

# SIR CALL

br146sircall@gmail.com

November 2018

Sons in Retirement Branch 146 of Contra Costa

Published For Our Members And Friends



## Big Sir's Notes

Bruce Borgman

Our Little Sir **Jonathan** came through once again with a most interesting speaker for our October meeting. Jane Adams gave us a fascinating insight into Sandhill Cranes – a bird species, which has one of the longest fossil records of any bird – and continues to enthrall us to this day!

We honored the past Big Sirs at this luncheon – we stand in awe and appreciation to these gentlemen who have led our branch over the last 29 years. **Doug Eisner** presented a 20 year membership award to one of our past Big Sirs – **Garth Cummings**.

We inducted three new members – they are, along with their sponsors, as follows: **Marc Fong (Paul Dubow)**, **Charles Walker (Chuck Oldham)**, and **James Nelson (Steve Lane)**. Be sure to welcome these new members when you see them – they're identifiable by their yellow name badge. We also continued to welcome guests – five at the October luncheon.

I mentioned in last month's Big Sir Notes that the State SIR organization had organized a Task Force to discuss the future of SIR. At its October meeting, the BEC continued to review the proposals from the Task Force and we have given them feed-back.

Our branch is particularly active and financially healthy, and we did not agree with all the proposals, but many of the suggestions had to do with greater autonomy for the local branches, with which we concurred. We also agreed with suggestions for greater flexibility in membership rules, so that our members who have health, or care-giving responsibilities are not penalized.

We also endorsed suggestions that we encourage fitness. We have some activities that promote fitness, but we've also started to look into getting discount rates at some local gyms, and fitness centers. Encouraging educational programs is another area we may pursue.

In order to keep our branch vital, I encourage you to indicate your interest in taking a more active role by

## WE ARE SIR – MAKE FRIENDS FOR LIFE

**Luncheon— Thursday, November 8<sup>th</sup>**

**Boundary Oak Clubhouse**

**Guest Speaker**

**James van Hoften**

**"Reflections Of A War Veteran & Astronaut"**

**Gathering time: 11:00 am**

**Seating time: 11:45 am**

*Bringing a guest or can't attend?*

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

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

**By Noon Friday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>**



October's speaker, Jane Adams, excited us with her enthusiasm and knowledge of Sandhill Cranes .

## SIR Happenings Newsletter

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

## SIR Mission Statement

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

helping in an activity, or getting on the executive board — let us know of your willingness to get involved.

Our November Luncheon is always memorable as it's the one where we honor our members who served in the armed forces. You are encouraged to wear a part of your uniform if you still have it! **Charlie Koeber** and **Bill Holly** will be presenting a slide show of all those who were in one of the branches. The Song Sirs will be honoring the branches by singing the hymns of all the branches.

We are also looking forward to our Ladies Day Luncheon in December — you will find the sign up form on page 4 of this Sir Call — Please be sure to submit your reservations early for this special year ending event.

***See you all in November to honor our Veterans!!***



### Little Sir's Corner

**Jonathan Korfhage**

Our November luncheon is one not to be missed! Not only are we honoring our veterans, but we will have an outstanding veteran who will be our speaker for the day — Retired Navy pilot and astronaut Dr. James van Hoften.

Dr. van Hoften is not only a decorated pilot who flew 60 combat missions in Vietnam but also has logged a total 338 hours in space, including 22 hours of **EVA** (spacewalk) flight time. Dr. van Hoften spent eight years as a NASA Astronaut. During his two flights on the space shuttles Challenger and Discovery he performed four space walks to repair disabled satellites.

Dr. van Hoften is a former Senior Vice President of the Bechtel Corporation. He was managing director of the global airport design and construction business and was responsible for airport developments in the Middle East, Japan, and North and South America.

He is currently on the Board of Directors of the Berkeley Engineering Foundation and has been Chair of its Annual Fund for more than 15 years. He has served on the Board of Trustees of the U.C. Berkeley Foundation since 2005. Dr. van Hoften is currently on the Board of Directors of Gatwick Airport in the United Kingdom and is on the Senior Advisors Board of Global Infrastructure Partners in New York.



### Membership

**Dave Pierce**

We inducted three members in October: **Marc Fong**, **Charlie Walker**, and **Jim Nelson**. However, **Darlo Boone** and **Don Adolphson** have moved to inactive status, and **Al Altmann** and **Roger Linn** have had

to resign. We hate to lose members, but fortunately our attrition this year has been less than usual to date. We are now at 300 members and we have exceeded our goal of 30 new members in 2018. I want to thank everyone, especially sponsors, for a strong year.

(925) 932-3877  
[dwpi@astound.net](mailto:dwpi@astound.net)



### 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.

- ◆ **Bill Klein**
- ◆ **Jim Saavedra**
- ◆ **Howard Nemir**
- ◆ **Joe Suta**
- ◆ **Jack Calloway**

Consider contacting a sick Sir to offer support and encouragement during his illness. A friendly call is usually welcome. Cards and letters are always appreciated. If you are aware of an ill Sir, please let the Sunshine Chair know by e-mail or phone so that our SIR members can be advised.

**Cal Tucker**  
phone: (925) 389-6070  
Email: [calvinctucker@gmail.com](mailto:calvinctucker@gmail.com)



## Veterans Committee Chairman Charlie Koeber

On November 8<sup>th</sup> SIR Branch 146 will honor all veterans with service songs and a slide show. All are encouraged to wear all or part of your uniform in recognition of your service.

We are doing an annual update of the slide show, and have contacted all Sirs who have joined during the year. If you are a veteran and have not received an email regarding the slide show or submitted the "morning report" after joining SIR, please contact **Charlie Koeber** at (925) 687-2263 or [chaskoeber@aol.com](mailto:chaskoeber@aol.com).

The slide show from November 2017 is on the branch website. Sirs who joined before that date may check the slides to insure they are included. If you are a veteran and your picture is not on the show, please contact me at the above email or number.



Past **Big Sir Garth Cummings** receives 20 year Membership Certificate from **Doug Eisner**, Honoree Committee Chairman at October's Luncheon



**Paul Beretz** — the  
Birthday Drawing  
Winner for October.



# THE CLUBHOUSE

AT BOUNDARY OAK

SIR 146 Luncheon

November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2018

## Salad

### Spicy Carrot Salad

Baby Greens, Pineapple,  
Citrus Segments  
Champagne Vinaigrette

## Entrees

### Holiday Turkey Dinner

Yukon Gold Mashed Potatoes,  
Seasonal Vegetables  
Turkey Gravy

Or

### Pan Seared Pacific Dory

Rice Pilaf, Seasonal Vegetables  
Roasted Tomato Caper Sauce

## Dessert

### Pumpkin Cheesecake

Crème Anglaise, Whipped Cream

#### SIR CALL Newsletter Group

Editor

**Richard Hockenbrock**

Co - Editors

**Walt Busenius, Rob Melrose**

Proofreaders

**Cal Tucker, Jonathan Korfhage,**

**Pat Lucia, and Jim Barry**

Internet Posting

**Ron Plachy**

## Reservations for Ladies Day Luncheon

### Salad Course

#### **Beets & Citrus Salad**

Roasted Beets, Seasonal Citrus Segments,  
Raspberry Vinaigrette

### Entrees

#### **Beef Filet**

Herb Marinated Beef, Potato Gratin,  
Seasonal Vegetables, Rosemary Infused Demi

Or

#### **Scampi Style Prawn**

Rice Pilaf, Seasonal Vegetables  
Lemon Garlic Cream Sauce

### Dessert

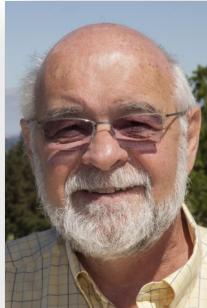
#### **Holiday Chocolate Cake**

*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 13<sup>th</sup>, 2018

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

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



## **Luncheon Chairman**

**Rob Melrose**

The days are getting cooler or I have a bad case of the chills. Speaking of chills, last year I failed to get my flu shot early. Make sure you stay healthy and get your flu shot!

### November 8<sup>th</sup> Luncheon

- Cost: \$26
- Preferred payment method is check
- Opt Out Deadline: November 2nd before Noon
- Email: [NoLunchBranch146@gmail.com](mailto>NoLunchBranch146@gmail.com)
- If you need to call: (925) 979-5146

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

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

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

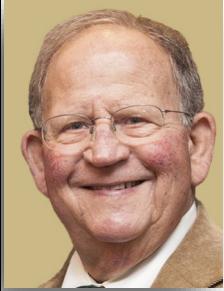
### **2018 Branch 146 Officers and Directors**

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

### **RAMP – Chair Members**

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

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



Henry Thatcher

Jim Pope

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

**November 30<sup>th</sup> Presidio-San Francisco, California**

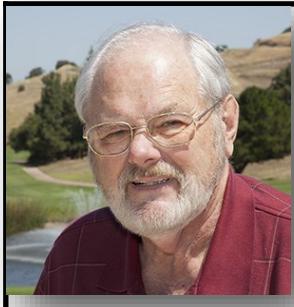
The Walt Disney Family Museum presents an inspirational journey through the life of Walter Elias Disney. You will experience the animation, innovation, and inspiration in the remarkable life story of Walt Disney, the man who raised animation to an art, tirelessly pursued innovation, and created a distinctly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

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

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

**We are looking forward to your participation!**

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



**Theatre**  
Gary Schaub

## Mama Mia!!

SIR Theater Party,  
Lesher Theatre, Walnut Creek  
Wednesday, September 26<sup>th</sup>



Photo by Gary Schaub

L to R: Reggie & Barbara Fromm, Mary Lou Pottinger, and Joe Fuchs



Photo by Gary Schaub

L to R: Alice Schultz, Tony & Cindy Greco, Bill Schultz



**Bocce Ball**  
Martin Lyle / Jim Whitsett

Bocce is taking its usual winter hiatus and will start up again in May, 2019. Players will be alerted prior to our May startup. We've had a great, fun-filled season. See you next year.

*Bocce Ball is played 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.*

Come and join us in May, 2019.

**Martin Lyle** (925) 687-4893  
[mvlyle@yahoo.com](mailto:mvlyle@yahoo.com)

**Jim Whitsett**—(925) 689-5493  
[AFRES056789@gmail.com](mailto:AFRES056789@gmail.com)



Photo by Jim Pope

### October's Greeters in their Colorful Hats

L to R : **Herb Wilson, Bob Wilkenfeld, Pete Gates, Gene Weisbrod , Lewis Chapman, Bob Yolland**



Photo by Gary Schaub

L to R: Sally & Jim Whitsett, Gary Schaub & Maria Gounaris, and Bill Holly



SIR Theatre group enjoying traditional ice cream at intermission of Mama Mia.. Yummy!!



## Travel

Milt Smith

### Bus Tour to Modesto

#### area: Sciacbica's Olive Oil, Hilmar Cheese Factory, and Duarte Farms.

Monday, December 3rd with the cost in the range of \$80 to \$120 depending on number of people. Park & Ride a motor coach from Mitchel Dr. in Walnut Creek to the Sciacbica Olive Oil Co where you will enjoy a tour, presentation, and olive oil tasting. After your tour and tasting, you can browse the gift shop.

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

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

#### Other Travel Opportunities:

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

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

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

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

Continue to Ecuador's Galápagos Islands, where you may swim in unspoiled waters with rollicking sea lions as your playmates. You will also find a living laboratory of Darwin's theory of evolution in these "Enchanted Isles."

In Ecuador, we glimpse the legacy of the Spanish Empire in Quito, the best-preserved colonial city in South America.

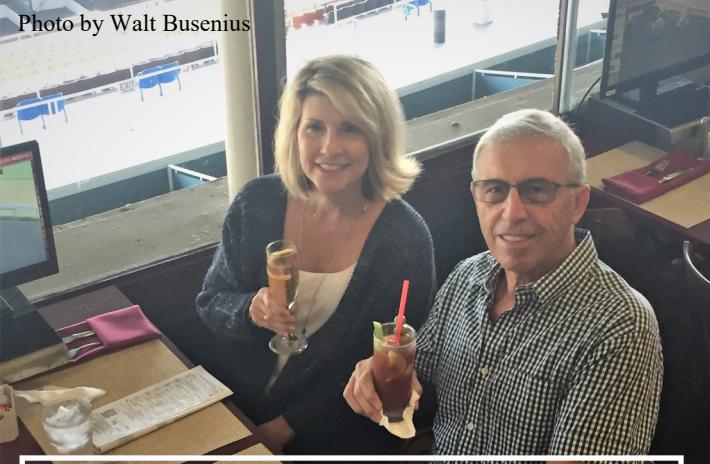
**Milt Smith**

(925) 285-2897 cell

### Sir Day At the Races

**Oct. 19<sup>th</sup> at Golden Gate Fields**

Photo by Walt Busenius



**Robin and Malcolm Harrison** have their racing forms and enjoying cocktails before the buffet & the races.

Photo by Walt Busenius



**Ann & Dennis Hallett and Bonnie & Vince Rettew** enjoying the Surf Club and all its amenities



## AREA 16 Fishing Report

**Paul Dubow**

Few people know that sturgeon roam San Pablo Reservoir. As far as we know, only one person has ever caught a sturgeon there. That person happens to be **Dick Thomson**, a long-time member of the SIR Fishing Group. Last year, Dick caught a five-foot sturgeon after an hour and half fight. Well, Dick has done it again and he outdid last year's performance! Fishing for rainbow trout with **Ron Lew** of Branch 146 and **Carl Moyer**, Dick hooked a six-foot sturgeon, which would weigh about 80 lbs., on an 8 lb. test line, and landed it after a two-hour battle. The fish was released.

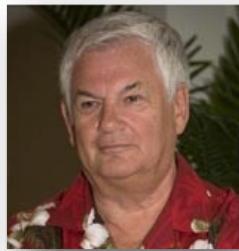
Our incredible and marvelous salmon season ended on October 31<sup>st</sup>. The last to haul in the pink meat was **Raleigh Davis**, who brought home a pair of 20 pounders after fishing on the Wacky Jacky. However, the ocean still produces. **Brion Beetz** and **Paul Dubow** of Branch 146, **Bob Stein**, **Carl Moyer**, **Terry Miller**, **Phil Scimonelli** and **Ron Lew** all caught rockfish and ling cod out on the briny. **Tom Kostik**, **Mike Corker**, **Terry Miller**, and **Harry Sherinian** caught stripers in the Delta. We are now all looking forward to the winter sturgeon and trout seasons, which begin now.

Our next meeting will be on November 15<sup>th</sup> at the Legend Sports Bar and Grill, Diablo Creek Golf Course, 4050 Port Chicago Highway, Concord. We normally meet on the fourth Thursday of the month, but this month's meeting is on the third Thursday because of Thanksgiving. The meeting begins at 8:30 am, but please join us at 7:30 am for breakfast and general camaraderie. If you have any questions, feel free to call branch fishing chair **Paul Dubow** at (415) 495-6504.

Photo by Bruce Borgman



SongSirs performing before appreciative audience at Byron Park Assisted Living Center



## SongSirs

**Bruce Borgman**

The SongSirs had a memorable performance at the Byron Park Independent and Assisted Living Center on Tice Valley Blvd on Friday, October 19<sup>th</sup>. Even though we have diminished numbers, we had ten enthusiastic singers plus yours truly as director, and **Steve Dinning** as pianist. This facility really rolls out the red carpet for us to sing in their "living room", where there were 30+ residents in attendance.

We sang a repertoire, which included Green Fields, Love, Theme from a Summer Place, You Light Up my Life, Pretty Baby, Oh, You Beautiful Doll, and others. **Corrie Oranje** sang a touching solo of "Always" with the rest of us joining in the chorus. We entered and exited with "Stouthearted Men" and sang "God Bless America" – with everyone joining with teary eyes. This event was particularly special because we saw our good friend, and former SongSir member **Lo McCarley**, and his wife **Sue** who are now residents of Byron Park, both of whom sang along with many of the songs. One of our singers, **Paul Beretz**, noted the following: "Being in the front row of singers, I could see smiles, sing-alongs, tears, and happy faces in the audience ... our gift to them, and a gift back to us". It was truly one of our finest performances, and a very touching one.

We will be singing each of the service songs at the November luncheon, and were also asked to celebrate Veteran's Day with the residents at Sunrise Senior Living. We will perform a patriotic program for them on Monday, November 12<sup>th</sup>. At that performance, **Peter Plante** will be directing the group. We have also been asked to sing a program for a Ladies' group at Rossmoor on January 21<sup>st</sup>. Our reputation for putting on an enthusiastic and cheery performance continues to blossom!

If you enjoy singing some of the older standards and lyrical songs, we are anxious to increase our ranks – check us out when we practice the first and third Wednesday, 1:30pm, at Walnut Creek Presbyterian Church.

The fattest knight at King Arthur's round table was Sir Cumference.

He acquired his size from too much pi.



## Photography Group

### Richard Hockenbrock

Our next meeting originally scheduled for November 30<sup>th</sup> has been changed to January 11, 2019 due to a scheduling conflict.

Following up on a request from some of our newer members, we will be presenting and highlighting comparisons on some of the important features to consider when buying a smartphone, a point and shoot camera, or an enthusiast camera covering different price ranges. This will be an interactive session so bring your questions for a lively discussion..

As is customary, we invite all attendees to bring a USB thumb drive with pictures they would like to share with the group.

If available, we will show a You Tube video review of the new iPhone XS and XS Max from a photography perspective. While the last meeting was well attended, there is always room for more to come and enjoy the show!

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:** How to buy a new camera in different price ranges plus a photography review of the new iPhone XS & XS Max

**When:** Friday, January 11, 2019.

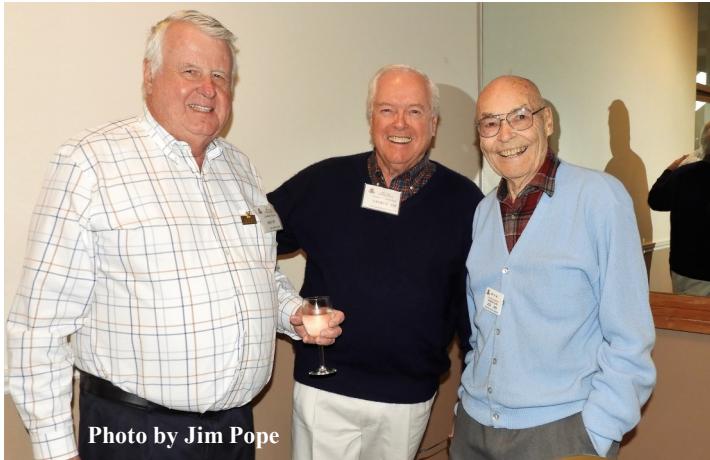


Photo by Jim Pope

L to R: Past Big Sir Bob Yolland, George Carpenter, and Charter Member Joe Suta. Br 146 founded 29 yrs. ago



## Pinochle

### Charlie Kahsen / Jeff Morrow

We meet on the third Wednesday of the month at



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

All Sirs in Area 16 and their guests (including spouses) are welcome to attend. Introduction and training will be provided to those who have never before played, as well as those who last played many years ago.

If you are interested in joining our group, call one of us or send an email to both our email addresses and one of us will get back to you.

If you plan to come, please let us know ahead of time so we can let Rocco's know whether or not you plan to have lunch with the group.

In our game this month we again had a nice turnout, all of whom enjoyed lunch, followed by a little over two hours of card playing. We had an entertaining and very competitive game of six-handed pinochle consisting of two teams, each with 3 players.

Our next game is scheduled for Wednesday November 21st. We hope to see you there.

### 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)



## Table Pool

### Bill Weinberg

We meet every Monday at 11:00 am at Masses, 2721 North Main in Walnut Creek. No advance notice is necessary. Just show up and play. Cost is \$5 for as long as you want to play. This is a special rate that Masses gives SIR members. You can also play at other times during the week for the same \$5. Just tell them you are a member of SIR. We play mostly two man teams of eight ball, or a unique three-player game, called "Crazy Eights", depending on the number of participants. We usually play about 2 hours but not everyone stays for the final curtain. All Sirs in Area 16 are welcome.



## Activities Coordinator

Jerry Kaplan

### POSSIBLE NEW ACTIVITIES – ANYONE INTERESTED?

Several possible new activities have been suggested by some of your fellow SIR members. They are listed below with the name and contact info of the Sir who is interested in starting up the activity. If you are also interested, please reach out to that person to discuss. As usual, I will be happy to assist in any way I can.

- **Hearts** (card game) – **Bob West** ([robertawest@aol.com](mailto:robertawest@aol.com), (925) 518-8472)
- **Table Tennis** – **Ron Afdal** ([ronafdal@comcast.net](mailto:ronafdal@comcast.net), (925) 825-4809)
- **Dixieland Jazz Group** – **Ross Abbott** ([rossabbott@hotaill.com](mailto:rossabbott@hotaill.com), 925 939-1121 OR **Chuck Cornell** ([ccornell2@astound.net](mailto:ccornell2@astound.net), 925 933-7599)

We now have about 300 members in Branch 146. There is a very good chance that one or more of your fellow Sirs has a similar interest in an activity or hobby that you have enjoyed as a favorite pastime and would like to share with others. There is always room for a new activity. As you're probably aware, the Branch has initiated several table-top type activities in the past year including, pinochle, chess, and a new bridge group. If you have an idea, such as **Bob West's** hope that he can start playing Hearts with some fellow Sirs, let me know and I'll help you develop an article for the SIR Call and make an announcement at a meeting to learn if there are others interested.

### BRANCH WALKING GROUP LOOKING FOR A NEW LEADER

The **Friday Walkers** group activity, as it is now operating, is sun setting as an official Branch activity. However, if a member is interested in resurrecting the activity in a somewhat different format – perhaps planning longer walks, meeting monthly or semimonthly instead of weekly, etc. - **SIR Frank Ascotigno**, the current chair, will be happy to help it get started. He can be reached at [frankascotigno@gmail.com](mailto:frankascotigno@gmail.com) or (925) 429-2232.

**Jerry Kaplan**  
925 330-8832  
[mtdana@aol.com](mailto:mtdana@aol.com)



## SIR 146 Hiking

Rich Ahlf

On November 9, 2018, we will be hiking nearby at Round Valley Regional Preserve which is about 11 miles from Clayton off Marsh Creek road. This hike's Difficulty rating is Moderate.

I have done this hike and it took two and a half hours including a half hour lunch break at the summit to complete. It will be about a five mile hike and we should take about three hours to do it.

I would like to start about 10:00am. Anyone wishing to carpool should meet at the Clayton Library about 9:30am. See you there.

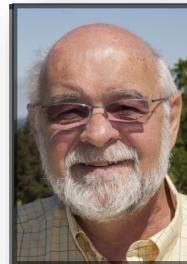
Spouses / Significant Others Always Welcome

Rain Cancels

Hike starts at 10:00 am

**Rich Ahlf**

E-mail: [rahlf@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rahlf@sbcglobal.net)  
Cell (925) 550-4967



## Wine Tasting

Rob Melrose

On October 24th, thirty two of us gathered at the lovely home of **Bob and Jane West**. We tasted wines from Italy and Australia. **Bob** and **Jane** decided we would have not only a country face-off but a hemispheric face-off.

As is our custom, the hosts were presented with a bottle of wine, this time an old vine Montepulciano from Abruzzo, Italy. **Peter and Gabriela Bishop** were awarded an Australian white for bringing the best white wine which was Cantina Zaccagnini Pinot Grigio. **Rich Hanford** and **Sandy Wagner** won an Italian red for bringing the best red wine which was a Victoria Park Shiraz. Congratulations to the winners and a very sincere thank you to **Bob** and **Jane** for hosting. Photos on next page.

Our next event is February 27<sup>th</sup>. Location TBD.

If you are not on our distribution list and would like to be included, please send an email to Rob Melrose at

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



Photo by Bill Holly

Host **Jane** and **Bob West** with their appreciation gift presented by **Rob Melrose**



Photo by Bill Holly

**Rob Melrose** presents **wine** to **Pete** and **Gabriela Bishop** for bringing the best white wine.



Photo by Bill Holly

**Rob Melrose** presenting **Rich Hanford** and **Sandy Wagner** their prize for bringing the best red wine



Photo by Bill Holly

**Tony** and **Jean Shebanek** pause for a photo.



Photo by Bill Holly

**Brian** and **Mary McCarthy** enjoying the day.



**Ross** and **Janet Abbott** having fun at the wine tasting event.



## Couples Dining Out

Bruce Borgman

After looking around at smaller restaurants, as we discussed in last month's article, we decided to check out a place where we had a good dinner back in 2014. We have decided to go back to Le Cheval in Walnut Creek. This family owned restaurant at 1375 N. Broadway started in 1985 in Oakland, later opening in Walnut Creek and continues to be a favorite of many of our diners. Their Vietnamese cuisine is a blend of French, Chinese and Southeast Asian flavors. We will dine here on **Tuesday, Nov. 6<sup>th</sup>**, with social hour at 5:30 and dinner to start at 6:15 pm.

We have agreed on an extensive and varied menu, which will include two appetizers – their signature shrimp rolls and the salty calamari followed by a cabbage salad in a vinaigrette. For the entrees we will have garlic noodles, lemongrass chicken, cube beef steak with green beans, and prawns in coconut milk or as salt and pepper prawns. For each of the dishes, except the prawns, each table will have two platters - one for each of the prawns to allow you to sample each variety. Dessert will be the banana flambé. Hot green tea will also be served. This is a wonderful variety of dishes and plenty of food so no one goes home hungry.

The cost of this dinner is only \$41 per person, inclusive of tax and tip. We can accommodate about 56 diners and will have adequate space for our social hour. The restaurant will offer their happy hour pricing for house wine of just \$7 and will reduce the normal corkage to only \$10 should you bring your own bottle.

### **Late update - we are fully booked.**

Parking is convenient, within a block, in two public parking garages. We will enjoy a wonderful evening with old and new friends.



A vulture carrying two dead raccoons boards an airplane. The stewardess looks at him and says, 'I'm sorry, only one carrion allowed per passenger!'



## Pickleball

Jim Burk

Branch 146 Sirs (some with their spouses) are now regularly playing this exciting and active game at the Activity and Recreation Center (ARC) of the San Ramon Valley United Methodist Church.

The ARC is located at 902 Danville Boulevard in Alamo and has three beautiful courts for playing Pickle Ball. Everyone is welcome to play there during any of the drop-in times on Monday thru Friday between 9:00 am and 1:00 pm, and between 1:00 pm and 4:00 pm. A player will pay \$5 per session. Each player will be allowed to get in as many games as the number of players that day allows using the traditional player wait list approach.

There is also instruction available on Thursdays from 1:00 - 2:30 p.m. The cost of instruction is \$10 per player, plus the \$5 drop-in fee referenced above. A player would be allowed to play until 4:00 pm, space permitting, before or following their one and 1/2 hours of instruction. A player wishing to take advantage of the instruction should call the ARC at (925) 837-2011 and reserve a time (space for 8 players maximum is available)."

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

Jim Burk

(925) 946-1192

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



Photo by Jim Pope

L to R: **Ron Lew, Dave Pierce and Ken Kratz** sharing stories and taking time to smile for the lens

# Mexican Train Dominoes Groups



## Mexican Train Dominoes Group 1 (UNO) Jerry Kaplan

This October, the Mexican Train Uno group, minus a number of key players, met at **SIR Frank** and lovely wife **Marie Ascotigno's** home.

We also welcomed **Bob** and **Janet Yolland** as first time subs for our group. **Marie** did a wonderful job of spoiling us at the break with homemade apple crisp (apples from their tree) and seasonal pumpkin cupcakes.

For a change of pace, the top three winners were all men! Congratulations to **SIR Jeff Baily**, going out 5 times in eleven games, being awarded first place with an average score of 15.7; Second place went to **SIR Peter Plante** (19.5 average) and third place to our host, **SIR Frank Ascotigno** (20.5 average).

Report submitted by Sue Oranje

There is always room for more players who want to be on a substitute list as an occasional player either in this group or one of the other five Mexican Train Dominoes groups. Please reach out to the one of the groups to join the fun. The game is entertaining to play and easy to learn! Single Sirs as well as a Sir and his Significant Other are always welcome. The branch activities coordinator will also help start a new group if asked.

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

Photo by Rob Melrose



MTD Group 1 (UNO): The all Male Trio of Winners were **Jeff Baily**, **Peter Plante**, and **Frank Ascotigno**.



## Mexican Train Dominoes Group 2 (DOS) Dick Woodman

We had a great game night at **Bill** and **Lynette Holly's** home in September. They always provide a great spread of food and game night was no exception. In addition, they come up with very innovative sign-in processes.

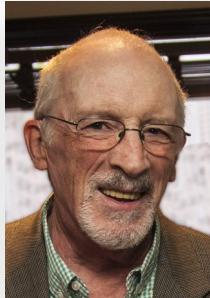
**Rich Ahlf** took first place for the evening with the great score of 11.6 average points per game. **Rich** has placed first or second each month so far this year. **Tony Greco** won second place with a 16.2 score and **Dick Woodman** won third with a score of 17.1. Congrats to all of our winners.

Our next game night is on October 26<sup>th</sup> at the home of **Ron** and **Anne Plachy**.



MTD Group 4 (El Quattro) L to R: **Barbara Korfhage**, **Rich Pace**, **Barbara Elenteny**, **Jonathan Korfhage**, **Fran Matthews**, **Renie Pope**, **June Seaton**, **Don Seaton**, **Ron Louis**, **Yvonne Killips** and **Bill Weinberg**.

# Mexican Train Dominoes Groups



## Mexican Train Dominoes Group 3 (TRES) Jeff Baily

A fun night was had at the home of **Dick** and **Judy Richmond**. Tables were selected by the chocolates left there by the hosts...

Table one was the Snicker table, table two--Milky Way and table three -- Twix. First, the Milky way six-some, of **Alicia Baily**, **Dick Richmond**, **Linda Brown**, **Lynn Shafer**, **Jim Baldridge** and **Sharon Varner**, had a best score of 31.4. Remember the lowest score wins, so 31.4 was not in the money. There were more stars at this table than in the Milky Way!

At the Twix table were **Susan Oranje**, **Jim Stedman**, **Jim Barry**, **Linda Siljestrom**, **Judy Baldridge** and **Sally Shafer**. **Sally Shafer**. **Jim Stedman** began the first 4 games by going out twice, and **Jim** took the table and overall 2<sup>nd</sup> place by further achieving a final score of 15.7. Now for the other battle at Twix between **Linda Siljestrom** and **Sally Shafer**. **Linda** placed 3<sup>rd</sup> at the table and overall 3<sup>rd</sup> place with a score of 19.0, edging out **Sally** with a of 20.6 score.

At the Snicker table were **Larry Brown**, **Walt Busenius**, **Steve Siljestrom**, **Jeff Baily**, **Corrie Oranje** and **Judy Richmond**. **Larry Brown** won 3 games and managed to keep his other scores low coming in with a score of 12.33 to win overall first place. **Larry's** performance was exceptional – nothing to snicker about!



MTD Group 3 Winners (L to R) 2nd place **Jim Stedman**, 3rd place **Linda Siljestrom**, 1st place **Larry Brown**



## Mexican Train Dominoes Group 4 (El Quattro) Jim Pope

The El Quattro Mexican Train Dominos group met on Friday night October 12<sup>th</sup> with 12 in attendance.

They included: **Don & June Seaton**, **Bill Weinberg** & **Yvonne Killips**, **Ron Louis & Fran Matthews**, **Jonathan & Barbara Korfhage**, **Barbara Elenteny** (guest), **Rich Pace**, **Jim & Renie Pope**. We had a rousing game of 12s dominos with two tables of 6; it was fast and furious.

The "Low Score Table" winners were **Bill Weinberg** and **Jonathan Korfhage** (See picture below). Each received 6 California Lottery Tickets with an available prize of \$1000.

Lovely snacks of scrimp, corn, caramel, and Halloween cookies, etc. were enjoyed by all. With the always available ample wine supply and other drinks to quench our thirsts. (See our group picture on page 12.)

Our next El Quattro Mexican Train Dominos meeting will be December 7<sup>th</sup> with a Holiday theme and we will again collect food supplies for the Monument Crisis Center in Concord.



MTD Group 4 (El Quattro) Low Score Table Winners **Bill Weinberg** and **Jonathan Korfhage**.

# Mexican Train Dominoes Groups



## Mexican Train Dominoes Group 5 (CINCO) Chuck Campbell

Who's Counting? If number of rounds played were a factor in declaring winners and losers, the MTD Cinco ladies table could have claimed total victory. The women finished 9 rounds to the gentlemen's 6 at a delightful evening at **Steve and Sally Sprague's** home in Rossmoor.

With lightning speed at the women's table, **Ann Hallett** crossed the MTD finish line in 1<sup>st</sup> place, besting **Jim Burk's** 2<sup>nd</sup> and her own husband **Dennis Hallett's** 3<sup>rd</sup> place scores.

Nevertheless, slow and steady did manage to gain the majority of wins. After all, MTD is a SIRS, not a 'Madams' group event.



## Mexican Train Dominoes Group 6 (SEIS) John "Moose" Kelly

**Brian and Mary McCarthy** welcomed the Mexican Train Dominos 6 Group to their home in Clayton with plenty of delicious Halloween snacks (love those white peanut butter chocolates). My thanks to them for hosting such a lively and spirited event. There were a total of 13 competitors: **Brian and Mary McCarthy**, **Bruce Borgman**, **Susan Shelton**, **Rob Melrose**, **Carmen Schiavone**, **Jim Barry**, **Joyce Wells**, **Bob and Jane West**, **Steve and Jan Ondek**, as well as yours truly.

The low score, in the money winners, were **Carmen Schiavone** (1), **Bob West** (2), and **Steve Ondek** (3). The high score contestants with a scratchy award each of "El Día De Los Muertos" (Day of the Dead > Mexican Halloween Theme) were **Bruce Borgman** and **Mary McCarthy**. Congratulations to the winners!!!

I will be sending out an email for our last MTD 6 event in 2018 on November 27th. Please mark your calendars. Thanks everyone for a super time with the MTD 6 team.



Photo by John Kelly

MTD 6 Big money winners **Steve Ondek**,  
**Carmen Schiavone** and **Bob West**



Photo by John Kelly

**Brian McCarthy**, **Rob Melrose**, **Bruce Borgman** and **Joyce Wells**



MTD 6 Scratchers winners **Mary McCarthy** and **Bruce Borgman**

She was only a whisky-maker, but he loved her still.



## Couples Duplicate Bridge 1 Bob Yolland

Sir's Couples Duplicate 1 had an excellent evening of bridge hosted by **Rich Ahlf** and **Ismini MacLean**, on October 17<sup>th</sup>. Thank you both for hosting and all the great goodies. Your pumpkin pie was perfect for the season. For results, **Dick** and **Christy DeVoe** placed third with 20.5 points. **Rich Ahlf** and **Ismini MacLean** was second a half point ahead with 21.0 points and **Bob** and **Janet Yolland** came in first with 24.5 points. Congratulations to all the winners.

Since we meet on the 3rd Wednesday and the next couple of months, with Thanksgiving and Christmas, present significant challenges due to travel. The group therefore decided to hold our next game on January 16, 2019 hosted by **Anne Johnson**.

We wish everyone a very Happy Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. See you all in 2019



## Couples Duplicate Bridge 2 Dave Pierce

What a pleasure it was to have the regulars together when **Brad** and **Lynne Hatcher** hosted us on October 9<sup>th</sup>. It was a close match; **Brad** and **Lynne** (54%) barely edged out **Dick** and **Christy DeVoe** (third, 53%) for second place, and **Joan** and **Dave Pierce** (59%) were just two match points better. All six pairs can take pride in several hands well bid and well played (or well defended).

**Dave Pierce**, (925) 932-3877 [dwpi@astound.net](mailto:dwpi@astound.net)



## Party Bridge Fred Bolton

We played three tables of bridge at the home of **Bill Rees** on October 1<sup>st</sup>. First place went to **Bob Yolland** with 5890 points, second to **Jim Brown** with 5270, and third to **Bill Rees** with 4550. Our next game will be on November 5<sup>th</sup> the home of **Max Hinkle**.

## Couples Party Bridge Tony Greco

**Rich Ahlf & Ismini MacLean** hosted the October 2<sup>nd</sup> event. Various delicious wines and snacks were provided throughout the evening. The evening ended with a choice of a delicious berry or apple pie a la mode with coffee. We thank our subs, **Bob & Janet Yolland** and **John & Kathy Kluesener** for subbing for **Larry & Linda Brown** and **Jerry & Christine Benoit**. The **Yolland's** were rewarded with good cards, but unfortunately the **Kluesener's** were not.

Several potential slam hands were dealt but only about half were attempted with only one being made by **Bob & Janet Yolland** which helped secure their 1<sup>ST</sup> PLACE finish with 4130 total points. **Rich Ahlf & Ismini MacLean** took 2<sup>ND</sup> PLACE with 3310 points and 3<sup>RD</sup> PLACE went to **Dick & Christy DeVoe** with 3270 points. The big winner, however, was **Tony Greco** who got to take home a bag of figs from a neighbor's tree. As a reminder and in the interest of fairness, any attempt by declarer to switch hands with the dummy will not be tolerated! LOL

Next month's event will be held on November 6<sup>th</sup> and hosted by **Jerry & Christine Benoit**. Once again, if anyone is interested in playing some low key couples party bridge (and likes wine, snacks and dessert) and is interested in subbing once in a while, give me a call or catch me at the next SIR luncheon.

**Tony Greco**  
(925) 934-0395 [almanorwest@sbcglobal.net](mailto:almanorwest@sbcglobal.net)

## 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).

I got tasered while picking up my friend from the airport yesterday.

Apparently security doesn't like it when you shout:  
"Hi Jack!"





## Men's Duplicate Bridge 1

### Doug Eisner

Rich Ahlf hosted 3 tables of Duplicate Bridge 1 on October 15<sup>th</sup>. The day started well for **Doug Eisner**, **Bob Yolland**, **Bill Schultz**, and **Rich Ahlf** as at the lunch break these 4 players occupied the top 4 positions with 17.5 pts, 15.5 pts, 14.5 pts., and 14.5 pts, respectively.

In a very unusual turn of events, these same players held their respective positions at the end of the day although the score spread was much narrower. The final scores were **Doug Eisner**, 30.5 pts, **Bob Yolland**, 30.0 pts, and **Bill Schultz**, 29.5 pts.

**Fred Bolton** will host our November 19<sup>th</sup> game. This will be a Swiss Pairs game provided 16 players are available.



Photo by Bill Schultz

Duplicate Bridge 1 winners (L to R): **Bob Yolland**, **Doug Eisner** and **Bill Schultz**.



Photo by Bill Schultz

Duplicate Bridge 3: **Fred Bolton**, **Jerry Benoit** and **Mark Curtis** enjoy lunch on **Dick DeVoe's** front patio



## Men's Duplicate Bridge 3

### Sid Landman

Our October 19<sup>th</sup> Duplicate Bridge 3 event was nicely hosted by **Dick DeVoe**.

1st Place: **Mike Whitaker** with 28.5 points. **Mike** won using a 1st half 1st Place and a 2nd half 3rd Place, plus 10 two's (the highest). 2nd Place: **Jim Stedman** with 28.0 pts. **Jim** was the most consistent player, with 14 pts. for each half (2nd Place tie for the 1st half and 2nd Place for the 2nd half). 3rd Place: **Jim Brown** with 27.0 pts. **Jim** tied for 2nd Place in the 1st half and earned 4th Place the 2nd half.

Lowest No. of Zeros: 5 zeros is usually way too many. However, 5 was the lowest number this event, earned by five players!

Best Partnerships (maximum is 6 pts. for 3 boards):

Bds. 1-3:	<b>Jim Stedman/Tony Greco</b> (5.0).
Bds. 4-6:	<b>Jim Brown/Bill Schultz</b> (4.5).
Bds. 7-9:	<b>Mike Whitaker/Joe Fuchs</b> (4.0).
Bds. 10-12:	<b>Jerry Benoit/Tony Greco</b> (4.0).
Bds. 13-15:	<b>Jerry Benoit/Bob Yolland</b> (4.0).
Bds. 16-18:	<b>Mike Whitaker/Jim Brown</b> (5.0).
Bds. 19-21:	<b>Jim Brown/Tony Greco</b> (5.0).
Bds. 22-24:	<b>Bill Schultz/Joe Fuchs</b> (5.0).



for each new morning  
with its light  
for rest and shelter  
of the night  
for health and food  
for friends and love  
For Everything  
thy goodness sends



ralph waldo emerson



## Poker Group 1

### Dan O'Sullivan

Poker Group #1 met at the home of **Frank McNamee** on October 10<sup>th</sup>. As always a good time was had by all. Our next outing will be at the home of **Dan O'Sullivan** on November 14<sup>th</sup>.



## Old Money Poker

### Group 6

### Brad Hatcher

The game was held on October 4<sup>th</sup> at **Brad Hatcher's** home. As is usual for our group, various snacks and wine were also in attendance. **Rich Ahlf** was the recipient of the most money from the players. Notable hands were held by **Brad Hatcher** - two straight flushes and one royal flush (with a wild card's help). Even with those nice hands, he came away with only second place.

### Brad Hatcher

Tel: (925) 935-1571

[bhatcher1942@gmail.com](mailto:bhatcher1942@gmail.com)



## Poker Group 2

### Al Zamolo

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



## Cooking Lunch & Wine

### Bill Hartman

*The LAW cooking group meets on the 4<sup>th</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 dinners each year with our partners which are scheduled for March and September.*



## Poker Club 3

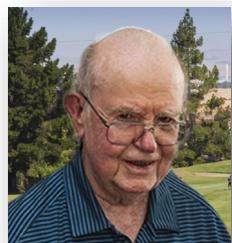
### Sig Kalteis

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



## Poker Group 4

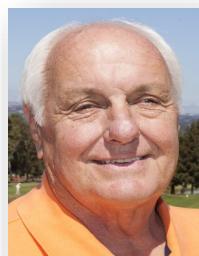
### Rich Hanford



## Book Corner

### Peter Plante

We will have a fully stocked Book Corner for you in November.



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

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

Photo by Carl Tilchen



## Acoustic Musicians

Carl Tilchen

You're invited. The SIRS Acoustic Music Group has changed its location, because Vinnie's Bar has an enthusiastic friendly audience, a band to accompany, & excellent food & drinks. This includes an Open Mike. All musicians with acoustic or electric instruments are welcome. Listeners who enjoy music are welcome too. No Cover Charge. Please write your name on the list to play. Address is 2045 Mt. Diablo St. Concord, Monday, November 12<sup>th</sup>, at 8:30 pm.

Contact Carl at [carltilchenmusic391@gmail.com](mailto:carltilchenmusic391@gmail.com)



L to R: Joe Stengel, and George Mon checking in Dan O'Sullivan for October's Luncheon



## Cooking II

Bob Yolland

Cooking II had a great lunch October 8<sup>th</sup> at **Bill Roberts'** home. With good weather we had our starters outside on the patio. They included Caesar Stuffed Deviled Eggs, Artichoke Frittata and Salami, Dubliner Cheese and Crackers. Plus, of course, some very good wines.

All members attended except **Bruce Borgman** who was enjoying France and French wines. For lunch **Bill** served an excellent Chicken Salad Sandwich with sliced almonds on a croissant, accompanied with a Mediterranean Pasta Salad with sun-dried tomatoes, olive oil, fresh herbs and olives. He finished with Angel food cake topped with Vanilla pudding and ice cream, drizzled with chocolate sauce and topped with fresh strawberries and blueberries.

Thanks **Bill** for a super meal and as always a great time solving all the problems of the world.

Why did the cows return to the marijuana field?

It was the pot calling the cattle back.



## Cribbage

John Pearl

On Wednesday, October 24th, four of the SIRS cribbage faithful gathered at the home of our usual host, **Barney Meade**. **Barney** took first place, winning five of his six games, including two "skunks." **Dennis Hallett** came in second, while **Ron Afdal**, our honorable co-chair did well, coming in third.

The Chair violated one of **Barney's** principle rules of cribbage, and paired up on "fourth street," which cost him the game.

The fun continues on the Wednesday after Thanksgiving, November 29th, at 12:30 pm.

John Pearl, Chair  
[mcpearl@astound.net](mailto:mcpearl@astound.net)

## Yearly Golf Luncheon & Tournament

Tuesday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>



Photo by Bill Schultz

**Vince Rettew and Ben Gleason** chowing down in the Buffet Line. How were the beans men!



Short business meeting and an explanation of new USGA rules. Exciting stuff.

Photo by Bill Schultz



Corrie Orange checking out a club. Does the smile mean he likes the club or the camera.

## Nine Hole Golf Group

### Verner Laursen

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

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

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



L to R: **Richard Morgan, Howard Zimmerman and George Mon** in front of the table of used clubs.

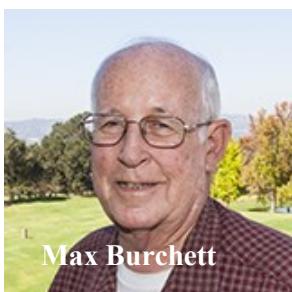
Photo Walt Busenius



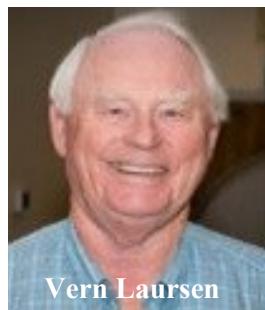
Ready to tee-off on Boundary Oak's hole 10 are (L to R) **Ben Gleason, Steve Sprague and Ed Brands**

## Area 16 Events

### Mac User Group (MUG)



Max Burchett



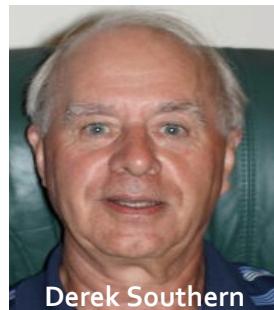
Vern Laursen

*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.

### Computers and Technology



Derek Southern



PCs

Neil Schmidt

Our next SIR Area 16 Computer & Tech Meeting will be on Thursday, November 15, 2018 starting at 9:30 am at the Walnut Creek Elks Lodge. The November presentation will be "Photoshop Elements - 2019". Barry Brown, our resident Photoshop expert, will demonstrate some of the exciting new photo editing features now available with this PC based program. New features available in version 2019 include Adobe's Sensei that automates photo editing, precise selection made effortlessly and stunning creations, etc.

We ask for a donation from our attendees of \$5 to cover our costs. All SIR members and their guests (spouses included!) are welcome to attend. See you there... The Area 16 Computer and Technology Group meetings are fun and informative where we discuss applications for computers and technology. At each meeting we have a presentation on a topic covering everything from antivirus programs, ways to back up your data, digital photography, genealogy research, smart phones and many other topics. It's a great way to learn about new technology and to also get answers to your computer questions/problems. Also check out our website at: <https://sirinc2.org/a16cat/>

### Area 2 \$UMS Investment Group

\$UMS in Retirement meets again on Wednesday, November 14<sup>th</sup> at 8 AM (2nd Wednesday this time due to Thanksgiving) at the Legends Restaurant at Diablo Creek Golf Course on Port Chicago Highway, Concord, just north of Hwy 4.

Our speaker will be Joan Grimes, J. D., who will speak about income tax in preparation for the first filings under the new law.

The 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)



Apparently  
Mac  
supports  
Windows  
now

## SIR 146 Activities Calendar

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

	2017	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	2019
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday								
Oct 28	29	30	31	Nov 1	2	3								
	8:30 AM Book Group Greenery Restaurant 11:30 AM - 2:00 PM Table Pool at Masses	9:00 AM Golf 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Pickleball (MTWTF) San Ramon Valley United Methodist Church 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM Pickleball (MTWTF) San Ramon Valley United Methodist Church	10:00 AM Bowling 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM NINE HOLE GOLF-1	9:30 AM - 2:00 PM Men's Duplicate Bridge 2 9:30 AM Walkers	9:30 AM - 2:00 PM Men's Duplicate Bridge 2 9:30 AM Walkers									
4	5	6	7	8	9	10								
	10:00 AM Party Bridge 11:30 AM - 2:00 PM Table Pool at Masses 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM Mac User Group (MUG)	9:00 AM Golf 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Pickleball (MTWTF) San Ramon Valley United Methodist Church 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM Pickleball (MTWTF) San Ramon Valley United Methodist Church 5:30 PM Coupes Dining Out Le Cheval 1375 Brodway, WC 7:00 PM Coupes Party Bridge	10:00 AM Bowling 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM Poker Group #1 1:30 PM Song Sirs 1st	9:30 AM BEC Meeting 11:45 AM - 1:00 PM SIR LUNCHEON	9:30 AM Walkers 10:00 AM Hiking Moderate 6:45 PM - 10:00 PM Mexican Train Dominos Group 1 (UNO)									
11	12	13	14	15	16	17								
18	19	20	21	22	23	24								
25	26	27	28	29	30	Dec 1								