss assessing fixed income portfolio risks and strategies for reducing risk in fixed income portfolios.

Kevin Gahagan is a Principal, Senior Advisor and

Computers and Technology



Derek Southern

PCs



Neil Schmidt

The Area 2 Computer and Technology Group announces that our next meeting will be at the Walnut Creek Elks Lodge on Thursday October 15th at 9:30 am. Sirs from all branches and their guests are welcome and invited to attend.

Barry Brown will be discussing "Windows 10." He will review 10's strengths and point out its known weaknesses. If you're cautious you're waiting a few months before jumping into the program to let Microsoft take care of the usual glitches that often appear its new software. **Barry** should have something to say about that, so come join us on Thursday, October 15th, to learn more about the status of the latest edition of Microsoft's flagship product.

We look forward to seeing you at 9:00 AM to enjoy coffee and chat before the presentation at the Walnut Creek Elks Lodge, 1475 Creekside Drive. We ask for a donation of \$5 to cover the cost of the hall rental, coffee and cookies -- but some months are free, so come and see if our October meeting is another one of those! All SIR members and their guests (spouses included!) are welcome to attend. See you there.

the Chief Investment Officer for Mosaic Financial Partners, Inc., a leading Bay Area wealth advisory firm. Kevin has been recognized as a leading advisory professional by the San Francisco Business Times, Reuters AdvicePoint and others. He is a Certified Financial Planner® certificant (CFP®) and Certified Investment Management Analyst (CIMA®). From 2000 through 2005, Kevin taught for the financial planning program at UC Berkeley.

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

Co-Chairmen: **Gary Moore** (Br-174) 925-254-8742

David Sutton (Br-8) 925-686-0158

Leary Wong (Br-8) 925-457-0807

SIR CALL *Newsletter*

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br146sircall@gmail.com