

## Big Sir's Notes Pete Gates

In the first two months of this year we have welcomed nine high quality men into our Branch and are well on the way to achieving our goal of 26 for the year. Unfortunately, we lost 4 members over the same period due to transfer or going Inactive and one more is poised to go inactive. Therein lies the reason why we all need to continue bringing our friends and acquaintances to our luncheons to let them have a look at our great organization. This is how we will stay strong and vibrant; one of the best Branches in Sir.

You will be pleased to know that the financial health of the Branch is good. Our Audit Committee, consisting of **Frank Rockwell** and **Lew Thompson**, has completed their work and reported that they had found "no major exceptions to Article 10 [The State SIR Standard] and there were no deficiencies discovered in the Branch receipts and disbursements of the general and custodial accounts". They did recommend some improvements, which we will address. Our Treasurer, **Dick Woodman**, has succeeded in getting our banking accounts in order for the coming year. Expense reductions put in place by last years' team have left our books in great shape. Thanks guys for a job well done!

We are in the process of forming a Publicity Committee around volunteer Chair, **Bill Hoban**. The focus will be on publicizing our Branch to both external and internal (SIR) audiences. If any of you have expertise in this area, I am sure that Bill would appreciate some help. We have a lot to offer and we don't want to keep that to ourselves.

We have received a lot of negative feedback about the poor quality of the sound system in the banquet room. Actually, it was bad In January and terrible in February. We had attempted to tune it up prior to the last luncheon but it appears we just made things worse. **Jim Burk** and I met with **CourseCo** in an attempt to

resolve this issue. **Lance** was apologetic and showed a strong commitment to resolving the problem. We will keep you posted on developments.

**Vince Rettew** has expressed concern about the slow sign-ups for the April 13<sup>th</sup> Dinner Party at Zio Fraedo's. These get-togethers are lots of fun. There is still time. Fill out the enclosed form and send it to Vince right away.

I hope to see another great turnout on March 10<sup>th</sup>.

See you there, **Pete**

## Little Sir's Corner Jim Burk



Our speaker for **March** will be **DICK CALLAHAN**, the public address announcer for both the A's at the Oakland Coliseum, and the California Golden Bears at Memorial Stadium in Berkeley . He also worked for the Golden State Warriors from 1981 to 2000. A special thank you to **Ray Kan** for his assistance in securing **Dick** who is a neighbor living in Moraga.

In **April**, we will be able to get an early report on the progress of the Caldecott Fourth Bore Project from **JEFFREY WEISS**, Public Information Officer, with Caltrans. Early reports indicate that the \$391 million project is below budget and on schedule to be complete by late 2013. As of February 1, crews had dug out about 27% of the bore's length.

Looking ahead to **May** and our Ladies Day luncheon, I am pleased to report that our speaker will be **TERI MCKEEVER**, currently the Women's Swimming and Diving Head Coach at the University of California, Berkeley and recently named the USA Women's Swimming and Diving Head Coach for the 2012 Summer Olympics in London.



## Duplicate Bridge Terry Marchione

*Our match is held each month on the Monday after the SIR luncheon at various homes. Bring your lunch*



Sir **George Zunich** hosted our January game with four tables of duplicate bridge.

**Fred Kovar** (44 points) edged out **Jim Jackson** (43.5 points) for first place with **Jim Stedman** and **Bob Yolland** tying for third spot. Overall it was a very close game as only ½ point separating the next 6 players.

Our next game is scheduled for Monday, March 14. **Jim Jackson** will host three tables

Sir **Dick Devoe** and myself are in the process of trying to set up a second duplicate group. This group would play on a different day and would, most likely, be a three table game. We welcome all bridge players.

## Couples Duplicate Bridge Too Joe Barry

The SIR Couples Duplicate Bridge Too contest was marvelously hosted by **Terry/Sharon Marchione** in February. **Joe/Josie Barry** took a month off due to the pressures of this regular event, and wouldn't you know it? Substitutes **Bob** and **Janet Yolland** swirled in, grabbed 1st place, and swirled back out!

How can this HAPPEN? What is to be done about it? Mandatory enrollment in certified bridge courses? Having an annual qualifying requirement, like the PGA tour? Referring the problem to our Branch Executive Committee? Decisions must be made, or we regulars will continue to feel like chopped liver.

The fact that **Dick/Christy DeVoe** took 2nd place was an additional wakeup call to 3rd place recipients **Jim/Ruth Adams** and the unwashed below them that something strange is going on. Surely next month will begin to provide some answers.

## Couples Duplicate Bridge Lo McCarley

*Meet the 3rd Wednesday of each month starting at 7:00 pm at participants' homes. Couples play as partners.*



Eight couples had a great time playing duplicate bridge on February 16th at **George Zunich's** and **Tamara Judson's** home. This month the group had a lot of substitutes and gave warm welcomes to **Daphne Merritt** (who filled in for **Vince Rettew**), **Bob Donahue** (who filled for **Tamara Judson**), and **Dave** and **Joan Pierce** (who filled in for **Jim** and **Allison Todhunter**). As for the bridge results, **Carl** and **Anne Johnson** took first place with 38 points. **Margot Somerville** and **Daphne Merritt** took second (37 points), **Bob** and **Janet Yolland** (33 points) placed third, and **Jim Brown** and **Jill Reiner** finished in fourth place with 32 points. **Bill** and **Margaret Rees** will host the next bridge party on March 16<sup>th</sup>.

## COUPLES PARTY BRIDGE TERRY MARCHIONE



**Doug** and **Patti Eisner** hosted three tables of Chicago style party bridge. Final results saw an unusual (for party bridge) tie for first place between the **Eisner's** (obviously a home court advantage) and **Dave** and **Joan Pierce**. **Lynn** and **Dasha Freeman** squeezed in for third place honors.

We welcomed the **Bigelows** for the first time and are pleased to say we have another couple joining our group—the **Boylans** (a new member of SIR). While it was a struggle to get our group off the ground, we now have 7 regular couples. New members are always welcome so if you are interested, get in touch with me [terry-marchione@yahoo.com](mailto:terry-marchione@yahoo.com)

Our next game will be hosted by The **Devoes** on March 7. Contact **Terry Marchione** ([terrymarchione@yahoo.com](mailto:terrymarchione@yahoo.com)) for information.



## Party Bridge Fred Bolton

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



We played four tables of bridge at the home of **Lynn Freeman** on Feb.7. First place went to **Chuck Hammond** with 5700 points, second to **Jim Brown** with 5680 and a tie for third between **Jim Jackson** and **Doug Eisner** with 5540. Our next game will be at the home of **Doug Eisner** on March 7.

## Publicity

SIRs with Public Relations Skills/Media Skills/Marketing Skills, we need you to be part of (or assist) our newly forming Publicity Committee. Raising the visibility of Sir Branch 146 to remain strong, healthy, and vital to at least replace our losses is our goal and we could sure use your help. Contact **Bill Hoban** (925-945-7040).

## Explore and Dine John Pearl



On Thursday morning, March 31, Explore and Dine will have a guided tour of the Mt. Diablo Recycling Center in Pittsburg. The newest technology now in use for processing recycled materials will be shown to us. Lunch will be at a restaurant in downtown Pittsburg, which is going through a significant renewal effort.



## Garden Club Chuck Bobinecz



Our next meeting on March 3<sup>rd</sup> will be at the Walnut Creek Presbyterian Church at 9:30am. Our featured speakers are from the Clayton Garden Club and their topic is a presentation on the care and feeding of dahlias, a spectacular flower that comes in many sizes and colors.

Garden tip of the month: Fertilize roses as there beginning to leaf out. Alfalfa pellets are good slow release form of nitrogen.

### MEMBER RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION JACK CALLOWAY

At the January Luncheon we had five guests. All five of those gentlemen became members in February. They are **Art Ainscough** sponsored by **Dennis Hallett**, **Chuck Denney** sponsored by **Dick Devoe**, **Bruce Benzler** and **Bill Dastic** sponsored by **Jim Burk** and **Vern Laursen** sponsored by **Jim Kohl**. **Paul Guidrey** became a member in January, but was introduced by his sponsor **Chuck Sesata** at the Luncheon also.

Each month we have SIR Cards on the back table near the Sponsors Honor Roll. You can personalize them with your name and phone number and pass them out to acquaintances who might be SIR candidates. They are also good for your wife to give to her friends who have husbands who need to get out of the house more frequently. Please take some at the next luncheon

Attention golfers: We have a holder with SIR brochures in the Boundary Oak Pro Shop over near the posting computer. Keep this in mind if you happen to play with a potential candidate who is not now a SIR. These brochures give an overview of the organization and have been instrumental in generating interest in our Branch.

## SPRING CANDY SALE

It's time to order your See's Candy for the 2011 Easter season! This year Easter is April 24th so don't delay in ordering candy certificates for your wife, significant other, children, neighbors, friends, or even yourself.

The price this year will be \$13.70 for a one pound box certificate. That's \$3 lower than the retail price so it's a good deal! And there's even no limit in the number of certificates you may order! The certificates are redeemable at any See's facility and the recipient may choose any type of candy he or she wishes, including soft centers, nuts, chewies, etc.

Please make your check payable to "SIRs Branch 146". Mail your check and a stamped # 10 self-addressed envelope (the long one) to:

**Douglas Eisner**  
909 Osceola Ct  
Walnut Creek, CA 94598

I must receive your order by April 16, 2011 and I will mail your certificates to you shortly thereafter.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City and Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is my check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to cover the cost of \_\_\_\_\_ one pound certificates.



### Poker Club #1 Frank McNamee



I don't know when we experienced such benevolence and consideration on the part of our poker partners, namely **Bill Cammerer, Bob Frankland, John Lewis, Don Martin and Dan O'Sullivan**. When they heard about **Marilyn McNamee's** shoulder replacement Jan.13th and **Fran White's** knee replacement on Feb. 4th, they all contributed to **Frank and Bob's** medical expenses so unselfishly they should be congratulated for their kindness and generosity. We'll try to change the streak on March 9th at **Bob Franklands** home.



### Poker Club #3 Siegfried Kalteis

After skipping December, we played again in January. In attendance were **Ron Plachy, Joe Fuchs, Dick DeVoe, Vince Rettew, Bill Baltazore** and myself. It's tough to get everybody to show every month, the guys are always so busy. But a good time was had anyway. **Joe** kept putting dollar bills into his pocket throughout the game, so I assume he was the big winner.

### Poker Group #4 Chuck Bobinecz



Our March poker session will be hosted by the new Cal-Neva in Danville at the home of sir **Garth Cummings**. For those that cannot attend and get a chance to get your money back, please call **Garth** a week before the game so that he can arrange a sub. Did you know that playing cards were invented by the Chinese?



### Chess Group Joe Fuchs

A chess group is now being formed. Players at all levels are welcome. Please contact **Joe Fuchs** at [JBF@astound.net](mailto:JBF@astound.net) if you are interested.

### POKER GROUP #5 Bill Roberts



Our February game was held at **Bill Roberts** place with a skeleton crew of 6 players. **Ken Richter** and **Charlie Koeber** were in parts unknown and we missed their contribution to the pot. We were treated to another great meal—this time courtesy of a guest chef. **Bill's** lovely wife Barb prepared the food and then quickly departed on the usual girl's night out. Once again the other players were bewildered by the sudden emergence of **Bill Roberts** as a force to be reckoned with. After months of suffering through a draught, **Bill** has now been the big winner two months in a row. It must be that new knee he's sporting. Our normal date is the Wednesday prior to the SIR luncheon and the regular players are **Spellman, Thomas, Merritt, Richter, Koeber, Marchione, Rockwell** and **Roberts**.

### Area 2 \$ums In Retirement Allen Espenmiller

The Area 2 \$ums Investment Group will meet on March 23<sup>rd</sup>,2011 at 8:00 AM at the Diablo Creek Golf course, 4050 Port Chicago Highway in Concord. Our speaker will be **John McNamara**, Regional Vice President for Superfund USA, Inc. **John** will discuss what the Superfund group of companies offers in managed futures to qualified investors. Superfunds managed futures funds, Superfund Green L.P. and Superfund Gold L.P. strive to provide solid returns while offering portfolio diversification using a proprietary trend-following strategy. These funds trade in more than 120 futures markets on exchanges around the world and have historically achieved a low correlation to other asset classes such as stocks and bonds. Plan to attend and discuss with **John** the investment opportunities in these type of funds as a way to enhance portfolio diversification. To learn more, explore [www.superfundusa.com](http://www.superfundusa.com) . The restaurant at the course opens at 7:00am for those who would like to enjoy breakfast with your colleagues. Co-chairmen: **Allen Espenmiller** (Br-174) 925-376-3977 **George Schulze** (Br-8) 925-429-1756 **Leary Wong** (Br-8) 925-457-0807 **Ken Nakashima** (Br-171) 925-376-0421



## Travel Opportunities

**Bob Spellman**



Island , Green Bay and Madison Wisconsin featuring The House On The Rock and Frank Lloyd Wright's Hillside Home School at Taliesin, a ride on the Chicago River and into Lake Michigan. .Cost \$ 2885 Contact **Bob Hagler @** 925-934-7620 Branch 8 for more information.

**Mar 5, 2011, The Crafty Matchmaker.** Presented in a rhythmic mixture of Cantonese and English, this production is filled with drama, action and humor. The story is set in the time of ancient China and is performed on the stage at the Buddha's Universal Church. Cost \$55.00 Contact **Bob Hagler@** 925-934-7520 Branch 8.

**Mar 18, 2011, Day at the Races.** Join your fellow SIR members at Golden Gate Fields for a fun day of Horse Racing. Cost is only \$27.00 pp and includes admission, reserved parking, daily race program and a great buffet luncheon. Contact **Ken Richter@** 689-6217

**Apr 16-30, 2011 Ancient Egypt & the Nile River.** Enjoy a 7 day cruise on the Nile River and 6 days at the deluxe Cairo Marriott Hotel. In addition to touring around Cairo you will visit Aswan, Kom Ombo, Edfu, Esna and Luxor while on your cruise aboard the M/S River Anuket. The Tour includes 29 meals, 11 exclusive guided sightseeing tours, and RT airfare from San Francisco. Extensions are available to Jerusalem Israel, Alexandria Egypt, Petra & Amman, Jordan. Cost: 3095 to 3395 pp depending on stateroom. Contact **Bob Spellman @** 934-8428. Space limited

**May 27-30, 2011 Sacramento Jazz Jubilee.** This is a great Music Festival with over a 100 bands to entertain you. Beyond traditional jazz, there's blues, western, ragtime, salsa, and big bands. All day tickets are 20.00 to 39.00 pp depending on the day. If you enjoy music you will really enjoy this Festival. Contact **Bob Spellman @** 934-8428

**Jun 9-19, 2011 Alaska's Inside Passage.** Embark on a 10 night Inside Passage cruise on board the Sea Princess sailing round trip out of San Francisco. Ports of call include: Juneau, Glacier Bay, Haines, Ketchikan and Victoria. Cost: \$2578 to \$2655 pp depending on Stateroom. Contact **Jim Lunn @** 925-551-3329 Branch #8 for more information.

**Jun 22-24, 2011 Boulder Creek Golf and Fun Outing**  
This is a fun couple of days with golf, food, relaxation, and good company all close to home. We wanted you to know the date early so you could mark your calendars. Contact **Ken Richter @** 689-6217

**Sep 11-21, 2011 The Enchantment of Lake Michigan.**  
An eleven day trip including a Hydrofoil to Mackinac

**Oct 1-11, 2011 Canada & New England Cruise.** Experience the colors of Fall as you sail for 10 days aboard Silversea's Silver Whisper from Montreal to New York. You will also visit Quebec City, Charlottetown, Sydney, Halifax, Bar Harbor, Boston and Newport. While aboard the Silver Whisper you will find a most accommodating atmosphere providing impeccable service and world class cuisine. Everything is included in the price, tips, fine wines, all spirits, complimentary In Suite dining , meals airfare, bus to and from airport, port charge, government fees and taxes. You will be treated like royalty. Cost from \$4720 to \$6057 depending on Stateroom. Contact **Bob Spellman @** 934-8428. This trip has been very popular with over 50 people signed up.

The quarterly State *SIR HAPPENINGS* web site at <http://www.sirinc.org/sirhappings/> offers additional SIR travel options.



## Sunshine

**Walt Busenius**

**945-0715**

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



We offer our condolences and prayers to Sir **Fred Kovar** and family on the passing of his wife **Peg** on February 18th.

We extend our very best wishes for continued healing to the following Sirs. All of these Sirs are in our thoughts and prayers as we look forward to their returning to good health:

Sir **Ted Coggia** rehabbing from knee surgery.  
Sirs **John Denham** and **George Knies** recovering from surgery.

- Sir **Charles Kiser**
- Sir **Bob Frankland**
- Sir **Rod Sharrets**
- Sir **Robert Walton**
- Sir **Ed Mendelssohn**
- Sir **Rob Van Luchene**
- Sir **Mitch Mitchell**
- Sir **Robert Skirvin**

If you know a Sir who is sick, please let me know by phone or e-mail as shown above.



## Luncheon Attendance

**Bob Mehus**

SIR Luncheon is the 2nd Thursday of every month at CourseCo Restaurant at Boundary Oak Golf Club. The price of our luncheons is \$24 with a no-host bar.

Please email [nolunchbranch146@gmail.com](mailto:nolunchbranch146@gmail.com), or call **Bob Mehus** at 510-549-2221 by Friday NOON prior to the luncheon if, for any reason, you are unable to attend. If no one answers, leave your name, badge number, phone number and a short message. Please be sure you call!!!

Remember that our luncheon will be called to order at 11:45am, so please allow enough time to arrive on schedule. A check for **\$24.00** made payable to SIR146 is requested for payment of your lunch on Luncheon Day. Thanks.

A member who misses three (3) consecutive meetings without notifying the Attendance Chairman, giving a valid reason or who attends less than five (5) meetings/luncheons within the last twelve (12) months, excluding May and December (Ladies Day Luncheons), shall be notified by the prescribed form, of termination of his membership.

SIR bringing a Guest

Please call by Friday, noon prior to the luncheon and leave your name and badge number and the name of your guest. Please spell the last name of your guest.

### Luncheon Menu for March 10, 2011

**SALAD: CAESAR SALAD**

**ENTRÉE: CORNED BEEF AND CABBAGE, RED POTATOES AND CARROTS WITH A MUSTARD CREAM**

**OR**

**PAN-SEARED SALMON (TOPPED WITH A ROULADE SAUCE) WITH MASHED RED SKIN POTATOES, AND WILTED SPINACH**

**DESSERT: KEY LIME PIE**

### Special Luncheon Requirements

If you require a vegetarian meal or any special meal, please call and make a request. Your request will remain in effect until you cancel it through the Luncheon Chairman. If for medical reasons, you cannot eat lunch, please notify me and your request will remain in effect until you cancel it through your Luncheon Chairman.

### New Members and/or Sponsors

There will be a dedicated luncheon table set for any new members and their sponsors who would like to sit together to share their conversations as new members of SIR146. It is voluntary and please do not feel obligated, as a new member, to sit at this table.



## Membership Steve Sprague

### Branch 146 Statistics:

Active Members: 260 including six Honorary Life Members.

Applicant List: None.

Inactive Members: Seven.

### February Luncheon Attendance:

Members: 201

Guests: 4, Visitors: 1.

Total Attendance: 206.

### Status Changes:

Inducted: **Art Ainscough**, Badge 155

**Bruce Benzler**, Badge 148

**Bill Dastic**, Badge 125

**Chuck Denney**, Badge 121

**Vern Laursen**, Badge 117

Moved to Inactive List: **Joe Fitzsimmons**, Badge 59 and **Leon Schultz**, Badge 138

Resigned, Transferred or Deceased: None

### Changes to the Inactive Roster:

**Joe Fitzsimmons** and **Leon Schultz** were added. Our inactive roster therefore is increased by two to seven members.

## Non-Responsibility Declaration

**Rule 345:** All activities arranged for or by Sons In Retirement, Inc. and its branches are for the convenience and pleasure of the members and their guests who desire to participate. Sons In Retirement, Inc. and its branches do not assume any responsibility for the well being or safety of the participants or their property, in any matters pertaining to said activities.

## Area 2 Computers and Technology Group



Meetings of the Area 2 Computer and Technology Group are held the 3rd Thursday of each month (except June and December) from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m., at the Walnut Creek Elks Lodge, 1475 Creekside Drive (just off South Main.)

Area 2 Computer and Technology Group invite you to their next meeting on Thursday, March 17th at 9am.

**Neil Schmidt** will explain all about Internet TV at our next meeting at the Walnut Creek Elk's Lodge. This is an exciting new area of technology development. Many new home entertainment devices are now coming equipped with internet connectivity and therefore access to an incredible amount of entertainment and web content that can be easily displayed on your television. Streaming movies and TV shows, app widgets, app stores similar to smartphone app stores, web browsing and a number of other applications will be discussed, compared and illustrated. Check in advance to see if any of your current entertainment devices (TV, DVR, Blu-ray, Home Theater, etc.) systems have Internet connectivity and come with own questions/answers.

Time permitting, there may be also be a Show & Tell featuring any gadgets attendees bring, and possibly a Q&A session with The Gurus of A2CAT where the advice is always 'priceless'.

Meetings of the Area 2 Computer and Technology Group are held the 3rd Thursday of each month (except June and December) from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m., at the Walnut Creek Elks Lodge, 1475 Creekside Drive. Whether you are a beginner or a seasoned user, we try to offer something for everyone. We ask for a donation of \$5 to cover the cost of the hall rental, coffee and cookies. All SIR members and their guests (spouses included!) are welcome to attend.

Thank you for supporting your Area 2 Computer and Technology Group.

**Phil Goff** and **Derek Southern** Co-chairs



## ROMEIO (Retired Old Men Eating Out) Malcolm Hendry



The ROMEIO group meets on the third Thursday of the month at 6:30PM, at selected East Bay restaurants.

We experience delightful dining while getting to better know our fellow SIR members in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere.

### "HA-RU SUSHI"

In Japanese ha-ru means "spring". "All the elements of this season is translated into your experience here." The food is served fresh, the atmosphere is lively and the menu is sure to delight your taste buds. The menu has a large number of selections including, combination dinners served with miso soup, salad and rice, at reasonable prices.

Location: 115 Alamo Plaza, Suite C, Alamo, Ca (easy parking)

Web Site: [www.haruru-sushi.com](http://www.haruru-sushi.com)

Phone: 925-838-5904

Please let me know by Tuesday March 15, if you will join us.

Mal



## Table Pool Bill Weinberg

1st and 3rd Monday at 11:30 am.  
(at Masse's 2721 N. Main, Walnut Creek)



We usually have three or four pool games going when we meet on the 1st & 3rd Mondays at 11:30am at Masse's - 2721 North Main in Walnut Creek. The cost is \$5.00 for as long as you want to play. We also have SIR members from other branches joining us and we usually play about 2 hours but not everyone stays for the final curtain. Haven't played in years? Come join us. All SIRs in our area are welcome.



# Fishing Paul Dubow



Sturgeon and striper fishing are off to an incredible start this year. It began with an outing involving **Terry Miller** and **Carl Moyer**. They landed 19 sturgeon, all nice fighters but under the 46 inch minimum. Then, number 20 took **Carl's** bait and it turned out to be a 60 inch 60 pound keeper. **Terry** also picked up a nice striper on the trip. Carl, emboldened by his success, then made a few more forays into Suisun Bay off Pittsburg. On a trip with **Joe Peterson**, three stripers were landed. Next, **Joe Karg** joined **Carl**. Notwithstanding that **Joe** was using some liquid on his bait that can only be described as a sturgeon repellent, he did land and release a sturgeon. On the next trip, **Carl's** companion was **George Schulze**. He landed a 43 inch sturgeon. It was too small to keep but gave **George** a good fight. The finale was an outing with **Carl** and **Harry Sherinian**. **Carl** fought and landed Big Bubba--a seven foot 185 pound monster. There was only one exception to the sturgeon success and, unfortunately, it involved your intrepid reporter. **Carl** and I fished on a gorgeous day in Montezuma Slough and neither one of us got a single bite. In addition, trout fishing slowed down this month. **Carl Moyer** was skunked at Shadow Cliffs, our favorite trout venue, for the first time this year. **Joe Miscione** and his son ventured out a few days later and suffered the same fate. However, we expect fishing to improve there once the weather warms up. **Joe** and **Howard Berkman** also fished Lake Berryessa but landed just one black bass. Two other members tried their luck outside of the Bay Area with mixed results. **Cal Lutz** journeyed all the way to Belize and caught a few bonefish and a small tarpon. **Jerry Smith** took a guided fly fishing trip on the Sacramento River but the wind ended the day early. **Jerry** did manage to catch a 16 inch rainbow, however.

We will be very busy this winter with delta fishing for sturgeon (of course) as well as stripers, bass and catfish plus trout fishing at Shadow Cliffs and perhaps other local lakes. As always, those who have not fished in years and those who have never tried it are welcome to join us. Our next meeting will be at 8:30 am on Thursday, March 24, at the Legend Sports Bar at the Diablo Creek Golf Course at 4050 Port Chicago Highway in Concord. Come early for breakfast at 8am



## DON'T FORGET OUR DINNER PARTY FOR SIRS 146 AND FRIENDS



Wednesday, April 13 2011

6pm to 10pm at Zio Fredo's Restaurant

The price is \$99.00 per couple and includes hors d'oeuvres and Dinner

Live music for listening and dancing

Your choice of beef, fish or pasta

Send your check, made out to Sir Dinner 146 to:

**Vince Rettew**

290 Dover Drive

Walnut Creek, CA. 94508

Phone: 925-943-7962



Tables of eight are encouraged

Your name and partner

Couple 1	_____	Meal	_____
Couple 2	_____	Meal	_____
Couple 3	_____	Meal	_____
Couple 4	_____	Meal	_____



## Away Golf

Rich Hanford and Joe Fuchs

**Rich Hanford** and **Joe Fuchs** are now the co-activity chairmen for away golf. Below are the plans for 2011.

Away golf will be on the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of the month, beginning in May and ending in October (i.e. 6 dates).

1. Golfers will be able to optionally schedule their playing partners for carpooling purposes. Singles will be assigned to a foursome as they are on Tuesday's.

2. Players will pay at the course at check-in, like they do on Tuesdays.

So far, the following courses and dates have been secured:

5/05/11 Deer Ridge \$30

6/02/11 Lonetree \$36/\$21

7/07/11 Franklin Canyon \$33

8/04/11 Blue Rock East \$39

9/01/11 Delta View \$29 with bucket of balls

10/6/11 In Process

You may contact **Joe Fuchs** or **Rich Hanford** if you have any questions.

If you want to sign up for a particular date, you can do it now by sending an Email to [Sir146away-golf@yahoo.com](mailto:Sir146away-golf@yahoo.com)



## Bowling

Larry Mitchell



The big bowling tournament of the year is coming up in March. Big in the sense that it's sponsored by Branch 146 and is the third largest in terms of entries out of the approximately 20 tournaments held by different branches throughout the year. Only the state tournament and the two that are held in Nevada are larger. I wonder what the attraction is.

Our tournament will be held on March 21st and 23rd and will be a singles, doubles, and all events affair. I encourage all bowlers, with a valid USBC card, to join in the competition and possibly win a few bucks. For more information, please call me at 925-798-5540 or see me at our usual Wednesday league bowling to get an entry form.

## Theater

Gary Schaub



Save the Date:  
"Blues in the Night"  
Wednesday, June 15

Forty members and guests attended our last SIR 146 Theatre Party – "Boeing-Boeing" in February. We "sold out" of our allotment, and had to request additional tickets. Several SIRs were turned away because of the popularity of the production.

Save the date now for our next Theatre Party scheduled for Wednesday, June 7 at 7:30 p.m. "Blues in the Night" is a toe-tapping musical revue with music of **Duke Ellington**, **Bessie Smith** and **Johnny Mercer** and others.

Details for the June Theatre Party will appear in the April SIR CALL.

## Bocce Ball

Martin Lyle

*2nd and 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays at 9 am., May through October, at Concord Bocce Courts in Newhall Park, Concord, near the corner of Turtle Creek and Ayers Roads*



It won't be long until the Bocce Ball Winter Hibernation will draw to close. Watch this space for the announcement of the May start-up.

## SIR Happenings Newsletter

SIR Happenings is the statewide SIR Newsletter. Just go to [www.sirinc.org](http://www.sirinc.org) and click on SIR Happenings to read the current issue. You may enjoy reading about the activities of other SIR branches.

# MONTEREY MASHERS GOLF TOURNAMENT

**March, 27 – 30, 2011**

You are invited to attend the Monterey Mashers, Golf Tournament, a SIR Branch 146 event open to all members.

March, 27, 28, 29 – Best Western Monterey Inn. Complimentary breakfast provided each morning.

March 28 (Monday) – golf with cart at Rancho Canada Golf Course (East Course). Traditional heavy hors d'oeuvres/dessert party in the evening at the inn. BOYB.

March 29 (Tuesday) – golf with cart at Laguna Seca Golf Course. Gala Awards Banquet with wine at Rancho Canada Golf Club. No host bar before dinner.

March 30 (Wednesday) – Breakfast at the inn and departure for home, outlets, etc., etc.

Since we are limited by the number of rooms, number of tee times, and space for the Monday night party, we may have to invoke a first replied – first served policy. Do not delay!! Reply by January 14, 2011. A complete package of information including room assignments and tee times will be sent to you at a later date.

-----Cut Here-----

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Companion \_\_\_\_\_

Approximate cost per couple, subject to final pricing confirmations:

Couples package- Two Golfers:

Room, Banquet, and Golf for two both days. \$ 585

Couples package- One Golfer:

Room, Banquet for two and Golf for one both days \$492

Companion will play golf Monday only: add \$44 \_\_\_\_\_

Companion will play golf Tuesday only: add \$49 \_\_\_\_\_

Total enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

Banquet Choices.

New York Steak with garlic whipped potatoes and grilled veg \_\_\_\_\_

Petrале Sole Dore with baby shrimp, wild rice and grilled veg. \_\_\_\_\_

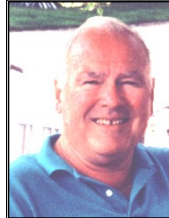
Vegetarian \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to: SIR Branch 146 – Monterey Mashers.  
Mail to: **Dennis Hallett**, 38 DeLaurenti Court, Walnut Creek, CA 94598  
No later than January 14, 2011

## SIR 146 Computer Classes

Lo McCarley

### Word Processing



Walkers  
John Lewis



Every Friday at 9:30 am at various locales.  
Call **John** or just show up.  
Rain cancels any walk.

Hey computer users! Time to ramp up your word processing skills! Bring your spouses and friends too. Great class for those with Microsoft Word 2007 and very helpful for Word 2010.

Get familiar with the **famous ribbon**.

Learn to use the Office Button, Quick Access Toolbar, Title Bar, Menu Bar, Tool Bars, and Ruler.

Learn basic features: Backspace key, Delete key, Inserting text, Highlighting, and Bold, Underline, and Italicize.

And more... Cut, Copy and Paste, Spell Check, Fonts and Font Size, and Find and Replace (if you lose it you can still find it).

Work with paragraphs like the pros: Margins, Page Orientation, Indentation, Print Preview, Text Alignment.

Other valuable features: Tab key, Bulleting, Numbering, Undo and Redo, Printing.

Switch between documents, compare open documents, use Thumbnails, and Zoom in and Zoom out.

Print envelopes and labels. Use Mail Merge.

Learn to use Word Tables (Dazzle your friends. Tables are similar to spreadsheets).

Four Classes

All on Fridays: 4/8, 4/15, 4/22, and 4/29.

Unbelievable Deal

Come to any or all of the classes for \$10...total!

Time

1:00 to 3:00 each class day.

Where

Walnut Creek Presbyterian Church, 1801 Lacassie Avenue, Walnut Creek. Room 303.

To Enroll

Email Lo at [lomccarley@astound.net](mailto:lomccarley@astound.net) or phone Dave Pierce at 632-3877

Computer classes for SIR Branch 146 members, their wives and friends.

### March Walks by **Joe Schild**

**Mar. 4** Sam's Club South: Concord Ave

Meet: At Sam's Club Parking

Walk: South on Iron Horse Trail

Paved, Level, No Shade

Coffee: Panera Coffee, Willows

**Mar. 11** Osage Park Iron Horse South

Meet: 680 South to Sycamore Exit First Right at Orange Blossom Way to Osage Parking

Walk: South on Orange Blossom Way West on El Capitan Dr.

Paved, Level, Some Shade

Coffee: Pascal French Oven 155B Railroad Ave

**Mar. 18** Lafayette Trail east: St. Mary's Rd

Meet: At Lafayette Community Center

Walk: Follows St. Mary' Rd toward Walnut Creek

Paved, Level, Shade

Coffee: Terzetto Cuisine, Moraga Shopping Center

**Mar. 25** Arbolado Park North: Arbolado Dr.

Meet: At Arbolado Park Parking

Walk: North across park to Ygnacio Canal

Paved, Level, Some Shade

Coffee: Deli Delight Shadelands Office Park

Thanks to **Bill Cammerer** for folding labeling and mailing and Editor **Rich Ahlf** for photography.

# SIR CALL *Newsletter*

Sons In Retirement, Inc.  
63 El Molino Drive  
Clayton, CA 94517-1723

[sircall@hotmail.com](mailto:sircall@hotmail.com)

<http://www.sir146.com>

**CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED**



## **Sir 146 Board**

Right to left; **Bill Roberts, Jim Kohl, Dale Hartweck, Jim Burk, Pete Gates, Terry Marchione, Bill Hoban, John Harrington and Dick Woodman**