



## Big Sir's Notes

Alan Elnick

Our last official membership meeting of the year is Thursday, November 9<sup>th</sup>, and per our tradition we will honor our Veterans of all services with a slide show, a salute from our SongSirs, and a special program from our speaker, Bill Green.

Bill is the president of the Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley and will present "The Experience and Legacy of the Viet Nam War." Our veterans are encouraged to wear the uniform of their service.

In October, we were pleased to honor **Chuck Bates** with a Super Senior SIR Award and **Bill Snyder** for his twenty years of membership and service to our branch. We received a rousing presentation from Cal Rugby Coach Jack Clark. We installed new member **Bob West** (sponsored by **Fred Kovar**) so let's be sure to help **Bob** become acquainted with our wonderful membership. We entertained five guests as well. November is the last meeting to have the branch pay for your guest(s) lunch, so take advantage and bring a guest or two or three to our luncheon meeting.

At our BEC meeting, after presentation from our subcommittee on the topic, our officers and board approved a recommendation to encourage annual payment of dues and luncheon costs. This would greatly reduce the administrative tasks associated with collecting money at each luncheon. For 2018, advance payment of \$208 would cover pre-payers for 10 lunches and their \$18 annual dues, thus effectively providing 2 free lunches and their membership fee. Ladies' Day luncheons are not included in the advance payment.

This brings us to the next topic. Our December Ladies' Holiday Luncheon is scheduled for Thursday, December 14<sup>th</sup>. We will be entertained by the Devil Mountain Chorus, a group of about 25 men singing acapella in barbershop style harmony. They are an excellent group, so get your reservations in early on the form provided on page 11 of this month's SIR CALL. Cost is \$28 per person, \$56 per couple. Lunch options are provided on the form.

*Continued on page 2*

## WE ARE SIR – MAKE FRIENDS FOR LIFE

**Luncheon – Thursday , November 9<sup>th</sup>  
At the Boundary Oak Clubhouse**

**Guest Speaker**

**Bill Green**

**President, Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley**

**Topic: The Experience and Legacy of the  
Viet Nam War**

**Gathering time - 11:00 am**

**Starting time - 11:45 am**

**Bringing a guest or can't attend?**

**Email: [nolunchbranch146@gmail.com](mailto:nolunchbranch146@gmail.com)**

**Telephone Message: (925) 979-5146**

**By Noon Friday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>**

Photo by Richard Hockenbrock



Jack Clark, Cal Rugby Coach, was our guest speaker at the October luncheon

## SIR Call Newsletter Group

Editor

**Richard Hockenbrock**

Assistant Editors

**Walt Busenius, Rob Melrose**

Proofreaders **Cal Tucker, Jonathan Korfhage, & Pat Lucia**

Internet Posting

**Ron Plachy**

## SIR Mission Statement

The Mission of SIR is to improve the lives of our members through fun activities and events – while making friends for life.

*Continued from page 1*

This is not a couples only event, so if you are a single SIR, please feel comfortable to join us in celebration of the Holiday season.

We are also approaching the time of year when annual dues become due. There is no change in the annual dues of \$18 for 2018. At the time of this writing, it is not likely that luncheon costs for 2018 will advance beyond the \$26 we currently pay. Once again, you may wish to avail yourself of the prepayment incentive offered by the Board of \$208 covering all 10 luncheons and annual dues. If you wish to pay at the November luncheon, please keep your dues and November lunch payments separate from each other. This avoids confusion and extensive administrative tasks for our volunteers.

On a final note, we will be installing our 2018 BEC Officers and Directors at our November meeting. I am pleased that our SIR Area Governor **Walt Busenius** has consented to perform the installation. We have selected a fine leadership crew to assure our continued success as one of the best branches in the SIR organization. See you there.

purchased the flag of each of the services, which will be displayed in the luncheon room and will further serve to recognize each branch of the Armed Services.

Our speaker for this luncheon meeting will be Bill Green, who is a decorated veteran of the Viet Nam War who is currently the president of the Diablo Valley Veterans of the Viet Nam War. Bill was the point man in his infantry unit in the northern section of Viet Nam where he was an expert in searching for booby traps. Bill survived three helicopter crashes, and was awarded two Purple Hearts with Oak Leaf, and two Bronze Stars for his gallantry in action. Bill will speak to us on "The Experience and Legacy of the Viet Nam War". You will not want to miss this interesting and memorable luncheon meeting.

As we are ending the calendar year, and welcoming another year of fun activities with Branch 146, we should be cognizant that we are a volunteer organization. We will be looking for those in our branch who are willing to step up and indicate their willingness to participate in the leadership of the branch in the various activities we have. Some jobs are simple and will not require a lot of your time, but all are necessary so that we can enjoy the many activities which keep us engaged and active.

If you do need to miss a luncheon, be sure to notify the no-lunch email address so that we don't pay for a lunch unnecessarily. See you on November 9<sup>th</sup>!

### Little Sir's Corner

**Bruce Borgman**

I am sure that all of you enjoyed the talk by Jack Clark last month as he discussed the values he instills in his players, which have contributed to the University of California rugby team's many titles.

More than garnering athletic titles though, it is clear that Jack builds character in his players which he spoke to on his insight into the qualities which anyone can aspire to for a fuller and richer life.

Now, another memorable luncheon meeting in November – always a poignant time for honoring Veterans, particularly those of our own membership who have served in the Armed Forces. There are many tales of honorable and even heroic years of duty and service within our group. We will recognize all who have served with a slide show that will be prepared by **Charlie Koeber** and **Bill Holly** for each of the branches of the Armed Forces. In addition, the SongSirs have prepared a medley of each of the service songs – those who served in the branch of the service are asked to stand as the SongSirs sing the anthem of each of the branches. We have also



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

**Chuck Bates** was honored at the October luncheon with a Super Senior Sir Award (90 years of age) presented by **Doug Eisner**



## Membership

Dave Pierce

In October we inducted three new members: **Bob West**, **Mike Riley**, and **Ron Milligan** (although only Bob was actually present). Once again, we had a great guest turnout -- five. Welcome, new members, and thank you, all eight sponsors! In addition **Tony Adduci** has returned from inactive to active status; welcome back. However, **Darlo Boone** has returned to inactive status and **Pete McNeill** has resigned (moving to Oregon) which brings us to 294 active members. We have had 40 guests so far this year; we have one more month to shoot higher (they would be inducted in January, when there will also be a drawing for a free lunch for sponsors of new members). Our goal was 50 but 45 would be great. You will recall that in 2017, the first guest lunch is on us if a guest is truly interested in learning about us.

New Member Photo Additions in October

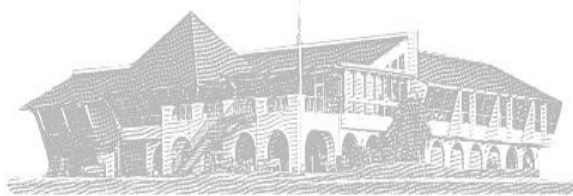


Bob West



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

**Bill Snyder** receives an award for his twenty years of membership and service to the branch from **Doug Eisner**, Honorees Chairman, at the October luncheon



# THE CLUBHOUSE

AT BOUNDARY OAK

## SIR 146 Luncheon

November 9<sup>th</sup>, 2017

### ~Salad Course~

#### Winter Greens Salad

Baby Winter Greens, Golden Apples,  
Dried Cranberries Citrus Segments  
Grape Seed Oil, Champagne Vinaigrette

### ~Entrees~

#### Holiday Turkey Dinner

Yukon Gold Mashed Potatoes,  
Turkey Gravy, Sautéed Vegetables

Or

#### Baked Tilapia

Rice Pilaf & Seasonal Vegetables  
Chunky Roasted Tomato Caper Sauce

### ~Dessert~

#### Pumpkin Pie

Crème Anglaise, Whipped Cream

## ALL MEMBERSHIP SURVEY LAST CHANCE

Click on the link below then fill out  
the form to make your voice heard:

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc-Bi\\_rtti4U6npTBwgvpx5j1oy2xDUpAmpgF18UvQUAcaOA/viewform?c=0&w=1](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc-Bi_rtti4U6npTBwgvpx5j1oy2xDUpAmpgF18UvQUAcaOA/viewform?c=0&w=1)



## Sunshine Calvin Tucker

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

- ◆ Ken Donnelly
- ◆ Jim Saavedra
- ◆ Carl Pagter
- ◆ Bob Walton
- ◆ Bob Johnston
- ◆ Jim Bogue
- ◆ Steve Dawkins
- ◆ Larry Mitchell

We remember with sadness the death of Sir member **Frank Thompson** on October 7<sup>th</sup> and of **Barbara Stedman**, the wife of **Jim Stedman**, on October 22<sup>nd</sup>.

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

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

**Cal Tucker**, Sunshine Chair

phone: (925) 389 6070

Email: [calvinctucker@gmail.com](mailto:calvinctucker@gmail.com)



Photo by Bruce Borgman

Our guest speaker, Jack Clark (back facing blue Cal sweater) attracted quite a crowd of Sirs after his talk at the October luncheon



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

Greeters **John Kingsbury, Paul Beretz & Ross Abbott**

### 2017 Branch 146 Officers and Directors

|                                      |                          |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Big Sir .....                        | <b>Alan Elnick</b>       |
| Little Sir .....                     | <b>Bruce Borgman</b>     |
| Secretary .....                      | <b>Jonathan Korfhage</b> |
| Assistant Secretary .....            | <b>Brad Hatcher</b>      |
| Treasurer .....                      | <b>Roy Hodgkinson</b>    |
| Assistant Treasurer .....            | <b>Steve Ybarra</b>      |
| Director(2 <sup>nd</sup> Term) ..... | <b>Jerry Kaplan</b>      |
| Director(2 <sup>nd</sup> Term) ..... | <b>Steve Sprague</b>     |
| Director(1 <sup>st</sup> Term) ..... | <b>Dave Pierce</b>       |
| Director(1 <sup>st</sup> Term) ..... | <b>Bill Schultz</b>      |
| Director(1 <sup>st</sup> Term) ..... | <b>Cal Tucker</b>        |
| Director(1 <sup>st</sup> Term) ..... | <b>Bob Mehus</b>         |

### RAMP – Chair Members

|                        |                      |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| Recruitment .....      | <b>Bill Schultz</b>  |
| Activities .....       | <b>Jerry Kaplan</b>  |
| Member Relations ..... | <b>Steve Sprague</b> |
| Publicity .....        | <b>Bob Mehus</b>     |

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

### 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.*



Photo by Carl Tilchen

## Acoustic Musicians

The next meeting of the SIR Acoustic Musicians is Thursday, November 16<sup>th</sup>, at 2 pm. The address is 1281 Homestead Ave, #1D near Ygnacio Valley Road, Walnut Creek. Park on Homestead Ave, walk into garage, call last name **Elnick** on communication device, enter door, take elevator to 1st floor and walk to unit 1D.

Our Acoustic Musicians Group welcomes all guitar, banjo, mandolin, bass etc. The objective is to enjoy our music. All levels of musical skill are welcome. Spouses and singers are also encouraged. Please bring your instrument and any songs you enjoy.

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



## SIR 146 Hiking

**Rich Ahlf**

New Hike

On Friday, November 10<sup>th</sup>, we will be hiking the Lafayette Rim Trail. This hike will be 4.7mi with lots of uphill and downhill. Hike should take us about 3 hours with a lunch break.

From Highway 24 westbound, take the Acalanes / Upper Happy Valley Road exit, go south under the highway, turn left (east) Mt Diablo Blvd, exit and go east 0.8 mile on Mt. Diablo Blvd. to EBMUD's Lafayette Reservoir Recreation Area. Turn right and go 0.2 mile uphill on the one-way entrance road, then turn left for the main entrance. The trailhead is at the foot of the concrete staircase at the west end of the parking area. This is a pay parking lot.

If you wish to carpool, meet at the turnoff at St Stevens Rd off Hwy 24 at 9:30 am. Turn right and park on El Nino Rd where there is plenty of parking. I have room for three.

Hike starts at 10:00 am

Rain Cancels

Spouses Always Welcome

**Rich Ahlf**

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

Cell (925) 550-4967

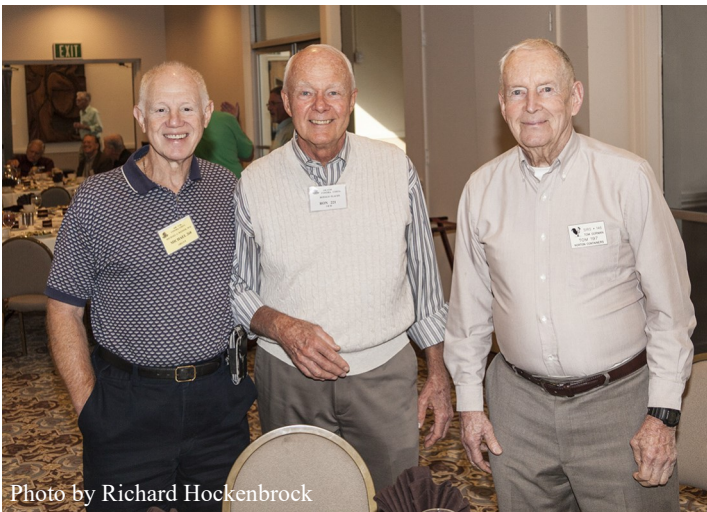


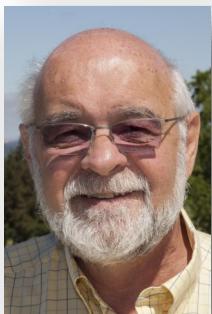
Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

New member **Michael Weiner** along with **Ron Plachy** & **Tom Gorman** enjoying conversation prior to the start of the October luncheon



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

**Tom Boltz**, **Chuck Cornell** and **Steve Loftin** gather together for a photo before the start of the October luncheon



## Luncheon Chairman

### Rob Melrose

Attendance: We consumed 196 meals at our October luncheon. This was less than our guarantee so hopefully, Little Sir will be collecting from members that failed to let us know they wouldn't attend.

Next Luncheon: Our next regular monthly meeting will be held on Thursday, November 9<sup>th</sup>, at the Boundary Oak Golf Course Club House in Walnut Creek. The price of the luncheon is still \$26 as it has been for a few years. There will be the usual no-host bar. The assembly will be called to order at 11:45 am. Please allow enough time to check in and make payment. The money guys really prefer checks, so you might want to take a minute right now and write out a \$26 check payable to "SIR 146".

Opt-Out Deadline: Please remember that your deadline to opt out of the luncheon is Noon on Friday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>. I will email at least one reminder of this deadline during the preceding week. You would do well to mark it on your calendar right now. If you are unable to attend, please send an e-mail message to "[nolunchbranch146@gmail.com](mailto:nolunchbranch146@gmail.com)" before Noon on the Opt-Out deadline day. Please provide your name and 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 leave a message with your name and badge number. A non-attending member who without good cause fails to meet this deadline is required by our rules to reimburse the Branch for the liability we will incur for his meal, in this case \$26. We appreciate the "Advance Payers" who timely notify us that they cannot attend a luncheon. This courtesy results in an economic benefit to our Branch which allows us to keep the Annual Payer program running. A REMINDER TO ADVANCE PAYERS: BE CERTAIN TO CHECK IN.

Confirmation of No Show Notices: You should receive an email from me after I have updated the attendance records.

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](mailto:nolunchbranch146@gmail.com)" on or before the Opt-Out 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. If your guest decides to come after the deadline, don't let that stop you. Please

advise in the same way. We will always accommodate a guest, timely advised or not.

Special Requests: If you or your guest desires a vegetarian meal or a special diet or if, for medical reasons, he cannot eat lunch please so advise before the Opt-Out deadline in the manner as described above.

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.



## Walking Group

### Frank Ascattigno

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

*Call **Frank** for current walk.*

*Rain cancels any walk.*

*Ladies Welcome*

*Tel: (925) 429-2232*



## Pinochle

### Charlie Kahsen / Jeff Morrow

*We meet at  
Rocco's Pizzeria on the  
first Wednesday of*



*each month at 11 am and play until approximately 2 pm. Lunch is included as a standard part of the event. If you are interested in joining our group, call one of us or send an email to both our email addresses and one of us will get back to you.*

*If you plan to come, please let us know ahead of time so we can let Rocco's know you plan to have lunch with the group.*

**Charlie Kahsen**

(925) 943-1750

[cwkahsen@gmail.com](mailto:cwkahsen@gmail.com)

**Jeff Morrow**

(925) 944-7009

[jeffrey.morrow@gmail.com](mailto:jeffrey.morrow@gmail.com)

How do robots eat guacamole?  
With computer chips.



## SongSirs

### Bruce Borgman

The SongSirs are ready to contribute to the special November luncheon where we will honor our Veterans with a musical tribute to each of the military services. Then, we will start to practice some of the traditional Christmas music as we anticipate the holiday season and will also try some new numbers to add to our repertoire that we have not sung before. We will continue to practice our Romantic Songs list since we have been invited to sing for the VIP group at Walnut Creek Presbyterian Church in February.

We want to put out an appeal for anyone who enjoys music to join our practices – no audition required! We are also looking for volunteers to help the group arrange for performances and possibly direct our group as our current director moves to other responsibilities in the Branch. The number of singers in our group has dwindled as several of members are suffering from illness; we miss **Ken Donnelly** and **Jim Bogue** who have recently had to drop out due to health issues. We are pleased, however, that **Frank Ascatigno** has returned after recovering from heart surgery.

Our regular practices are on the first and third Wednesday of the month in the Multiuse Room of Walnut Creek Presbyterian Church where a grand piano (and great pianist in **Steve Dinning!**) as well as a comfortable practice room are helpful in keeping us in tune.



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

Jeff Bailly, Rob Melrose and Jim Barry at the October luncheon

## Pickleball

### Jim Burk

*Branch 146 Sirs (some with their spouses) are now regularly playing this exciting and active game at the Activity and Recreation Center (ARC) of the San Ramon Valley United Methodist Church. The ARC is located at 902 Danville Boulevard in Alamo and has three beautiful courts for playing Pickle Ball. Everyone is welcome to play there during any of the drop-in times on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday. Hours are currently between 9:00 am and 1:00 pm, and between 1:00 pm and 4:00 pm. Players sign in, pay a \$4.00 fee and can play for the entire time period. Players will work out their own schedules, decide on partners, etc.*

*Call or email [jimanneburk@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jimanneburk@sbcglobal.net) to learn more about the game and/or information about the new facility where the Pickle Ball courts are available.*

**Jim Burk**

(925) 946-1192

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

## Cribbage

### John Pearl

#### September Results

As the chair and co-chair were unavailable in September, **Kirk McVean** of Branch 116, who frequently joins our group, was the leader Pro Tem on Wednesday, September 27<sup>th</sup>. Six people met at the home of **Barney Meade**.

First place went to **Kirk McVean**, while **Malcolm Harrison** came in second, and **Dennis Hallett** took home third place money. Reportedly, a good time was had by all!

#### October Results

Six people met at the home of **Barney Meade** on Wednesday, October 25<sup>th</sup>, for our monthly cribbage match. We officially inducted our newest member, **Malcolm Harris**, who had joined us as a guest in October.

First place went to **Barney Meade**, while our newest member, **Malcolm Harrison**, came in second, and **Ron Afdal** edged out **Jim Pope** for third place money.

**Malcom's** wife sent home-made pumpkin cake, which meant a good time was had by all!

What do you call a can opener that doesn't work?  
A can't opener



## Couples Dining Out

**Bruce Borgman**

Finding a restaurant for the November Couples Dining Out event turned out to be a more challenging task than most months primarily because of our search for a “special” restaurant for our end of year experience. We checked out Vic Stewart’s again, but they have not been responsive. We since have learned, according to the Contra Costa Times, that Vic Stewart’s has announced its restaurant is closing permanently at the end of this year!

So, we checked out several other places recommended by our diners, but none was really satisfactory for our discriminating group. Then, again based on a recommendation, we checked out an acclaimed small French restaurant in Lafayette. We made several visits, agreed on a menu, and price, and had agreed on two evenings for dining out experience. But, the chef and owner decided they really could not accommodate our size group even over two evenings, so we went back to the drawing board (but, we still recommend this new place –ask us!)



After visiting three new options, we decided to return to Massimo’s restaurant in downtown Walnut Creek, where we had dined as a group several years ago. The owner, Max, is always accommodating and we were able to reserve Tuesday, November 14<sup>th</sup>, for an excellent dinner for \$52 per person. Massimo’s has a wood paneled private room which will seat 50 diners and will be most appropriate for our end of year dining celebration.

We will have a Caesar Salad to start, then have three entrees to choose from – a Chicken piccata, grilled

Salmon, and a New York steak, with a house-made Tuscan apple tart for dessert. Max has agreed to extend the happy hour pricing of \$7 per glass of wine to our group – or you can bring your own for a \$20 corkage. Parking is, of course, easy with the parking garage across the street.

The restaurant has been one of the top restaurants in Walnut Creek for over 40 years – they must be doing something right! The ambiance is great, portions are generous, and the food with a northern Italian flair is always superb. What’s not to like?

We can accommodate a maximum of 50 diners and we are fast approaching this number as of this writing – email me promptly to be placed on the list and confirm with your check – see you there!



## Book Club

**Chuck Campbell**

The SIR Book Club met October 2<sup>nd</sup> to discuss Anthony Doerr’s *All the Light We Cannot See*. Two questions throughout the novel are “Where is the magical diamond” and “How will lives be changed because of the diamond”.

The story takes place mainly during World War II. The protagonist is a young blind girl and we are allowed to feel our way through her travails in such a way that we can “see” through her eyes. The author uses a flashback / flash-forward structure to help us understand the evolving lives of the other eight characters. The descriptions of the scenes and characters make this book a very special read.

For our next book we selected *The Woman in Cabin 10*, a mystery by Ruth Ware. We will meet again at the Black Bear Restaurant starting at 8:30 am on November 6<sup>th</sup>.



Photo by Jerry Kaplan



## Fishing Report

**Paul Dubow**

The best salmon season in years has ended. The last month was saved for river fishing, although **Rich Fiscina** of Branch 146 boated a big one in the ocean. **Sal Costanza** of Branch 146 caught two nice sized salmon fishing in the Sacramento River near Rio Vista. Then **Karl Droese**, **Ken Konzak**, **Gordon Linebaugh**, **Mario Moratorio**, and **Jack Waddell**, along with **Paul Dubow** of Branch 146, picked up eight salmon while fishing on the Feather River near Oroville. The largest fish was a 27 pounder that was caught by **Gordon**. We even caught salmon when not fishing for them when **Harry Sherinian** landed a large salmon while fishing for stripers with **Tom Kostik** in the Delta.

**Rich Fiscina**, **Paul Dubow**, **Terry Miller**, and **Gordon Linebaugh** had an interesting day that started on the ocean. They set out through the Golden Gate for salmon but the water was rough so they stayed near the Gate and caught a bevy of rockfish. They then moved back into the Bay and tried there for salmon. With no luck, they switched to halibut and caught four. However, while fishing for halibut, **Terry** had a big strike and it turned out to be a five foot green sturgeon, which he landed and released.

**Tom Anders**, **Phil Scimonelli**, **Pedro Contreras**, **Rich Fiscina**, **Terry Miller**, and **Carl Moyer** also did well fishing for rockfish and ling cod in the ocean.

Inland, striped fishing was good as **Tom Kostik**, **Mike Corker**, **Joe Miscione**, **Mario Moratorio**, and **Harry Sherinian** all came home with the tasty fish. **Phil Scimonelli** caught trout and bass in Lake Shasta. **Alex Go**, **Terry Miller**, and **Carl Moyer** caught catfish in San Pablo Reservoir. **Karl Droese** and **Paul Dubow** journeyed to Pyramid Lake in Nevada and caught and released 50 cutthroat trout fishing from a boat. **Ernie Wong** also made the trip but he chose to fly fish from shore, where the fishing is not quite as good this time of year, but he still managed to land four or five fish.

Our next meeting will occur on November 16<sup>th</sup> at the Legends Bar and Grill at the Diablo Creek Golf Course, 4050 Port Chicago Highway in Concord. The meeting begins at 8:30 am but please join us for breakfast and camaraderie beginning at 7:30 am. Anybody who is fishing regularly or who has not fished in years, or who has never fished but would like to start is welcome. For further information, please contact branch fishing chair **Paul Dubow** at (415) 495-6504 or [pdubow2398@aol.com](mailto:pdubow2398@aol.com)



## Photography Group

**Richard Hockenbrock**

As planned, **Peter Plante**, **Roy Hodgkinson**, **Rob Melrose**, and **Richard Hockenbrock** ventured out to Port Costa on October 18<sup>th</sup> for a photo shoot. The pictures we took will be shown at our next meeting on November 3<sup>rd</sup>.

We will also show a half hour video from the National Geographic series Fundamentals of Photography II on a subject of interest to the gathered group.

**Richard Hockenbrock**

Email: [rhock@pacbell.net](mailto:rhock@pacbell.net)

Cell: (925) 324-1713

### Next Meeting

**Where :**

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

**Subject:**

Field trip presentations

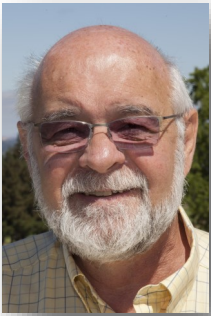
**When:**

November 3<sup>rd</sup> at 9:00 am—11:00 am



Photo by Sal Costanza

**Sal Costanza** displays the two salmon that he landed at Rio Vista



## Wine Tasting

**Rob Melrose**

On Wednesday, October 25<sup>th</sup>, approximately 18 of us gathered at the home of **Joe and Barbara Stengel**. We tasted a variety of some very nice wines from Australia and New Zealand.

I'd like to thank **Joe and Barbara** for opening their lovely home and yard to us! The weather was a bit warmer than we anticipated but we still utilized the yard.

A bottle of Australian Pino Noir was presented to **Joe and Barbara** for hosting. Our wine drawing winners were **Sherry Hockenbrock** and **Bruce Borgman**.

As always if you are not on our mailing list and would like to participate in an afternoon of friendship and wine tasting, please send an email to **Rob Melrose** at [rwmelrose@gmail.com](mailto:rwmelrose@gmail.com)

Our next event is scheduled for February 28<sup>th</sup>. We are looking for a venue. If you are interested in hosting, please let me know.



**Rob Melrose** presents **Sherry Hockenbrock** with a fine New Zealand Chardonnay as a winner of the white wine drawing



**Carmen Schiavone**, hosts **Joe and Barbara Stengel**, and Wine Tasting Chair, **Rob Melrose**



**Roy Hodgkinson, Sandy Wagner, Rich Hanford, Pete Bishop, Jim Saavedra, Bill Holly, and Rob Melrose**



**Jim Saavedra, Bill Holly, Tony Shebanek, and Roy Hodgkinson**



Around the table are **Al Munayer, Joanne & Dale Haukland, Sandy and Dan Schlatter, and Dianne Munayer**



## Activities Coordinator

### Jerry Kaplan

Pinochle, a new Branch 146 activity is underway! The initial small group of Sirs has met twice at Rocco's in Walnut Creek and is planning another get together on Wednesday, November 1<sup>st</sup>, at 11:00 am. Play continues until about 2:00

pm with a break for lunch at the restaurant. The co-chairs of the activity, Sirs **Jeff Morrow** and **Charlie Kahsen**, are willing to explain this fun and stimulating game with any SIR member who is interested in learning about the activity, or is ready to play. **Charlie** can be reached at 943-1750 and Jeff at 944-7009. Their email addresses can be found in the directory.

Any members who are relatively new to SIR and are interested in a possible activity that is not one of the 46 (!) already underway, please contact me about the possibility of starting a new activity that you wish existed in Branch 146. I will do my best to explore with you how the activity could get started.

As I noted in a prior column, another nearby SIR branch may already have that activity and we may want to determine if a joint program could be an efficient approach to take. Or, possibly invite members from other branches to join one of our activities that may need additional participants. Golf continues to be the most popular branch activity and a great pastime, but there are many other ways to meet and join with fellow SIR members as we all enjoy retirement!

**Jerry Kaplan**

(925) 930-7076

[mtdana@aol.com](mailto:mtdana@aol.com)



Photo by Jerry Kaplan

## Reservations for Ladies Day Luncheon

### Salad Course

#### Winter Vegetable Salad

Butter Lettuce, Roasted Butternut Squash, Beets  
Crumbled Blue Cheese, Candied Nuts  
Whole Grain Mustard Honey Vinaigrette

### Entrees

#### Pork Scaloppini

Seared Pork Loin, Yukon Gold Mashed Potatoes,  
Seasonal Vegetables  
Pomegranates, Caper Butter Sauce

Or

#### Potato Crusted Salmon

Confetti Rice, Seasonal Vegetables  
Chardonnay Butter Sauce

### Dessert

#### Holiday Chocolate Cake

*On the form below, 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 to the address also below.*

Thursday, December 14<sup>th</sup>, 2017

Number of Tickets \_\_\_\_\_ at \$28 ea.

Amount Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### Entrée Choices

| Name | Pork | Salmon |
|------|------|--------|
|      |      |        |
|      |      |        |
|      |      |        |
|      |      |        |
|      |      |        |
|      |      |        |
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|      |      |        |
|      |      |        |

Make checks payable to SIR Branch 146. Send to: **Steve Ybarra**, 142 Leonard Dr., Concord, CA 94518-1213  
*All reservations and payments in full must be received by December 8<sup>th</sup>. There will be no tickets sold at the door.*

*If ordering for a full or partial table, list your names and seating guests. Your guests will be paired with you when their check and form is received or you may pay for them directly on your sheet listing their name & entrée.*



Henry Thatcher

## SIR Explore & Eat Event

# San Francisco-Delta Bay Model Sausalito, California

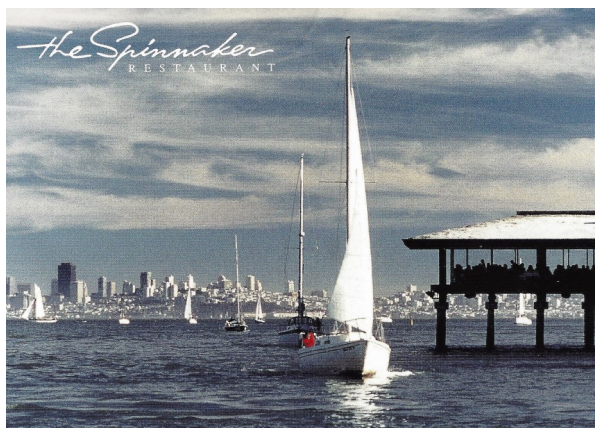
## November 8th



Jim Pope

The 4th Explore & Eat event for 2017 is at the San Francisco Bay-Delta Model in Sausalito. The Bay Model is a three-dimensional representation of San Francisco Bay and the Delta capable of simulation tides, currents and the river inflows. The Model is operated by the US Army Corps of Engineers and spreads over 1.5 acres and represents an area from the Pacific Ocean to Sacramento. The Model is housed in a beautiful building and is fully accessible. The address of the Model is 2100 Bridgeway, Sausalito, CA. Admission to the Model tour is free; as is ample parking next to the Visitors Center.

The model provides scientists, engineers, educators, students and visitors a unique opportunity to view the complete bay-delta system at a glance. We have made arrangements for a Army Corps Docent to lead the tour beginning a 10:00 am. The Model is currently not operational due to some needed repairs, however the Docent will be able to share with us the workings and history of the Model and how models like this can help with studying the effects of climate change, water quality, water demand by farmers and for the proposed "Twin Pipes" project for water users in Southern California. Following the tour there will be time to visit the "Marinship Exhibit". The exhibit is located in the Bay Model Visitors Center and is an historical monument to a remarkable shipyard located in Sausalito during World War II.



At approximately 12:30 pm we will go to Spinnakers Seafood Restaurant in Sausalito for lunch. The restaurant is located at 100 Spinnaker Drive and parking is free. We have made a group reservation and Spinnakers will allow ordering from the menu and you can pay by individual credit cards.

You can reserve your spot by sending an email to: [146exploreandeat@gmail.com](mailto:146exploreandeat@gmail.com) by Friday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2017 and let us know who will be attending The SF Bay Model Explore & Eat" event.

This event is limited to the first 40 members and guests who sign up.

Organized by **Henry Thatcher** 925-997-5032 and **Jim Pope** 925-699-6447

What is a computer's favorite beat?

An algo-rhythm!

Edith Wharton once said:

"If only we' stop trying to be happy,  
we could have a pretty good time"



## Travel Opportunities

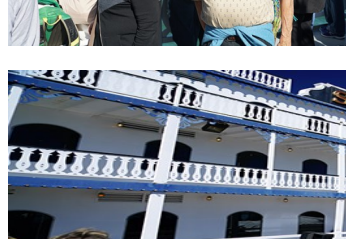
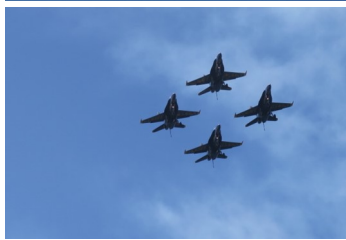
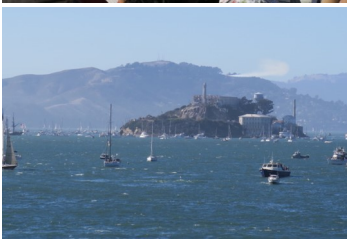
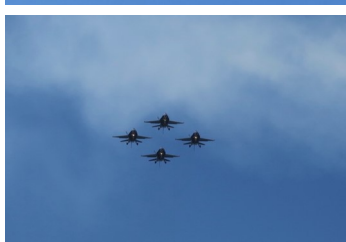
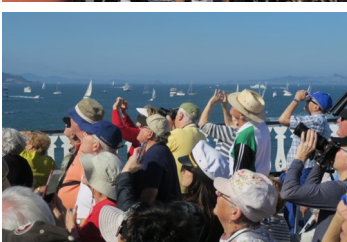
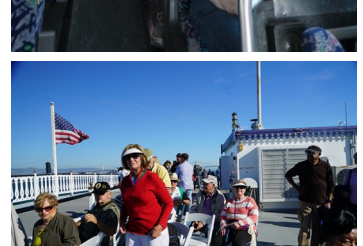
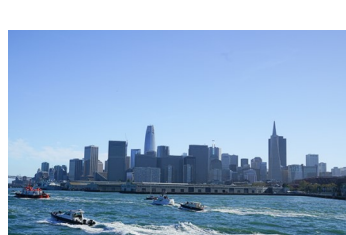
**Milt Smith**

September 7<sup>th</sup> found 40 Sirs and their guests enjoying the fine food, mimosas and the Blue Angels. Then on September 20<sup>th</sup> nearly 30 Sirs and guests enjoyed SIR Day at the Races at GG Fields. Both were fun outings and good times. (pictures below are from the Blue Angels).

My informal poll has found travel interest for: A ground tour of Europe, particularly Germany, trip to Scotland and also interest in Machu Picchu and the Galapagos Islands. Please continue to send your ideas... thanks....[miltsmith549@gmail.com](mailto:miltsmith549@gmail.com)

Photos below by Henry Thatcher

Photos below by Bill Holly



# Mexican Train Dominoes Groups



## Mexican Train Dominoes Group 1 (UNO)

**Jerry Kaplan**

The October Mexican Train Game Night was held on Friday the 13<sup>th</sup> at the home of Sir **Jerry Kaplan** and his wife, **Susan**. All three tables were almost full for the evening's game playing. Guests included Sir

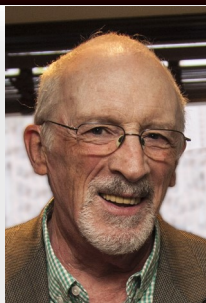
**Jeff Baily** and wife **Alicia**, Sir **Moose Kelly**, and Sir **Jim Barry** and his wife, **Joyce Wells**.

For the first time in 2017, going all the way back to January, all the prize money was won by men, with incoming Big Sir **Bruce Borgman** having the lowest average score of 13.4 points. The next lowest score was achieved by yours truly (Sir **Jerry**), with a score of 14.6. Third place was taken by a past Big Sir, **Jeff Baily**, who averaged 17.5. Nice going, guys!

There is only one more Group One Game Night this year (on November 10<sup>th</sup>) and will be at the home of SIR **Peter Plante** and his wife **Martha**. After November's Game Night, the approximately \$80 to \$90 will be divided among the top three players who had the lowest averages during the six month period.

Group One is always looking for other Sirs who may be interested in playing occasionally as a substitute. Mexican Train Dominoes is fun to play and easy to learn. Several individuals who had never played before have come to our Game Night and after just one open hand, were right in the midst of the fun. Please contact Jerry if you want to join a fun night out! Single Sirs as well as a Sir and his Significant Other are always welcome.

T: (925) 930-7076 email: [mtdana@aol.com](mailto:mtdana@aol.com)



## Mexican Train Dominoes Group 3 (TRES)

**Jeff Baily**

Our October game night was at the **Bailys'** home where **Alicia** treated players to a delicious assortment of homemade cookies and cake along with assorted fruits and cheeses.

At the break a couple of guys, discussing Mexican Train Dominoes pondered the popular notions about who's going to win.. a) The player with the best organized tile layout? b) The girls because they are the more organized thinkers or c) Other ideas that have recently been debunked. The results on this game night didn't support any of the above theories... At table 1 **Jim Baldridge**, the quiet player won 4 of the nine games to nail 1<sup>st</sup> place at table one and 2<sup>nd</sup> place overall with an average of 11.9. Guest, **Susan Oranje** also winning 4 games came in 2<sup>nd</sup> at table one and third overall, while tied for third, were **Carla Thompson** and **Jeff Baily**. At table 2 **Walt Busenius** won 5 games, **Sharon Varner** won 1 game and guest, **Corrie Oranje** won 2 games. They ranked 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> respectively at that table. At table 3 guest **Marie Ascatigno** won the last game to get 3<sup>rd</sup> place, **Steve Siljestrom** won a single game to secure 2<sup>nd</sup> place and the grand winner of the night was **Sue Busenius** who won 4 games and secured 1<sup>st</sup> place at the table and overall. Congrats **Sue**!



October Winners (L to R): 1st **Bruce Borgman**, 3rd **Jeff Baily**, and 2nd **Jerry Kaplan**



1st place, **Sue Busenius**, 3rd place **Sue Oranje** and 2nd place **Jim Baldridge** with their winnings.



## Mexican Train Dominoes Group 4 (El Quattro)

**Jim Pope**

El Quattro Mexican Train Group met Friday night with 12 hardy souls to celebrate Halloween in costumes and for competitive Dominos. In attendance were:

**Henry and Barbara Thatcher, Don and June Seaton, Bill Weinberg and Yvonne Killips, Jonathan and Barbara Korfhage, Rich and Kim Pace and Jim and Renie Pope.** It was wonderful to have **Jonathan Korfhage** back in the group at the dominos tables in fine spirit. The sweets and savories were provided by Team 1 of **Barbara Thatcher, Kim Pace, Yvonne Killips and Renie Pope** and were enjoyed by all.

Halloween was celebrated with participants wearing masks and costumes for a bottle of wine to the winners in the best costume. The winners were **Bill Weinberg and Yvonne Killips** with costumes befitting the Halloween theme (*picture below right*). The dominos competition winners with low score at the two tables were **Kim Pace and Jim Pope** (*picture below*) winning 6 Lottery Scratcher Tickets.



## Mexican Train Dominoes Group 5 (CINCO)

**Jim Burk**

Ten of our MTD players met Thursday evening, October 19<sup>th</sup>, for a festive time at the home of **Anne and Jim Burk.** **Sally and Steve Sprague** acted as co-hosts.

As is our routine, we first enjoyed after-dinner snacks, drinks, and socializing, followed by unusually serious MTD play. Delicious apple pie alamode was served during a short mid-play break.

The women continued to dominate play for another month. **Marti Campbell** had an outstanding night by going out six of the seven games played. This tied the record set by **Anne Burk** who accomplished the same feat last month. Our winners and their average scores were **Marti Campbell** (5.8 points) who took first place. **Dennis Hallett** (16 points) captured second place and **Anne Burk** (19.5 points) came in third. Massive payouts were made.

Our next MTD will be held November 11<sup>th</sup> at the home of **Patti and Doug Eisner.** Will the ladies win again?

*Reported by Steve Sprague*

Photo by Henry Thatcher

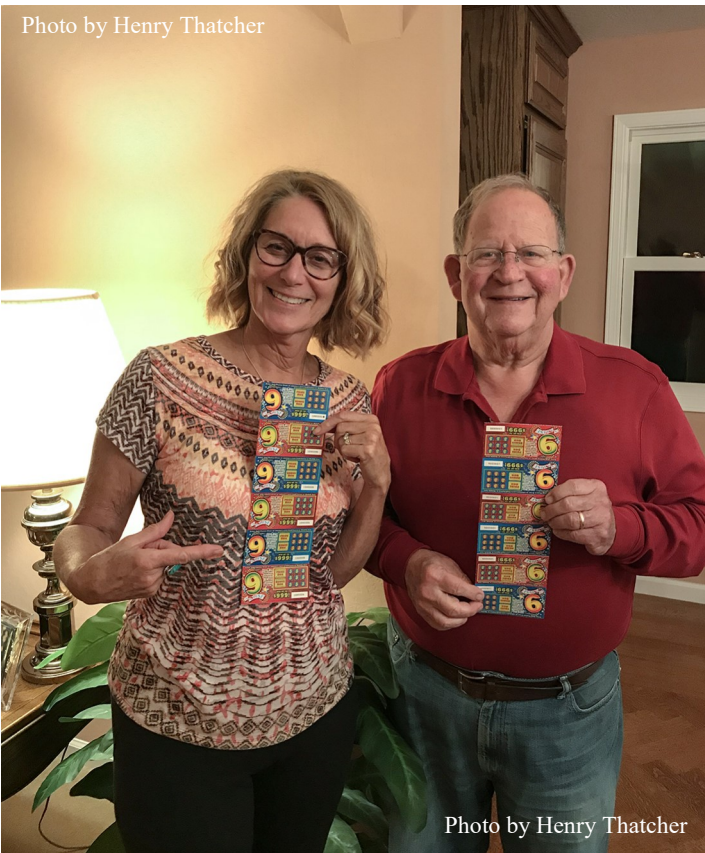


Photo by Henry Thatcher

**Kim Pace and Jim Pope** were the low score winners



Photo by Jim Pope

Halloween costume winners were  
**Bill Weinberg and Yvonne Killips**



## Men's Duplicate Bridge 2

**Dick DeVoe**

The Duplicate Bridge 2 group was enthusiastically hosted by **Bob Yolland** on October 6<sup>th</sup>. This event was the most closely contested ever, with only 7 points between 1st and 12th place and only 1.0 pt. between 1st Place and 4th Place! If this keeps up, it will be proof that the less experienced players are getting much better.

1st Place: **Mike Whitaker** with 27.5 pts., assisted materially by his first half's 1st Place.

2nd Place: (Tie): **Ed Marlovits** and **John Boyan** with 27 pts. each. **Ed** and **John** also tied for 2nd Place in both the 1st half and 2nd half. 4th Place: **Bob Yolland** with 26.5 pts.

Most Twos: **Mike Whitaker** and **Bob Yolland** with 9.

Least Zeros: **John Boyan** with 3.

Partners' 3-Board Highest Score: **Jim Brown** and **Mike Whitaker** gleaned 5.5 of 6 pts. possible on Boards 19-21.



Photo by Bill Schultz

Duplicate Bridge 2 (L to R): **Ed Marlovits**, **Tony Greco**, **Mike Whitaker**, **Brad Hatcher**, **Bob Yolland** (host), **David Steinberg**, **Fred Bolton**. **Steve Dawkins**, **Max Hinkle**, **Jim Brown**, and **John Boyan**



## Party Bridge Fred Bolton

We played two tables of bridge at the home of **Max Hinkle** on October 2<sup>nd</sup>. The winner (lately, as usual) was **Bob Yolland** with 3995 points, second went to **Mike Whitaker** with 3750 and third to our host, **Max Hinkle**.

Our next game will be at the home of **Bill Rees** on November 6<sup>th</sup>.



## Men's Duplicate Bridge 1

**Doug Eisner**

**Tony Greco** hosted the Men's Duplicate Bridge Group 1 on October 16<sup>th</sup>. Three players apparently found the surroundings and company much to their liking as, for the first time in memory, the top 3 morning scorers were also the top 3 scorers at the end of the day. **Dick DeVoe**, yes, that **Dick DeVoe**, jumped out to such a huge lead at the lunch break that he considered just mailing in the afternoon scores – luckily for him cooler heads prevailed. **Dick's** morning score of 37.0 pt left all pretenders, including **Jim Jackson's** 29.0 pt for 2<sup>nd</sup> place and **Bob Yolland's** 28.0 pt for 3<sup>rd</sup> place choking on his exhaust. However, the bridge gods were not good to **Dick** in the afternoon session as **Bob Yolland** leveraged the good play of his partners to grab 1<sup>st</sup> place with a great score of 61.0 pt. **Dick DeVoe** and **Jim Jackson** tied for 2<sup>nd</sup> place with 58.0 pt. Well done to all of you!

**Dave Steinberg** will host 3 tables at our next game, scheduled for November 20<sup>th</sup>.



## Couples Duplicate Bridge 2 Dave Pierce

Couples Duplicate Bridge 2 met at the **Hatcher** home for what turned out to be a very tight match. Two substitute couples joined in the taut competition. The scores, based on a three point system, were very close. The winners totaled 23 points while the lowest scoring couple was only 5 points lower.

**Linda** and **Larry Brown** took top honors with those 23 points. **Cindy** and **Tony Greco** were second and hosts **Lynne** and **Brad Hatcher** were able to capture third.

**Lynne's** homemade cheese cake and delightful conversation by all rounded out the evening.

*Reported by **Brad Hatcher***

How does a train eat?

It chew-chews





## Couples Duplicate Bridge 1 Bob Yolland

Couples Duplicate Bridge 1 had a fun evening at the **Yolland's** on October 18<sup>th</sup>. We thank our subs and especially **Bill Schultz** who not only did the scoring with **Tony** but made some spectacular movement sheets for each player. **Jim Brown** and **Anne Johnson** came in first with 23 points. **Tony** and **Cindy Greco** were second and only a half point behind with 22 1/2 points and **Margot Somerville** and **Daphne Merritt** third with 20 1/2 points. Congratulations to all the winners and thank you **Janet** and **Bob** for all goodies, wine, and sodas.

This group was the original Couples Duplicate activity and we are very fortunate to have two original couples and three of our Sir's widows still participating.



**Jim Brown, Bob Yolland,  
Anne Johnson, and Janet Yolland**



**Janet Yolland, Anne Johnson, Bill Rees, Margaret Rees, Cindy Greco, Christy DeVoe, Bill Schultz, Bob Yolland, Daphne Merritt, Margot Somerville, Jim Brown, and Tony Greco**



**Tony Greco, Margaret Rees, Cindy Greco, and Bill Rees**



**Margaret and Bill Rees, Daphne Merritt, and Bob Yolland who handed out the \$\$ and cup cakes as we celebrated Bob's 80th birthday**



**Corrie and Sue Oranje enjoying a dance at the Autumn Event**



## Couples Party Bridge

**Tony Greco**

**Tony and Cindy Greco** hosted the October 3<sup>rd</sup> event. It seemed like déjà vu when on the day of the event the hosting couple lost power at 1:00 am due to a power outage as did last month's hosts. Fortunately power was

restored by around 10:00 am which allowed enough time for **Cindy** to make and cook two delicious sour cream pear pies for dessert.

**Tony and Cindy Greco** were also fortunate to get good cards all night and took advantage of an opponent's overbid (vulnerable doubled down 4 for 1100 pts) to finish in 1st Place with 4080 pts. **Dick and Christy DeVoe** finished close behind with 3910 pts (oh so close!) for 2nd Place. And rounding out the top three in 3rd Place with 3610 pts were **Jerry and Christine Benoit** who were playing as regulars for the first time. Perhaps several slam opportunities were missed when several couples made 6 (no guts, no glory?). Also, a big thank you to new SIR member **John and Kathy Kluesener** for subbing for the first time. We hope they can sub in future events, when needed.

Next month's November 7<sup>th</sup> event will be hosted by **Jerry and Christine Benoit**. I will be sending out timely e-mail reminders for the forgetful. Lol.



## Cooking II

**Bob Yolland**

**Dennis Hallett** hosted a great fall lunch Monday October 9<sup>th</sup>. We had some excellent appetizers outside which included, smoked salmon with cream cheese and capers, stuffed olives, a cheese

selection of Brie, Smoked Gouda, Hickory Cheddar and a variety of crackers. With plenty of wine and conversation we solved few world problems but enjoyed working on them. For the main course **Dennis** started with a great beer, pumpkin and cheese soup which was followed by a very nice white bean salad with Argentine red shrimp. For dessert we had a lemon lime pudding with coffee and mints and ended with a special tasting of Single Malt Whiskeys. Thank **Dennis**, for all.

Our next event will be our annual wine bottling on Monday, November 6<sup>th</sup> hosted by **Steve Dawkins**. This year we will be bottling white wine.



## Men's Duplicate

### Bridge 3

**Sid Landman**

The Duplicate Bridge Group 3 played 3 tables of duplicate bridge hosted at **Bill Schultz's** home on October 20<sup>th</sup>.

In first place, with a score of 29 points or 60%, was **Jim Jackson**. **Jim** was a guest substitute this month and we appreciate his participation and will welcome him back if he promises not to win next time. Congratulations to **Jim**.

In second, we had a tie between **Roger Peters** and **Sid Landman** with a score of 28 points or 58%. The score between 1st and 3rd was only 1 point— a very tight game.

Our host, **Bill Schultz**, made sure we had coffee, munchies and delivered a magnificent dessert for lunch. We appreciate your hospitality, **Bill**.

We look forward to another rousing battle and fun for all next month.

## Attention

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

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



## Sir Call Editor

**Richard Hockenbrock**

This issue of the SIR CALL was challenging to accommodate most of the pictures that were submitted for inclusion without going to extremes with the page count. The branch member survey continues to show that the expanded number of pictures that we try to include each month are well received.

I wanted to let you know that we are exploring other methods to supplement the SIR CALL in displaying your monthly submitted pictures.

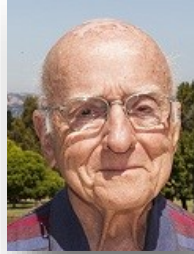
We have used the Special Events tab on the website occasionally to handle the overflow; for example, last month we posted pictures of the Potomac Explore and Eat event. But, generally these are not saved for any extended time period. Stay tuned as we look for a lasting solution and we thank you for your support.



## Poker Group 1

**Dan O'Sullivan**

Poker Group 1 will meet at the home of **Al Zamolo** on November 8<sup>th</sup>.



## Bocce Ball

**Martin Lyle**

The time has come to announce the five month hibernation period for Bocce play when rain might interrupt play. In April, we notify you in this report as to when we will start up play in May, 2018. We had a number of new players this past year, and it is a very easy game to learn.

*We play the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays, May through September at 8:30 am at Concord Bocce Courts in Newhall Park, Concord near the corner of Turtle Creek and Ayers Roads. Call or write to Sir Martin Lyle for more information at [mvlyle@yahoo.com](mailto:mvlyle@yahoo.com).*

*Rain cancel play*

*Ladies are welcome*



## Poker Group 2

**Al Zamolo**

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



## Poker Club 3

**Sig Kalteis**

*Poker Club 3 meets on the fourth Monday of the month. We usually play at my house. Contact **Sig Kalteis** if you would like to be on the list as a substitute.*



## Poker Group 5

**Bill Roberts**

*Poker Group 5 meets the Wednesday prior to the SIR luncheon. **Bill Roberts** is the permanent host for our event.*



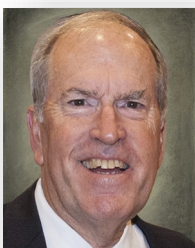
## Cooking Lunch & Wine

**Pete Gates**

The October Lunch and Wine gathering was hosted by **Paul Dubow** at their home in San Francisco. The ladies met for lunch at the Delancy Park restaurant.

*The LAW cooking group meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month at a different member's home with one member responsible for preparing the menu for the rest of the group.*

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



## Old Money Poker Group 6

**Brad Hatcher**

The *Old Money* poker group met at **Rich Alf's** house where we witnessed an unbelievable run of good luck. Try as he may, **Howard Charlop** just could not lose. He was so embarrassed that he actually apologized to **Rich, Norm Baietti, Brad Hatcher, and Frank Lucas**. Oh, well. We'll get him next month.  
*Reported by **Frank Lucas***



## Book Nook

**Peter Plante**

The Book Nook will open for our November meeting. Come on by and find something new and we'll trade you for the ones you are bringing back.



## GOLF

### Ed Marlovits

October may bring cooler mornings on the first tee but there is still plenty of golf to be played this year. We had 23 golfers enjoying the scenery at Eagle Vines on October 3<sup>rd</sup>. Placing first and second

in Flight 1 were **Joe Voelker** and **Paul Fama**. Flight 2 first and second place finishers were **Alan Elnick** and **George Carpenter** while **Steve Ybarra** and **Howard Zimmerman** finished first and second in Flight 3.

The following week we moved on to Delta View with 24 golfers as the smoke spread across the North Bay. **Rick Morgan** and **Steve Dinning** lead all players with gross scores of 82 but **Rick's** higher index brought him first place honors. The second flight was led by **Alan Elnick** with **Steve Ybarra** having another good week and taking second place.

Golf is one of the most popular Branch 146 activities. We have had over 100 signed up but attendance has fallen a bit and in 2018 we expect participation to drop to about 90 members.

Golf is a great way for you to have a good time while also meeting many of your fellow SIR members. We play Tuesday mornings at Boundary Oak and would be pleased to have you join us. Get in touch with us either through a SIR golfer or simply email us at [sir146golf@gmail.com](mailto:sir146golf@gmail.com).  
Report by **Ed Brands**



## 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 Mondays, I will send out an email asking who is coming for golf, who is walking and who plans to stay for lunch. On Wednesdays I will send out an email setting forth the pairings for Thursday morning. Thursday morning there may be adjustments based on who did or did not show up. Most of the time the lunch is better than our golf game.*  
[vlaursen@astound.net](mailto:vlaursen@astound.net)



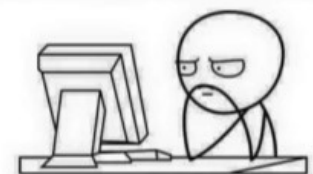
## Table Pool

### Bill Weinberg

*We meet every Monday at 11:30 am at Masses, 2721 North Main in Walnut Creek. No advance notice is necessary. Just show up and play. Cost is \$5 for as long as you want to play. This is a special rate that Masses gives SIR members. You can also play at other times during the day for the same \$5. Just tell them you are a member of SIR. We play mostly two man teams of eight ball, or a unique three-player game, called "Crazy Eights", depending on the number of participants. We usually play about 2 hours but not everyone stays for the final curtain. All Sirs in Area 2 are welcome.*

Never let your computer know you are in a hurry.

Computers can smell fear. They slow down if they know that you are running out of time.



## Autumn Dinner Dance

Photo by Jerry Kaplan

Autumn Dinner Dance organizer, **Jonathan Korfhage** announces the winners of the wine prizes while **Bruce Borgman** pulls another name from the basket.

## Area 16 Events

### Mac User Group (MUG)



Max Burchett



Vern Laursen

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

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

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

---

### Area 2 \$ums Investment Group

Our next meeting is Wednesday, November 15th at 8 am at the Legends Restaurant in the Diablo Creek Country Club - Port Chicago Highway, 1/4 mile north of Highway 4 in Concord.

Our speaker will be Jerry Halliday of the Law Office of Robert W. Ash in Grass Valley, previously announced for October. The discussion will be about estate preservation if a spouse requires nursing care.

Legends opens at 7 am so come early and have a leisurely breakfast with your colleagues prior to the meeting.

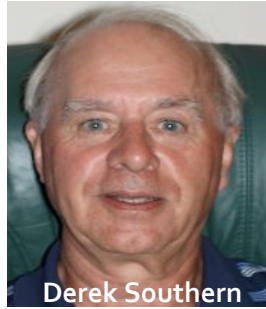
\$UMS Chairman **Tom Henry** [tomhenry925@gmail.com](mailto:tomhenry925@gmail.com)  
Co-chair **Dave Sutton** [davesutn@comcast.net](mailto:davesutn@comcast.net)

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What is Forrest Gump's password?  
1Forest1

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### Computers and Technology



Derek Southern

PCs



Neil Schmidt

The Area 16 Computer and Technology Group [formerly A2CAT] announces that our next meeting will be at the Walnut Creek Elks Lodge on Thursday November 16<sup>th</sup>, starting at 9:30 am, but come early for coffee, goodies, and chat. Sirs from all branches and their guests are welcome and invited to attend.

The topic for the November CAT meeting will be "Using EXCEL – An Introduction to Spreadsheet Basics and Applications for Retirees". Neil Schmidt will review the history of spreadsheets, basic principles, and demonstrate some of his non-business applications. Attendees who currently use EXCEL, are encouraged to bring an example or two on a flash drive to demonstrate how they use a spreadsheet program.

We look forward to seeing you 9:15 am, Thursday November 16<sup>th</sup>, 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 November meeting is another one of those! All SIR members and their guests (spouses included!) are welcome to attend. See you there.

**Neil Schmidt, Chairman**

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Before Google, there were librarians.

Here are some queries posed to the poor, suffering staff of public libraries:

- A woman wanted "inspirational material on grass and lawns."
  - "Who built the English Channel?"
  - "Is there a full moon every night in Acapulco?"
  - "Music suitable for a doll wedding to take place between a Shirley Temple doll and a teddy bear."
  - "Can the New York Public Library recommend a good forger?"
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# MILLION DOLLAR QUARTET

SIR 146 Theater Party Thursday, October 5<sup>th</sup> at the Lesher Center



**Cindy Greco, Bob and Wendy Lucido, Alice Schultz**



**(L to R) Sally and Steve Sprague, Dennis Hallett, Patty and Doug Eisner, , Alice Schultz, Sue Busenius, Cindy Greco, Wendy and Bob Lucido**



**Bill Schultz, Doug Eisner, Walt Busenius and Tony Greco**



**Linda and Steve Siljestrom**

Reasons to Take an Improv Class:

1. Enhance the way you make stuff up all the time.
2. Create characters to respond to telemarketers.
3. Try something legal for a change.
4. Develop your inherent shtick.
5. Fine tune the way you already dance around issues.
6. Act out with guidance.
7. Sound cool saying: Can't meet tonight--got my improv class.

How many theater critics does it take to change a light bulb?

All of them. One to be highly critical of the design elements, one to express contempt for the glow of the lamp, one to lambaste the interpretation of wattage used, one to observe how trite the use of a light bulb was, one to critique the performance of the bulb itself, one to recall superb light bulbs of past seasons and lament how this one fails to measure up.