



# Branch 146

Contra Costa County CA

August—September 2025

# Call

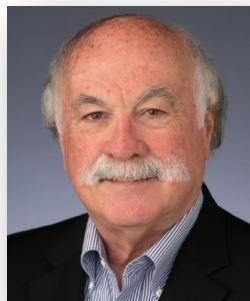


## Big Sir's Corner

Bob Ford

Hi Everyone, I hope your summer is going well. I am very impressed with your recruiting efforts so far this year. Please help continue this trend. Remember we will be having another gift card drawing in November for people that sponsor new members. The BEC is currently working on the budget for next year including getting information on the State SIR assessments and negotiations with Boundary Oak for our lunches. We will keep you posted as things progress. The BEC is also finishing up the slate of BEC members for next year. We are still looking for a Little Sir so please let one of us know if you can serve. I have been very impressed with the speakers that **Thom** and the speaker committee have managed to get for us this year. It makes the lunches even better. So please come and join us for our next lunch on September 11. The mission of SIR is Make Friends For Life. Remember, your friends and acquaintances need not be retired to join. Warm Regards.

**Bob Ford**  
Big Sir, Branch 146



## Little Sir's Corner

Thom Degnan

For our September Monthly Luncheon, we are pleased to have San Francisco Harbor Pilots, Unit 57, Captain Paul Ruff. The San Francisco Bar Pilots are experienced master mariners with highly specialized training and education that qualifies them to direct the navigation of vessels in San Francisco and Monterey Bays. They service over 200 docks and maritime facilities located throughout the Bay Area including the ports of San Francisco, Oakland, Richmond, Benicia, Redwood City, Stockton and Sacramento.

Captain Ruff was born in Oakland and raised in Walnut Creek. Grew up very active in sports, baseball, swimming, basketball, attaining an Eagle Scout in 1985. He enlisted in the US Coast Guard in 1986, gaining experience as a boatswain's mate, law enforcement officer, and a US Navy 2<sup>nd</sup> class deep sea diver. In 1991 he started working on tugs in San Francisco Bay, and achieved his US Coast Guard Captains license, gained his first Captains job at Bay Delta Maritime, moving on as a mate with the Exxon Mobile tug fleet. In 2000 he was promoted to Captain of Exxon Mobile's Sea River tug fleet, and then in 2007 hired as

Continued on next page

**SIR Luncheon**  
**Thursday, September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2025**  
**Boundary Oak 11:30**

Captain Paul Ruff.  
The San Francisco Bar Pilots  
A reservation is required!  
To make yours and choose your entrée  
go to page 3. ([click Here!](#))

## Activities for you and spouse...

- Picnic! [Page 25](#)
- Calendar of Events [Page 9](#)
- Explore & Eat [Page 27](#)
- Three books to read? [Page 25](#)
- Cuba? Japan? Where to go? [Page 14](#)
- For the love of Sushi [Page 28](#)

Captain at Foss Maritime Richmond fleet. In 2009 he started an apprenticeship with the Board of Pilot Commissioners (BOPC). In 2011 he joined the San Francisco Bar Pilots, Unit 57, which was his Uncle Terry's old unit. He is on the SFBP Harbor Safety Committee, the Chairman of the SFBP Pilot Evaluation Committee, and is the SFBP SR Fleet Week Coordinator.

He is married with two children and takes pride in being a dance dad, soccer dad, baseball dad, swim dad, as well as scuba diving and hiking with his son. He also takes time to head up the bike build for SFFD toy drive, which has built more than 200 bikes with volunteer labor. Paul is a very experienced harbor manager with some interesting stories, and this will be a very interesting discussion for SIR146.

In subsequent months we will have the Executive Director of Save Mt Diablo, a former Top Gun Pilot, and the Devil Mountain Chorus will return in December. The Speaker's Committee **Jim Pope, Glenn Breslin, Jim Crites** and myself will keep you updated. We appreciate any suggestions for interesting speakers.

Our next CPR Training Class will be on Friday, Oct. 24<sup>th</sup> and as we are filling up quickly, please let me know if you'd like to join. This will be our 5<sup>th</sup> class and we have now updated more than 110 individuals over the past year on current CPR techniques. If one person is positively impacted, we will be very pleased. These are excellent coed training exercises, and we encourage you to join in! It is also a nice way to introduce friends to SIR!

**Thom Degnan**  
Little Sir, Branch 146

## 2025 Officers and Directors

Big Sir.....	<b>Bob Ford</b>
Little Sir.....	<b>Thom Degnan</b>
Secretary .....	<b>Don Shaw</b>
Assistant Secretary .....	<b>John Rexroat</b>
Treasurer .....	<b>Mike Rothman</b>
Assistant Treasurer .....	<b>Tom Amann</b>
Director 1st Term .....	<b>Mike Davidson</b>
Director 1st Term .....	<b>Jim Crites</b>
Director 2nd Term .....	<b>Mark Curtis</b>
Director 2nd Term .....	<b>Randy Graham</b>
Director 2nd Term .....	<b>John Alexander</b>
Director 2nd Term .....	<b>Don Rhoads</b>

### **RAMP-Chair Members**

Recruitment .....	<b>Randy Graham</b>
Activities .....	<b>Glenn Breslin</b>
Member Relations .....	<b>Edward Brands</b>
Publicity .....	<b>John Alexander</b>

Refer to the Branch Directory, accessible under the Members Only tab heading on our website, for phone numbers and email addresses.

## SIR Mission Statement

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



## Luncheon Chairman Steve Oki

### Speaker Information

For our September Monthly Luncheon, we are pleased to have San Francisco Harbor Pilots, Unit 57, Captain Paul Ruff.

### Luncheon Information

Please remember that you need to make a reservation to attend the luncheon, even if you are an annual payer you must make a reservation. We appreciate your co-operation.

The links behind the entree items on the menu will generate an email for you to send, if it does not, please send an email message with your choice manually to [AttendLunchBr146@gmail.com](mailto:AttendLunchBr146@gmail.com). Be sure to include your menu choice!

All reservations will be acknowledged via email or voicemail. If you do not receive an acknowledgment within 24 - 48 hours, please send another message to the email above.

### Luncheon

**Date:** Thursday, September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2025

**Where:** Boundary Oak

**Cost:** \$36 per person

**Reservation:** All Luncheons require a reservation; you must select your menu choice as part of the reservation. The menu makes it easy to do this; simply click the appropriate meal link.

**If you do not reserve by Friday, September 5<sup>th</sup> by Noon, we will assume you will not be coming.**

**Check-In:** 11:00 am The meeting starts at 11:30am

**Payment:** The preferred payment method is by check payable to SIR Branch 146 at check-in.

### Other matters

If you don't have email, you can call us at 925.979.5721 to leave a message. Be sure to include your meal choice from the menu!

### Change of Plans?

If you responded that you were coming but find you can't, you can cancel up to

**Friday, September 5<sup>th</sup> by Noon**

and you will not be charged.

Send email to [AttendLunchBr146@gmail.com](mailto:AttendLunchBr146@gmail.com) or

Call 925.979.5721 and leave a message.

### Sponsors of Guests and New Members.

If you are bringing a guest or a new member, please notify the Luncheon Chair with their name and their meal choice at [AttendLunchBr146@gmail.com](mailto:AttendLunchBr146@gmail.com).

### Questions:

If you have any questions, please call **Steve Lane** at 925.979.5721 and leave a message with your question or request. Steve will acknowledge by returning your call.



## THE CLUBHOUSE

AT BOUNDARY OAK

### **SIR 146**

### **September Luncheon**

Thursday, September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2025

#### Salad

Blue Cheese Wedge Salad  
with Bacon Bites and Tomatoes

#### Entrees

[Herb Marinated, Roasted Chicken Breast,](#)  
Smashed Potatoes, Garlic Green Beans and  
Creamy Dill Sauce.

[Citrus Marinated Snapper,](#)  
Smashed Potatoes, Garlic Green Beans and  
Creamy Dill Sauce.

#### Vegetarian

Tomato Pesto Farro with Garlic Green Beans

#### Dessert

Baked Peach Tart

### **Lunch Reservation required!**

To confirm your attendance and select your choice of entrée, simply click on the desired menu entrée! Clicking will generate the appropriate email to send to the attendance group.



**A new way to pay!**

Our branch is testing a new option to pay for lunch in advance using Zelle. Most US banks offer this service free to their account holders; all you have to do to start using it is to sign up with Zelle using your cell phone number or email address.

Of course, you can still pay with cash or check at registration, or by enrolling in our Annual Payer program.

To sign up for Zelle, scan the QR code below with your mobile phone. You will be guided through the process of opening your Zelle account and linking it to your bank account. You most likely can also activate and create a Zelle account from the Zelle application within your bank's website or phone app.

Once you've enrolled, please send your Zelle payments to [sir146.treasurer@gmail.com](mailto:sir146.treasurer@gmail.com). Please complete your reservation and Zelle payment by noon on Friday, the week before the luncheon. Please note that we cannot accept Zelle payments at the luncheon itself; only cash or checks will be accepted at that time. Also, Zelle payments are for the upcoming luncheon only and should not be used to pay for future events. Finally, if you are using your bank's scheduling feature, be sure your Zelle payment is scheduled for delivery before noon on Friday.



## PUT THE OCTOBER LUNCHEON ON YOUR CALENDAR NOW



### THE CLUBHOUSE

AT BOUNDARY OAK

#### **SIR 146 October Luncheon**

Thursday, October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2025

##### **Salad**

Arugula Salad  
Cranberries, Almonds, Goat Cheese,  
Herb Vinaigrette

##### **Entrees**

##### **Crispy Chicken Costoletta**

Yukon Gold Smashed Potatoes, Seasonal Vegetables,  
Creamy Lemon Sauce

##### **Herb Roasted Cod**

Garlic Herb Rice Pilaf, Seasonal Vegetables,  
Creamy Lemon Sauce

##### **Vegetarian**

Spinach and Ricotta Stuffed Manicotti  
Fresh Mozzarella and House Marinara Dessert

##### **Dessert**

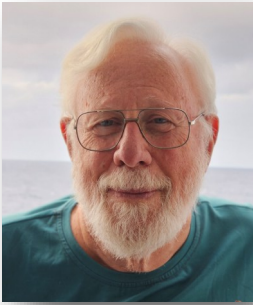
Red Velvet Cake

##### **Lunch Reservation required!**

To confirm your attendance and select your choice of entrée, simply click on the desired menu entrée!

Clicking will generate the appropriate email to send to the attendance group.





## Editor's Ramblings Clint Collier

Good news... they are going to revive the SIR picnic! Details came in this month and are being published in this issue. For those of you who may have missed it, we did this last year and it was a great time out in the

"field" with so many friends. Don't miss it this time. The event is SIR in action, making friends for life. Come out and live it up!

The cut off date for SIRCall submissions for October is noon on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of September, however don't let that hinder you from turning in your submission earlier in the month! I will close by reminding everyone that when you submit an article we will always respond by sending you a proof copy. **If you do not receive one, check with us...** maybe we didn't get it... maybe we lost it... maybe we just overlooked it... maybe we were just lazy at the time it arrived.

**Clint Collier**—Editor SIRCall  
925.457.1489 [br146SIRCall@gmail.com](mailto:br146SIRCall@gmail.com)



## Membership George Mon

Four new members were approved for membership in August.

**Don Casey** lives in Concord with his wife **Linda**. He was in IT for Kaiser Permanente. He enjoys Cooking, Explore and

Eat, Photography and Song Sir. He is sponsored by **Henry Thatcher**.

**David "Brooksie" Brooks** lives in Martinez with his wife **Jackie**. He was a Building Contractor and owned his company Brooks Construction. He enjoys art and playing the piano. His sponsor is **Dave Paulson**.

**William "Bill" Rolf** lives in Pleasant Hill with his wife **Olga**. He was the Creative Director of Advertising Photography for E&J Gallo Winery. He owned Rolf Photograph. His sponsor is **Randy Graham**.

**Lennox Byer** lives in Walnut Creek. He was a Mortgage Banker for Wells Fargo. He enjoys 18-hole golf. His sponsor is **Joe Fuchs**.

The 2025 membership count is **267**.

It is important that we have an accurate count of our branch membership since State SIR allocates costs for insurance and operating expenses based on our number. Likewise, it is important to grow our membership to keep our branch vibrant and active. So, please tell your friends and family members about what Branch 146 does and maybe you can sponsor a friend too.

We would like to encourage them to become members. So, when you see our guest at the luncheon, reach out and voice the good things about being a SIR.

If you want to sponsor a new member, please go to our website [www.sir146.com](http://www.sir146.com) and go to the Members Only tab to see the Sponsors Role. The member application is in the Members tab.

The Membership Directory is located on our website and is updated monthly.

It is important that any changes to your contact information, especially to your email, phone, or address, are sent to me in an email ([gckk@comcast.net](mailto:gckk@comcast.net)) so that we can update the directory with the most current information.

**George Mon**  
925.830.1604 [gckk@comcast.net](mailto:gckk@comcast.net)

## **SIRCall Newsletter Group**

Editor	<b>Clint Collier</b>
Assistant Editor	<b>Bob West</b>
Photographer	<b>Henry Thatcher</b>
Proofreaders	<b>Ron Polivka</b> <b>Bruce Borgman</b> <b>Frank Lucas</b>
Internet Posting	<b>Ron Plachy</b>

## SEPTEMBER MEMBERSHIP ANNIVERSARIES

### WALT BUSENIUS

SIR Member	Year Inducted	Years
Mac McAllister	2019	6
Mike Wallace	2018	7
Michael Weiner	2017	8
Paul Beretz	2016	9
Malcolm Harrison	2015	10
Steve Ondeck	2015	10
Dan Holland	2011	14
Walt Busenius	2008	17
Cliff Perkins	2005	20
Jim Baldrige	1994	31



Russell Anderson  
Joseph Barry  
Tony Greco  
Max Hinkle  
Charlie Kahsen  
Moose Kelly  
Jeff Morrow  
John Pearl  
Rog Rivers  
Michael Weiner  
Sydney Whalen

Dave Tucker  
Bocce-ace Kersis  
Bill Schaaf  
Bart Gledhill  
Rob Peters  
Jim Rowland  
John Dorr  
Scott Macdougall  
Bob Campbell  
Phil Lee



### Sunshine

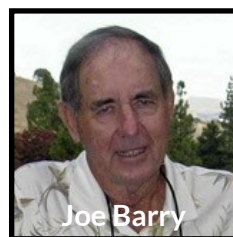
#### Brian McCarthy

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

Consider contacting a sick SIR member to offer support and encouragement during his illness. A friendly call is usually welcome. Cards and letters are always appreciated. If you become aware of a SIR member who is ill please let me know by email at [brimacc@comcast.net](mailto:brimacc@comcast.net) or by phone 925.324.2463 so that our SIR members can be advised. Stay Healthy.



Pat O'Keeffe



Joe Barry

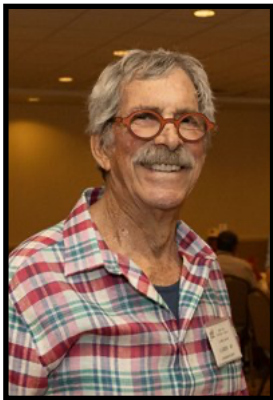


Peter Plante

# AUGAST

Photos by...

Rich Lyon











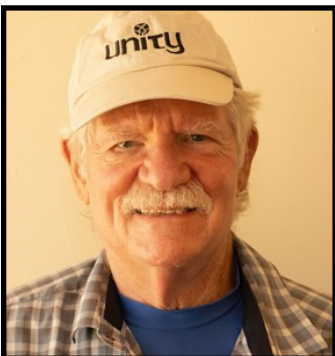
Guest Speaker  
EMS Battalion Chief, Jesse Ingram  
Health Issues

---





Don Casey



David Brooks



Will Straton



August  
Paul Dubow

# SIR Branch 146 Activities Calendar September 2025

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Sep 1	2	3	4	5
9:45am—3:00pm Men's Party Bridge 10:00am Hiking 12:00pm Table Pool at Masses 2:00pm—4:00pm AI group Las Trampas Room Downtown Walnut Creek	9:00am Golf 4:00pm Couples Party Bridge	1:30pm SongSir Rehearsal W.C. Presbyterian Church 6:30pm—10:00pm MTD 8 Ocho	9:30am Nine Hole Golf-1 12:30pm Poker Group #6	10:00am—2:30pm Men's Duplicate Bridge 2
8	9	10	11	12
8:30am—10:00am Bocce Ball 10:00am Hiking 11:30am—1:30pm Cooking II 12:00pm Table Pool at Masses	9:00am Golf 1:00pm—4:00pm Poker Group #8 4:00pm—7:30pm Couples Duplicate Bridge 2	8:30am Birding Location TBD monthly 1:00pm—2:30pm Guitar Group 1:00pm—3:00pm Pinochle at Rocco's 6:45pm—10:00pm MTD 7 Siete	9:00am—10:45am BEC Meeting 11:30am—1:30pm SIR Luncheon	12:00pm—3:00pm Chess Pleasant Hill Sr Ctr 233 Gregory Ln PH 12:00pm—3:00pm Hearts Rocco's in W.C. 6:45pm—10:00pm MTD 1 Uno
15	16	17	18	19
10:00am Hiking 12:00pm Table Pool at Masses 2:00pm—4:00pm AI Investment Subgroup Las Trampas Room Downtown Walnut Creek Library	9:00am Golf	11:00am Lunch and Wine (LAW) 1:30pm SongSir Rehearsal W.C. Presbyterian Church 6:45pm—10:00pm Couples Duplicate Bridge 1 6:45pm—10:00pm	9:30am Nine Hole Golf-1 12:00 Noon SIRCall articles due 7:00pm—10:00pm MTD 5 Cinco	9:00am—11:00am Photography Group Downtown WC Library 10:00am—3:00pm Men's Duplicate Bridge 3 1:00pm—3:30pm MTD 10 Diez 7:00pm—10:00pm MTD 4 Quattro
22	23	24	25	26
8:30am—10:00am Bocce Ball 10:00am Hiking 12:00pm Table Pool at Masses 1:00pm Poker Group #3 1:00pm—4:00pm Poker Group #4	9:00am Golf	12:30pm—3:30pm Cribbage at Rocco's 1:00pm—2:30pm Guitar Group 1:00pm—3:00pm Pinochle at Rocco's 1:30pm—3:30pm \$UMS in Retirement Investment Group Zoom 6:45pm—10:00pm MTD 6 Seis	7:30am—9:30am Area 16 Fishing Group Legends Sports Bar Diablo Creek GC 9:30am Nine Hole Golf-1	12:00pm—3:00pm Chess Pleasant Hill Sr Ctr 233 Gregory Ln PH 10:30—on 2nd Annual Br Picnic 12:00pm—3:00pm Hearts Rocco's in W.C. 6:45pm—10:00pm MTD 2 Dos 6:45pm—10:00pm MTD 3 Tres
29	30	Oct 1	2	3
10:00am Hiking 12:00pm Table Pool at Masses	9:00am Golf	1:30pm SongSir Rehearsal W.C. Presbyterian Church 6:30pm—10:00pm MTD 8 Ocho	9:30am Nine Hole Golf-1 12:30pm Poker Group #6	10:00am—2:30pm Men's Duplicate Bridge 2



# Looking for something to do...



## Activities Coordinator

### Glenn Breslin

Hi to all SIR Members !! Are you aware that SIR Branch 146 has 51 different group activities and 33 of the 51 activities are available to spouses or significant others. If you are looking for something to enrich your life then go ahead and click on any activity located at [www.sir146.com](http://www.sir146.com). Just select one of the icons and you will see a full description of that activity with the chairman's contact information. If you haven't found an activity that you like, the most popular activities are Golf and Mexican Train Dominoes. If you want to be trained to play Mexican Train Dominoes, just let me know. Still not finding an interest? How about starting a new activity; I can assist you with that. We greatly appreciate the efforts of all of the Activity Chairs what they do to keep our 267 members involved in stimulating activities. The Mission of SIR is to improve the lives of our members through fun activities and events – while making friends for life. The activity chairs have done a great job of implementing this mission! You continue to make SIR146 a successful social organization. SIR would not be the same without you. Please continue to let me know how I can help you continue this success or if you need support in any way.

Description	Totals
<b>Total Activities</b>	51
<b>Total Co-Ed Activities</b>	33
<b>Percent Co-Ed Activities</b>	65%
<b>Total Unique Activities</b>	28
<b>BR146 activities shared with other branches</b>	14
<b>Other SIR Branch Groups Activities Shared with SIR146</b>	15

Glenn Breslin

925.788.6520 [glennbreslin@gmail.com](mailto:glennbreslin@gmail.com)

## SIR Activities! Click on the link of the activity that you are interested in.

[Artificial Intelligence](#)

[Birding](#)

[Bocce Ball](#)

[Book Corner](#)

[Book Group](#)

**Bridge:**

[Beginning/Refresher](#)

[Couples Duplicate 1](#)

[Couples Duplicate 2](#)

[Couples Party](#)

[Men's Duplicate 1](#)

[Men's Duplicate 2](#)

[Men's Duplicate 3](#)

[Men's Party](#)

[Chess](#)

**Cooking:**

[Cooking II](#)

[Lunch and Wine](#)

[Cribbage](#)

[Cycling](#)

**Dining Out**

[Couples Dining Out](#)

[Explore and Eat](#)

[Sushi no Tomodachi](#)

[Dixieland Musician](#)

[Fishing](#)

[Gardening](#)

[Golf—9 Hole](#)

[Golf—18 Hole](#)

[Guitar](#)

[Hearts](#)

[Hiking](#)

**Mexican Train**

**Dominoes**

[Uno](#)

[Dos](#)

[Tres](#)

[Cuatro](#)

[Cinco](#)

[Seis](#)

[Siete](#)

[Ocho](#)

[Nueve](#)

[Diez](#)

[Photography](#)

[Pinochle](#)

**Poker:**

[Group 3](#)

[Group 4](#)

[Group 6](#)

[Group 8](#)

[Song SIRs](#)

[Table Pool](#)

[Theater](#)

[Travel](#)

[Veterans](#)

[Wine Tasting](#)



## Theater Glenn Breslin

### Upcoming Theater Shows – Leshar Theater

Each theater show is limited to 20 seats. Look for future notices regarding upcoming Leshar Tribute Band dates

If you are interested, send a **check made out to SIR146 to Glenn Breslin, 3480 School St., Lafayette, CA 94549**, I will then give you a choice of the available seats

#### Women in Black Sat 11/15/25 2:30 pm, \$43, Leshar Theater

<https://www.centerrep.org/what-s-on/25-26-season/the-woman-in-black>

The second longest play in the history of London's West End, *The Woman in Black* is the chilling theatrical event that has kept over seven million theatergoers on the edge of their seats for more than 30 years. When a young lawyer encounters a mysterious figure on the lonely, desolate estate he is charged to settle after the death of its owner, he believes his life has become cursed. To help him exorcise the dark specter from his life, he engages a skeptical actor to help him tell his terrifying story and together they unspool the mysteries hidden among the moors of the haunted estate.

*Hailed by critics as "a white-knuckle thrill" (San Francisco Chronicle) and "Ingenious!" (New York Times)* Center REP audiences will be lured into the pulse-pounding and spine-tingling ghostly world of their own imaginations... what happens next is something you must see to believe!



"Highest Rating!  
A white-knuckle thrill!"  
*San Francisco Chronicle*

#### Neil Diamond Concert Experience Sat 1/31/26, 7:30pm

\$69 (rows C-E) and \$59 (row H)

**Desc:** Long time Las Vegas performer and Legends in Concert alumni ROB GARRETT is America's #1 NEIL DIAMOND Tribute Artist! He is unparalleled in his portrayal of the legendary performer. From Vegas to Honolulu, to New York, to Berlin... Rob has come to be known as the 'King of Diamonds' as he is able to naturally capture the presence, passion, and energy of this iconic performer in all his youthful 'JAZZ SINGER' glory. In 2008 Rob was awarded with the "Male Musical Tribute Artist of the Year" award in Las Vegas marking the first (and only) time a Neil Diamond tribute act has won such an honor.

This is the ultimate live Neil Diamond In Concert performance highlighting the greatest and most popular music of his career, including 'Sweet Caroline,' 'Hot August Night,' 'Cracklin' Rosie,' 'I Am I Said,' 'Song Sung Blue' and many more 'Live In Concert' favorites!

<https://www.lesherartscenter.org/Home/Components/Calendar/Event/19342/3144?npage=2>

YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ymVz3kPlsC0>

#### Sarah Makenzie – Jazz Performer - Fri 3/20/26, 7:30pm

Ticket Price to be announced on 9/15

**Desc:** Sarah McKenzie is an Australian jazz pianist, composer, vocalist, and bandleader whose breezy technical style, songwriting acumen, and pronounced lyrical sense of swing have drawn comparisons to Blossom Dearie and Diana Krall.

<https://www.lesherartscenter.org/Home/Components/Calendar/Event/19262/3144?npage=2>

Continued on next page

**Lost In Yonkers Sun 4/4/26 2:30 pm. \$43. Leshner Theater**

To celebrate the 35th Anniversary of the opening of Leshner Center for the Arts, Center REP is proud to present the 35th anniversary revival production of Neil Simon's Pulitzer Prize and Tony Award-winning heartfelt comedy. This multi-award-winning memory play transports us to a small apartment above a candy store in Yonkers, NY in 1942. Financially strapped and needing to dig his family out of medical debt, Eddie must leave his two teen boys to live with his sister and mother while he takes to the road as a salesman. A strange new world opens up to the boys as they must navigate their estranged mafia-linked Uncle Louie and authoritarian Grandma Kurnitz (and her odorous mustard soup) while befriend their neurodiverse Aunt Bella, whose love and determination buoys the family against the headwinds of transformation.

*Lost In Yonkers won the Pulitzer [Prize](#) for Drama and the Tony Award for Best Play, among other accolades*

**Alanis Morissette's - Jagged Little Pill - Sat 6/13 2:30 PM, \$43.00 - Leshner Theater**

Inspired by one of the best-selling albums of all time, this electrifying new musical charts the lives of Mary Jane Healy and her picture-perfect American family. As hidden secrets and resentments begin to fracture the pristine façade of suburban life, the Healy's are forced to confront the truth of each other and their community, redefining the place they once called home. Raw, personal, and bursting with some of the most explosive songs in pop music history, this Tony Award-winning work from Oscar-winning writer Diablo Cody and Grammy Award-winning songwriters Alanis Morissette and Glen Ballard will have you rocking in the aisles while reclaiming the power and purpose of family.

*Winner of 2 Tony Awards, 2 Drama Desk Awards, Eight Outer Circle Critics' Awards and a Grammy (Best Musical Theater Album)*

Please reach out to me - should you have any questions or comments. See contact information below.

I look forward to sharing these SIR-Theater experiences with you !!

Glenn Breslin

925.788.6520 [glennbreslin@gmail.com](mailto:glennbreslin@gmail.com)



## Gardening

### Ken Studer

The Gardening Activity club did not meet in August.

August is the hottest month of the year here in Walnut Creek.

The **miracle of mulch** is a good thing for plants. I added 26 - 2 cubic yard bags of medium bark to my garden in May of this year. What a difference it made. Without changing my watering schedule or fertilizing, my plants are thriving. They put out new growth that usually only happens in the February. I used to think that mulch was over rated as a necessary ingredient in a healthy garden - not any more. 2 " to 3" was added on top of the ground. That amount of mulch puts a lid on water evaporation and keeps the ground moist and the roots cool. As it decomposes, it provides the microbes with a food source for years to come. As the winter rains come it also reduces erosion on slopes as well. It is never too late to add mulch. You can have a tree pruning company deliver it to your home for free - just call them!

For our September meeting I am planning a field trip to one of the farms or orchards in the area. If that can't be arranged, we will visit a botanical garden near by.

We welcome newcomers and their wives or significant others as well. Send me an email and I will add you to the mailing list.

Ken Studer

925.963.2536, [klstuder1161@gmail.com](mailto:klstuder1161@gmail.com)





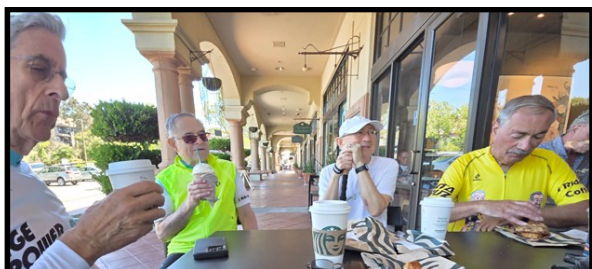
## Cycling Group Larry Kaye

June 29<sup>th</sup>: The cycling members of SIR Branch 146 met on Tuesday, June 29<sup>th</sup> at Bark Avenue in Alamo. The weather was outstanding with not a cloud in the sky with temperatures in the upper 70's. Unfortunately, our CBO

(Chief Biking Officer) **Larry Kaye** couldn't make the ride. We missed you Mr. CBO!!

The ride was a 34-mile (that's right) round trip to Collier Canyon and back. Our paceman NOT SO extraordinaire, **Mr. Moose man**, led the ride to

**Collier Canyon**. At **Collier Canyon**, **Jim Nelson** took over as our SO extraordinaire pacemen where we stopped at Starbucks at Blackhawk on the way home



for a needed coffee refresher with belly bombs to boot. At Starbucks, **Phil Lee** joined us for the camaraderie since he has been unable to ride for a while. We hope **Phil** can join us in the weeks ahead. Get the legs rolling **Phil!!** After a nice pick me up, we jumped on our bikes and headed for home uneventfully. YAY, YAY and YAY!! Besides **Mr. Moose man**, we had ten other cyclists on our sunny ride: **Thom Degnan, Bob Wilkenfeld, Ken Studer, Eric Finson, Bill Holly, Brian Lotter, Mike Schrupp, Jim Crites, Tom Alborg, David Paulson, and Elmer Bricca**.

Two pictures by **Jim Crites** (Thanks **Jim!!**) are attached to demonstrate our smiling and pondering faces that we were going to do a long, relatively flat ride at the start. The second picture was taken at Starbucks with **Phil Lee**.

Two avid riders, **Thom Degnan** and **David Paulson** rode additional miles to and from Bark Avenue in Alamo. It's a great time of year to get out and put some additional miles on our bikes with the goal of doing longer rides.

July 22<sup>nd</sup>: Rain? Never in July. But it rained. So what do you do when 11 guys show up for a ride? If you're a Sirs guy you ride. So we did. **Brian Lotter, Tom Alborg, Thom Degnan, Moose Kelly, Dave Paulson, Bill Holly, Jim Crites, Eric Finson, Elmer Bricca, Ken Studer, Larry Kaye**. We did the Blackhawk loop backwards. Nasty. Hills and Hills. Then we added some back-back streets of Danville to the mix. The idea of a ride is to .... Ride. Great ride. Back to Alamo for Java and belly bombs. The rain? It only served to cleanse our sunglasses. Grey hair doesn't mean old. It means experience and knowledge. Get up. Turn that knob and get outside.

August 1<sup>st</sup>: So having been sick and missing Tuesdays GREAT ride what was one to do? I would ride Friday but... we must not ride alone. For kicks I sent out a blurb to my guys. Anyone interested in a ride Friday?



Wow. Seven said "heck yes". We rode: Great ride. A loop of Blackhawk with a few weird turns and streets and hills. **Elmer Bricca, Thom Degnan, Bob Wilkenfeld, Eric Finson, Brian Totter, Bill Holly, Tom Alborg, and Larry Kaye**. The ride ended at PEETS with **Roger Meyers** showing up too. I treated the guys as I was happy to have fellow SIR guys along to enjoy as well as be close. Health is wealth and I never forget that. Get out your door and "smell the world".

August 5<sup>th</sup>: Today was to be a sort of off day. Fun, easy no mountains to climb. It was. We had a new rider join us today. Cleo is his name and I understand he is already active. The wind was howling, the temps were cold but what the heck? Off we rode towards Moraga.

Continued on the Following Page

## Cycling Group continued from previous page

The trail hid the winds and it was nice and enjoyable. We had a group of 11 today a real freight train. **Jim Crites, Eric Finson, Elmer Bricca, Moose Kelly, Cleo Bolen, Bill Holly, Thom Degnan, Ken Studer, Bob Wilkinson, Mike Schrupp, and Larry Kaye.** The ride took us to SiSi cafe and when we got there the coffee was hotted welcome. We met brother **Phil Lee** there as he came to show us his injury. Hope to see him soon on his rig. The trip home was as always, downhill. A fun and really nice ride. Unless you want your rear to look like your pillow, get the heck outside. Move it.

The cycling members of SIR Branch 146 met on Tuesday, August 12<sup>th</sup>. There were four hardy souls (**Thom Degnan, Eric Finson, Elmer Bricca, and Moose Kelly**) that rode additional miles to meet with the rest of their colleagues at Bark Avenue in Alamo. Our fearless leader, **Larry Kaye** couldn't make the ride. He asked **Thom Degnan** and **Moose Kelly** to take the helm.

Today's challenge was a 30-mile round trip from Alamo to Windermere Parkway and back. Our paceman very extraordinaire, Little Sir, **Thom Degnan** led the ride. The weather started as a crystal-clear day with moderate temperatures. An outstanding day to be out with the gang pounding the streets of CoCo County. As we stop to refuel and take a breather at the base of Windermere Parkway, we all agreed to stop at "Elmer's House" which was three quarters of the way up this six-degree hill. After "our break", we finished the climb and headed down this long hill to Bollinger Canyon Road where we made the turn and pointed our iron horses to Peet's. There, we relaxed and solved the world's problems under the sunshine. Life can't get any better being with your "gang" hanging out. After a nice break, we mounted our horses and headed back to Alamo talking and laughing as we went. At Bark Avenue, we took pictures of the "rough riders" that accomplish today's ride. They were: **Thom Degnan, Bob Wilkenfeld, Ken Studer, Brian Lotter, Eric Finson, Elmer Bricca, Bill Holly,**

**Jim Crites, Tom Alborg, and Moose Kelly.**

The Four avid (crazy?) riders (**Degnan, Finson, Bricca, and Mooseman**) that rode to the start, tacked on additional miles to return home. It's a great time of year to get out and put some additional miles on our bikes with the goal of doing longer rides and staying healthy.

There are a couple of pictures by **Jim Crites** and **Tom Degnan** (Thanks guys!!) that demonstrate our smiling and satisfied faces that we had completed a long, relatively flat ride with two good hills. At our stage of the game, health is wealth. Well done, gents!!

Get well Larry!! Speedy recovery. We all look forward to having you lead the gang in the not too distant future.

August 19: Today a record was shattered. We had 15 riders. Woweee. The ride was a relaxing tour of Danville and San Ramon. Just a way to relax before the heat settles in. We had: **Elmer Bricca, Moose Kelly, Dave Paulson, Brian Totter, Cleo, Tom Alberg, Jim Crites, Jim Nelson, Bill Holly, Bob Wilkenfeld, Phil Lee, Mike Schrupp, Ken Studer, Larry Kaye, Jim Rowland.** A True freight train.

The weather was super, the chat was invigorating, the java at Peets was great. What more can one say? A truly super ride!

If you are interest in joining us for a ride, then please reach out to **Larry Kaye** at 925.698.4030. So, dig out your old bike and dust it off. Come out and join us. Our rides are a no drop policy where we don't leave anyone behind. During the ride, we occasionally stop to gather the masses, then proceed onward to our goal of riding for coffee, having fun and staying healthy through exercise. The cycling group's motto: **HEALTH IS WEALTH!!!**

Continued on the Following Page







## Birding Ted Robertson

There were no birding trips in August because I was chasing birds in Canada on a long vacation. I am back in town and excited to share my love of birds once again. Our next trip is scheduled for Wednesday September 10th in the morning, the start of the fall bird migration. If you would like to be part of the birding group and receive monthly announcements with specific locations, directions and times, please email me so you can be added to the mailing list. Beginners are welcome and I have a few very good loaner binoculars. This is a coed group, so friends and spouses are always welcome, along with your son or daughter.

**Ted Robertson**  
925.899.1872 [tedr@berkeley.edu](mailto:tedr@berkeley.edu)



Great Egret (Photo by Earl Bates)

Technically, Moses was the first man to download files from the cloud using a tablet.

## Cycling Group continued from previous page

### Cycling Photo Gallery by Jim Crites



**Larry Kaye**  
925.698.4030



## Travel Glenn Breslin

**GOOD NEWS !!! New Trip Announced:** Many SIRs have mentioned interested in going to **CUBA** on 3/12/26 for a 6-day tour. If you are interested, then please let me know [glennbreslin@gmail.com](mailto:glennbreslin@gmail.com).

**Vietnam/Cambodia Trip Update:** 13 SIRs are going Trip Now Sold Out.

Based upon both the SIR Multi-Branch travel questionnaire results and the related member interview input, these travel destinations have been chosen for future SIR Travel. Please let Glenn Breslin know if you are interested.

Vietnam/ Cambodia <b>Sold Out</b>	Australia/New Zealand	Cuba	Japan/Korea
10/19/25 to 11/7/25 (\$3495-No Airfare/\$4695 -With Economy Airfare) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Angkor Wat Post-Trip Included available</li> <li><a href="#">Click her for details</a></li> <li>Group code is G5-30339</li> </ul>	1/7/26 to 1/25/26 (\$5295- No Airfare/\$7645-With Economy Airfare) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Both Melbourne Pre-Trip and Fiji Post-Trip available</li> <li><a href="#">Click here for details</a></li> <li>Group code is G6-30339</li> </ul>	3/12/26 to 3/18/26 (\$4611 with airfare already included) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Immersion into culture and history</li> <li>Five-star lodging</li> <li>All meals but one included</li> <li>All tours included</li> <li><a href="#">Click here for details</a></li> </ul>	4/1/26 to 4/16/26 (\$7495 -No Airfare/\$9095-With Economy Airfare) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hiroshima post-trip available</li> <li><a href="#">Click here for details</a></li> <li>Group code is G6-30339</li> </ul>

### SIR Travel - Current Discount – Expires 9/2

For the 2026 trips, travelers can mention Code DOBE 470 in addition to your group code G6-30339.

- For Australia/New Zealand, save 10% on your total trip cost plus, save an additional \$200 per person
- For South Korea/Japan, save 10% on your total trip cost plus, save an additional \$200 per person

### Travel Quotes:

“Don’t let your age stop you from seeing the world. Your curiosity and sense of adventure are timeless.”

“You’re not too old to travel; you’re just too experienced to settle for ordinary trips.”

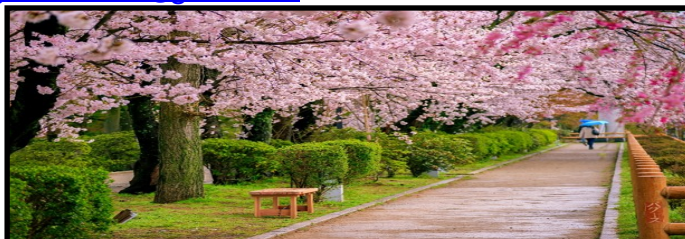
“Age is just a number, but travel is an endless adventure.”

Let me know if you have any questions or comments.



**Glenn Breslin**

925.788.6520 [glennbreslin@gmail.com](mailto:glennbreslin@gmail.com)







## Nine Hole Golf Group

**Bob Ford**

We are having really nice turnouts for 9-hole golf this summer. And the weather is just getting better as we ease into fall. Why don't you come out and join us? Our group tees off at 9:30 am at the Diablo Hills Golf Course on every Thursday, except the second Thursday of the month when we go to the SIR luncheon. It is open to all, and you don't need to be a member of the NCGA or have a handicap to play. It takes us about two hours to play, then most of us also have lunch at the Greenery which is the restaurant at the course. On Fridays, I will send out an email asking who is coming for golf and if you plan to walk or ride. On Wednesdays I will send out an email with who signed up for Thursday morning. I hope to see you there!!

**Bob Ford**

[scubabob.ford@gmail.com](mailto:scubabob.ford@gmail.com)



## Tuesday Golf

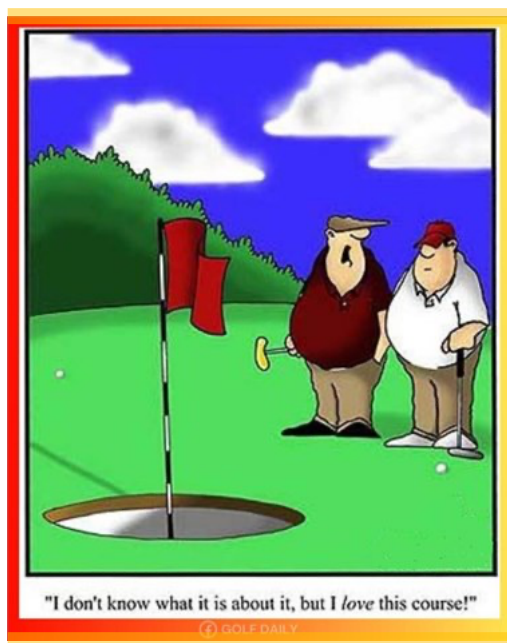
**Ed Marlovits**

Tuesday Golf is the SIR Branch 146 Golf Club. We play weekly at Boundary Oak. Joining has a cost of \$80 per year which covers your NCGA membership and provides a recognized golf

handicap. Prize fund participation is an option. Most weeks are stroke play but there are typically monthly team events as well.

In addition to branch golf, members are eligible to participate in numerous SIR State Golf events. This year has nine scheduled State events which are shown in the SIR State Golf website: <https://sirgolf.org>.

**Ed Marlovits**



## SongSirs

**Peter Plante**

The SongSirs are working on an autumn program for an October 3 performance at The Carlton Retirement Home on Broadway in Concord. We are reviewing songs like "I Wish I Was 18 Again," "Lonesome Town" and "Happy Trails."

Our next rehearsal is on September 3, 2025 at Walnut Creek Presbyterian Church at 1:30.

We are always looking for new members, so join us for a fun time and camaraderie. No auditions necessary, just a love of music and singing.

Contact Peter Plante at [pcplante109@gmail.com](mailto:pcplante109@gmail.com)

**Peter Plante**

[pcplante109@gmail.com](mailto:pcplante109@gmail.com)

## Book Corner

**Paul Kersis**



The Book Corner will be closed in October. Visit us at the November meeting!







## Hiking

### Ray Martz and Bob Wilkenfeld

Diablo Foothills was the destination on July 28. **John Alexander, Cleo Bolen, Eric Finson, Ray Martz and Gene Schulting** completed the 5.2-mile hike with 790 feet of climbing. The route took them along Pine Creek from Castle Rock Park to Little Yosemite, with a return hike on the



Mt Diablo-Briones Regional Trail.



Starting from the Marciel Staging Area, our hike on August 4<sup>th</sup> headed down into the valley at Anthony Chabot Regional Park. Our 5.2-mile hike (with 770 feet of climbing) took us through dense groves of eucalyptus trees (and poison oak!), along several fire roads. **Cleo Bolen, Jim Crites, Chris Duffek, Eric Finson, Mike Gipps, Ray Martz, Gene Schulting and Bob Wilkenfeld** completed the outing without any ticks, falls or rashes?

The cool, shady conditions in Tilden Park were a great respite from the heat on August 11. Despite getting lost in the first 0.2 mile of the hike, **John Alexander, Cleo Bolen, Chris Duffek, Bob and Christian Mason, Ray Martz, Gene Schulting, and Bob Wilkenfeld** enjoyed hiking 4-miles (with 690 feet of climbing) along the Silven, Bay Ridge and Laurel trails. We lunched among the tall redwood trees in the Rotary Club's Peace Grove.



The Seaview Trail in Tilden Park was our destination on August 18. **Jim Crites, Eric Finson, Bob Mason, Gene Schulting and Bob Wilkenfeld** enjoyed the sweeping views of both San Francisco, and the Briones and San Pablo Reservoirs during a break on the ridgeline. With this hike being only 3.7 miles, with 770 feet of climbing, we had plenty of energy to enjoy the remainder of the day.

The hikes we plan are 4-7 miles in length with up to 1000 feet of climbing. We also host a 3-4 mile flat walk each month on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of each month (i.e., the morning following our Branch Luncheon). Advanced email notifications for each hike and walk describe the outing details, including starting point, route and difficulty. Spouses and guests are always welcome. Our canine friends will be allowed on leash if the hiking venue permits it. If you are interested in joining us, please let Bob know.

Ray Martz [rayhvac@gmail.com](mailto:rayhvac@gmail.com)  
Bob Wilkenfeld [Wilx4@gmail.com](mailto:Wilx4@gmail.com)



## Bocce

### John Kendrick

Reminder - SIR 146 Bocce Ball is alive, active, and looking for existing and new players. As a bonus, there is plenty of free parking adjacent to the courts.

The SIR 146 Bocce Ball activity meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays, 8:30 am to 10:00 am, May through September at Bocce Courts in Newhall Park, Concord. The courts are near the corner of Turtle Creek and Ayers Roads in Concord.

Ladies always welcome!

John Kendrick  
925.827.0585 [jmkendrick23@gmail.com](mailto:jmkendrick23@gmail.com)



## AREA 16 Fishing Report

Paul Dubow

Halibut fishing usually winds down in late August, but we are continuing to catch the delicious (and expensive) flatfish. Many of us fished in the Bay successfully and caught

some stripers as a bonus. **Ron Lew** won the prize for largest fish, boating a huge striper and a very large halibut.



**Nick Jabuka** pulled his new boat down to Santa Cruz Harbor, accompanied by **Brion Beetz** and **Dennis Lee**. They caught fifteen rockfish and three ling cod, but the catch was topped by a 21 lb. halibut that **Brion** caught.

**Tom Kostik** and **Ken Bellindir** fished the Delta on several occasions and limited on black bass each time.

**Stan Wong** and **Dennis Lee** tried their luck at Lake Berryessa for kokanee salmon and they did catch some, but did not limit out.

**Brion Beetz** and **Tom Chapman** flew to Seward, Alaska and had a very nice trip, returning home with loads of salmon, halibut, and rockfish.

As you read this, 22 of us will be aboard the *Sea Wolf* fishing for rockfish. We charter the *Sea Wolf* every year for a rockfish trip to the Farallon Islands and each time we have returned with limits of rockfish weighing between 5 and 10 lbs. Last year, the DFW changed the

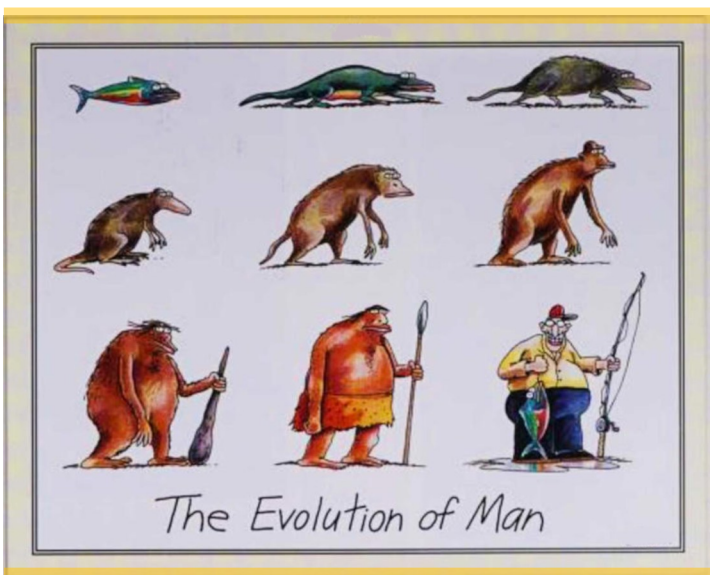
rockfish regulations so that anglers could only fish in waters deeper than 300 feet in some months and in waters shallower than 300 feet in other months. The waters off the Farallon Islands are in the deep category. This year, August is a "shallow" month. And so we will be fishing in shallower waters within sight of the shore. The fish will not be as big, but we will be spending less time traveling between the harbor and the fishing venue and more time fishing. Hopefully, we will have a report of limits in next month's SIRCall.

We held our annual picnic in **Brion Beetz'** backyard on August 17. This year, we decided to forego a caterer, and our chefs were **Brion** and **Stan Wong**. They outdid the caterers. We began with pizza baked in the backyard oven followed with antipasto. The main course was short ribs and chicken cooked by **Stan**. **Stan** also conjured a gigantic bowl of baked beans. **Brion's** contribution was the salads. We could select from corn salad, cole slaw, and cucumber salad, although most of us ate all three. We finished with cookies and brownies.

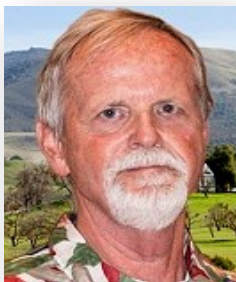
Our next breakfast meeting is scheduled for September 25 at the Legends Bar and Grill at Diablo Creek Golf Course, 4050 Port Chicago Highway in Concord. The meeting begins at 8:30 am, but please join us for breakfast beginning at 7:30 am for camaraderie and fish stories, even if you have never fished or have not fished in a long time but are thinking about starting or renewing this activity.

Paul Dubow

510.504.3566







## Photography Group

### John "Moose" Kelly and Henry Thatcher

The photography members of SIR Branch 146 met on Friday, July 18th at the Walnut Creek Library in the Las Trampas Room in downtown Walnut Creek. There were eleven members of the gang that attended: **Henry Thatcher, Dean Mayer, Peter Plante, Bob Wilkenfeld, Bill Holly, Frank Terzuoli, Miker Rothman, Phil Lee, Don Casey, Larry McAllister, and Moose Kelly.** A big thank you to **Bill Holly** for being our computer operator extraordinaire during the meeting. Another shout out goes to **Miker Rothman** saving the day with fresh Peet's coffee to wash down the donuts. Thank you, **Miker!!**

We had a very active meeting touching on and discussing in detail the following:

- **Miker Rothman** discussed the photo group help website that presents an encompassing view of the photography club. We will incorporate the link within our monthly communication with the club
- **Phil Lee, Larry McAllister, Peter Plante and Moose Kelly** discussed the various photography shots at the Carnaval Parade in the Mission in downtown SF. A very colorful event was displayed in a myriad of ways. WOW!!
- "The Martinez Cemetery gang" discussed the photoshoot in-depth with the array of color to black and white photos of this historic cemetery.
- **Moose Kelly** showed a three-minute video with a Jimi Hendrix flare of underwa-

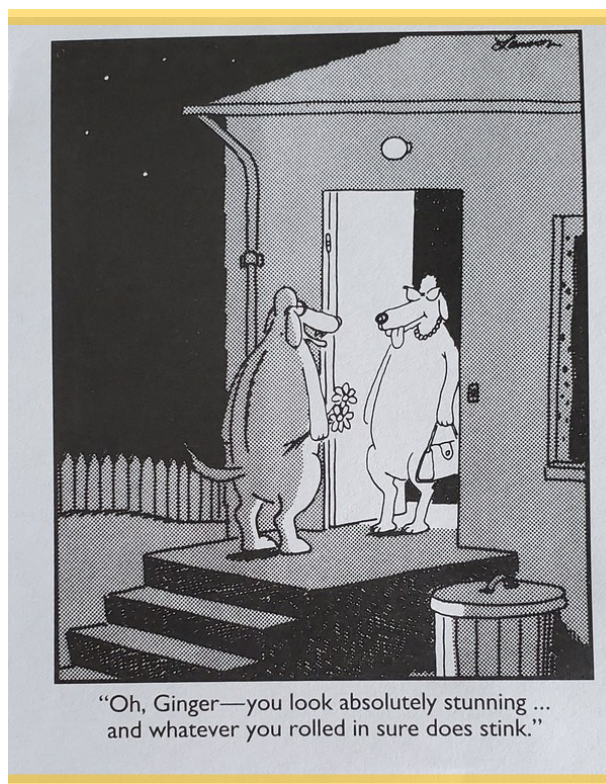
ter sea life pictures on his recent scuba diving trip in the Philippines.

- Our theme for September is Architectural photography. Our very own **Ron Polivka** will be leading a photoshoot of the financial district in downtown San Francisco on September 17<sup>th</sup>. **Ron** led this exercise in 2021 to a semi-abandoned city because of the pandemic. This photoshoot was very popular. I highly recommend for you avid photographers to attend.

If you are not on our email list and would like to join the Photography Group for one of our monthly themes or just want to come to our meeting to see what the club is all about, then please contact John "Moose" Kelly or Henry Thatcher. We would be happy to send you the agenda.

Email John (Moose) Kelly at  
[Rollingstone91149@gmail.com](mailto:Rollingstone91149@gmail.com)

Email Henry Thatcher at  
[1henrythatcher@gmail.com](mailto:1henrythatcher@gmail.com)





## Book Group

### Nick Jabuka

For the July meeting, we gave the group some flexibility in their reading selection for the month. Three books were chosen, and members could read one or more of those three. They included: *All the Glimmering Stars* by Mark Sullivan, *Circe* by Madeline Miller, and *Charlottesville* by Deborah Baker.

After missing the two prior meetings due to a long trip, it was good to see the guys, catch up on what they have been doing, share my thoughts on the book I read (*All the Glimmering Stars*), and learn more about the books I hadn't read. Our meetings are held at Panera Bread, where we can have a large table that accommodates our group and lively discussions.

### The Books

*All the Glimmering Stars* – this book by Mark Sullivan, based upon actual history and real people, the author weaves the history into an exciting story. Mark Sullivan has written several well-received books that follow this formula and illuminate the hero's struggles against evil during a period of regional or world unrest. In this case, the story is about warfare and human displacement that took place in the 1980s and 90s in southern Sudan and northern Uganda. The book tells the story of two teenagers who were separately kidnapped and forced to serve in a child army run by a messianic and cruel leader who attempted to overthrow the elected government of Uganda. The teens are held against their will and forced to fight for years, but through their resolve, strength, and faith, they can escape and help to bring the violence and atrocities to an end.

*Circe*, by Madeline Miller, is a retelling of the story of the mythological Greek sorceress. Cast as a minor villain in *The Odyssey*, Circe is given a leading role in this masterful novel. Born a nymph, the daughter of the sun god Helios, Circe is an outcast among the divine for her

strange, mortal-like sensibilities and a voice like a human's. When her powers of witchcraft prove dangerous, she is exiled by Zeus to the island of Aiaia.

The novel spans a thousand years, chronicling Circe's encounters with legendary figures like Hermes, Daedalus, and Odysseus, but the focus remains personal. It is a quiet exploration of female power, trauma, and resilience in a world ruled by the whims of cruel, arrogant gods and brutish men.

*Charlottesville: An American Story* is an account of the Unite the Right rally at the University of Virginia in Charlottesville, 2017, by author Deborah Baker. Baker focuses on the people of Charlottesville while also tracing the path of the far-right figures who planned and attended the rally.

The author maps out the activities that preceded the march, the debate by civic leaders on the fate of a statue of Robert E. Lee; the Black clergy, who were divided on how to respond to the potential threat; the university administrators and police who decided on the city's response; and the activists residents who saw what was coming and tried to protect their community. The author also explores the implications of the events on American society, politics, and the rise of hate-driven violence.

### Recommendations

*All the Glimmering Stars* – recommended by the group.

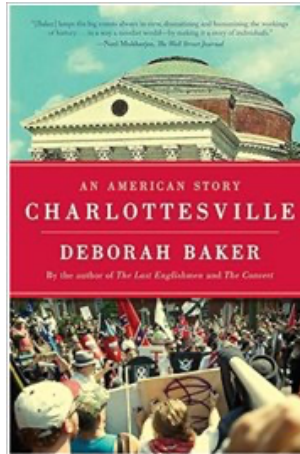
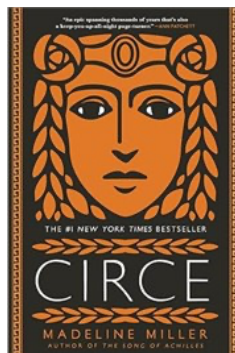
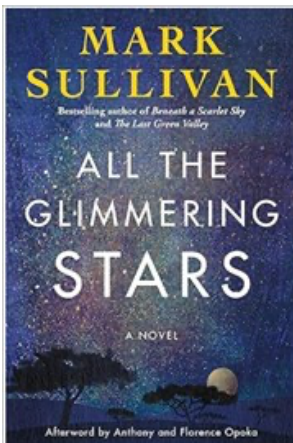
*Circe* – recommended for anyone with an interest in Greek mythology, character-driven stories, and tales of quiet defiant strength.

*Charlottesville: An American Story* – not recommended, as the story was challenging to follow, and the author's objectivity was sometimes in question.

Next month's book is *The Haves and Have-Yachts: Dispatches on the Ultrarich* by Evan Osnos. The book is based on a collection of essays exploring American oligarchy, the culture of excess, and how the ultra-rich impact our social and political landscape.

Nick Jabuka, Chair — Mike Rothman, Editor

925.639.0384 [njabuka@yahoo.com](mailto:njabuka@yahoo.com)







## Cooking Lunch and Wine Paul Dubow

All seven members of the Lunch and Wine (LAW) Group met in **Pete Gates'** backyard on a pleasant summer afternoon to enjoy our

monthly luncheon. We were joined by guest **Lynn Shaffer** and **Pete's** dog Bailey.

**Pete's** main course was short ribs, which he prepared for two hours in his oven. It was accompanied by potato salad and coleslaw and our usual indulgences of wine. Pete cheated a little because the dessert, ice cream cones, was purchased at the local grocery.

In the meantime, our wives and significant others enjoyed themselves at the Wise Girl Restaurant, which is only a few blocks from **Pete's** home.

Our next outing will be our semi-annual night out with our wives and significant others. It is scheduled for September 17, but a venue has not yet been selected.

**Paul Dubow**

510.504.3566 or at [pdubow2398@aol.com](mailto:pdubow2398@aol.com)



*"Could you hold our popcorn?  
We kind of have a little bet going."*



## Cooking II Steve Ybarra

The Cooking II group met this month at **Ken Richter's** home. The group enjoyed appetizers in Ken's beautiful backyard. In addition to the usual spread of salami and crackers the star was Ken's home-made Artichoke Dip. Very yummy. After a lively conversation solving most of the world's problems, fueled by several glasses of outstanding wine, the group was then served the main meal of Chicken Salad with apples and cranberries. Ken then served the group his famous dessert of vanilla ice cream blended with Kahlua, Brandy, Galliano and rum. Ken earned an A+ for providing the Cooking group an excellent summer lunch.

Ken will be leaving Sir 146 and the Cooking II group in September and moving to Southern California to be closer to his children. The group wishes Ken the best and he will be truly missed. The group will next meet at the home of **Dennis Hallett** on September 8th.

**Steve Ybarra**

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



Men say women should come with instructions!  
What's the point of that? Have you ever seen a  
man actually read the instructions?





## 寿司の友達 Sushi no Tomodachi Clint Collier

Six of us gathered to share sushi this month at our semi monthly group get together. We re-visited Fuji, the all you can eat sushi buffet in Concord. Great deal and a great deal more than just sushi, as several of us enjoyed custom sashimi plates. For those of you not familiar, there are all kinds of sushi, and other delicacies available on a moving "train" of dishes. If you want something and don't see it just ask and they prepare it for



you.

We were so anxious to get going we didn't grab a picture at the start of lunch but here is what a bunch of satisfied sushi eaters look like at the end of a great



meal!

We will meet again in October; where remains to be determined.

Clint Collier

You know you're getting old when you barely do anything all day, but still need to have a nap to continue to do barely anything.



## Wine Tasting Brian McCarthy

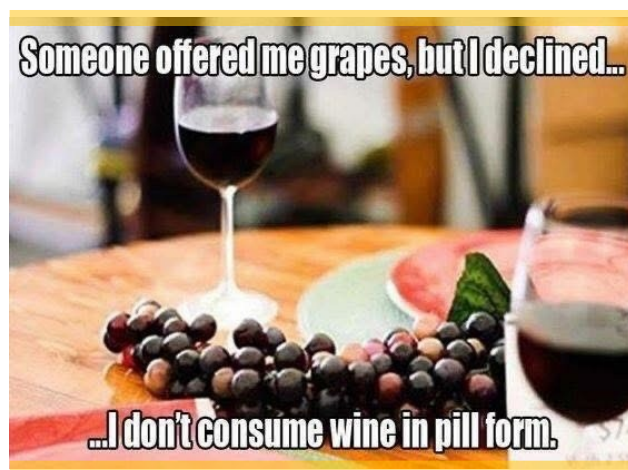
I know that we all were disappointed when the July wine tasting was cancelled--especially **Bob** and **Wendy Lucido**. The good news is that **Bob** is back to his old self! Now we are getting ready for the next wine tasting. Mark your calendars for Tuesday, October 28. It will be at the home of **Bob** and **Judy Wilkenfeld**. The tasting will be from 2:30-5:00 pm. Don't forget to bring an appetizer.

You may ask "what are the varietals for October?" Good question! Check out the October newsletter for the answer. In the meantime, sign up by calling Brian @ 925-324-2463 or email us at [br146winetasting@gmail.com](mailto:br146winetasting@gmail.com). Don't delay. Space will be limited and we always fill up. **Bill** and I are looking forward to seeing you at the **Wilkenfeld's**.



Brian McCarthy  
925.324.2463

[br146winetasting@gmail.com](mailto:br146winetasting@gmail.com)





## Couples Dining Out Bruce Borgman

It is with mixed emotions that I write this article, as we go through a transition period.

As I mentioned at our last event at the Creekside Grill on July 21 and announced in the last article for SIRCall, Sue and I have decided to step back from leading this activity. It may be that we are a victim of our own success in that the complexity of arranging the bi-monthly Dining Out event has exceeded our ability to continue to lead this in its present format. We are now regularly exceeding 60 diners. The restaurant environment has changed also – it is hard to find a restaurant that can accommodate a group of our size. And, when we do squeeze in everyone who is interested in going, the seating is such that the dining experience is less than optimal. Another complication is that with a larger group it is more likely that several diners will cancel well after I have given a final count and menu choices to the restaurant.

In short, I think it is time to have a new set of eyes review how we manage this activity. It may be that we should not do this event every other month – maybe every third month. Or, perhaps we should concentrate on having a smaller group and limit our Dining Out event to 35 or 40. I want to let all of you know that I am not going away and would like to be part of the solution of how we continue enjoy getting together. I have written up a set of instructions for how we have managed this activity which I will gladly share with anyone interested in taking a leadership role in managing this activity. The good news is that Bob Lucido has already indicated his willingness to participate in leading this activity, and I'm sure there will be others who will step forward to ensure that the activity continues to be one of our popular ones.

As it turns out, you will see elsewhere in the newsletter that we will enjoy a Second Annual Picnic in late September. I will be one on a committee of four who will lead this event, which was so successful last year. Since we are having this activity in September when we would normally have a Dining Out event, the picnic will effectively be the Dining Out event. So, we will continue the tradition of a Dining Out event in September – with our format changing to a daytime event.

This will give us time consider how this activity will change – and we will perhaps plan a holiday get together in November or December.

I very much appreciate the accolades we have received as the leaders of this activity for the last 12+ years and we are confident that we will continue to enjoy a modified event as our membership steps up to take a leadership role in the coming months.

**Bruce Borgman**

Dining Out Host

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



## Veterans

**Larry Kaye**

Next Vet meeting!

- Date: Wed 1/7/26
- Time: 11:30 AM
- Event: Lunch.
- Price: What you eat and drink. You will receive an indi-

vidual check for your meal,

Location: Back Forty Restaurant, 100 Coggins Dr., Pleasant Hill, CA 94523. Menu Link: <https://backforty.us/wp-content/uploads/dine-in-menu-Spring-2025-Web.pdf>

Bring a story to share. A portable microphone and speaker will be available, so everyone can hear. RSVP to attend.

**Larry Kaye**

925.698.4030

[larrykaye2@comcast.net](mailto:larrykaye2@comcast.net)

When you're 20 you care what everybody thinks.

When you're 40 you stop caring what everyone thinks.

When you're 60 you realize no one was ever thinking about you in the first place!

# SECOND ANNUAL SIR 146 PICNIC

*Boots, Brisket and Brotherhood!*

*Round Up Your Appetite for a Rootin' Tootin' Good Time!*

Howdy, Partners! Saddle up for the 2nd Annual SIR 146 Picnic, where the spirit of the West comes alive! Dust off your cowboy hats and boots for a barbecue you won't want to miss.

## Event Details

- When: Friday, September 26
- Where: Hanna Picnic Area at Old Borges Ranch, Walnut Creek
- Time: Mosey on over as early as 10:30am
  - Food served at 11:30am
  - Celebrate all day long!



## Grub's On!

**We're servin' up a smokin' selection of BBQ favorites,  
including chicken, brisket and pork ribs.**

It's just \$34 per person for this shindig! **BUT, Bring Your Own Beverage**, partner—since no liquor wranglers will be provided. Picnic tables, plates, utensils, and napkins are on us. Don't like bench sittin'? Bring a comfy chair to kick back in style.

To lasso your seat at the hottest party this side of El Paso, shoot an email to Bruce Borgman at [bgborgman@aol.com](mailto:bgborgman@aol.com). Mail your \$34 check (made out to Branch 146) to: Bruce Borgman, 3611 Winchester Place, Walnut Creek, CA 94598

Don't miss out, as we have to limit the group to 60 folks! This is your chance to enjoy great food, warm company, and western fun under the wide-open California sky. Dust off your spurs and join us for a day of laughter, barbecue, and good ol' SIR camaraderie! We'll see y'all at the ranch!





# EXPLORE & EAT

Tour [Lodi Energy Center](#) and  
the Town of Locke, Boarding House Museum  
Wednesday, October 22<sup>nd</sup> at 10:30



The Lodi Energy Center (LEC) is located at 12751 North Thornton Road, Lodi.

In 2012, NCPA opened the Lodi Energy Center (LEC), home to one of the cleanest and most efficient gas-fired power systems in the U.S. It was the first in the nation to take advantage of “fast-start” gas-turbine technology to reduce emissions and provide a rapid response to market and grid conditions.

NCPA is in the process of converting to Hydrogen as the fuel to eliminate carbon emissions. Fast-start technology can quickly ramp up and down, counterbalancing the variable nature of wind and solar energy. The tour of LEC will take about an hour.

Then we will drive to the Town of Locke (20 minutes) and have lunch at [Al the Wops](#) (13943 Main St. Walnut Grove) from 12:00 to 1:30.

After, there is an optional tour of the Locke Boarding House Museum across the street from **Al the Wops** after lunch. There is a charge of \$5 per person for this museum tour. Maximum of 25 for the museum tour.

Please send a check to **SIR 146** for \$5 per person to go to the optional tour of the museum to: Jim Pope, 385 Bryan Drive, Alamo, CA 94507. Deadline October 14<sup>th</sup>.



Locke Boarding House

# MEXICAN TRAIN Dominoes

Group Uno 1



## Mexican Train Dominoes "Uno"

Sue and Bruce Borgman welcomed the complete group of Mexican Train Uno last August 15th at their lovely home.

Since there was a full crowd we were seated with three tables. As always, we had to break up the pre-game social time with ringing of the bell and the games commenced. At half time, **Jim** had a total score of 24 points and obviously looked like he was heading to collect the winners pot.

His strategy continued well until the last hand when he was left with 96 points in his hand! That added to his score of 24, left him with a total point value of 130. The kicker is that he came in second, behind partner **Jane**, who had a total score of 128! It was great to see **Gabriela** place in the top three. For those of you who know **Sue** and **Bruce** and their culinary skills, we were well treated to lots of yummys and an excellent home made peach cobbler

with ice cream.

We look forward to September with **Jim Stedman** and **Jane** hosting.

**Corrie Oranje**

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



First place winner, **Jane Bryant**, followed by **Jim Stedman**, and **Gabriela Bishop**

Group Dos 2



## Mexican Train Dominoes "Dos"

**Ron Plachy**

We played at the home of **Dan and Mary Holland** in July. **Joe** and **Stephanie Fuchs** subbed but we had the **Pearls**, the **McVean's**,

and **Anne Plachy** missing so we played with only nine. The snacks and goodies abounded but the hit of the night was the chocolate eclairs at the break.

**Joe Fuchs**, playing for the first time with us, came in 1<sup>st</sup> with a fantastic 5.75 average! The **Colliers**, **Clint** and **Bev** did it again, coming in 2<sup>nd</sup> (13.1 avg) and 3<sup>rd</sup> (15.6 avg) respectively.

Our next game is scheduled for Friday, [August 22<sup>nd</sup>](#) at the home of **Kirk and Nancy McVean**.

**Ron Plachy**

925.286.4552 [rjplachy@icloud.com](mailto:rjplachy@icloud.com)



MTD 2 Winners: **Joe Fuchs** 1st, **Bev Collier** 2nd and **Clint Collier** 3rd.





## Mexican Train Dominoes "Tres" Walt Busenius

We last met on Friday afternoon, July 25<sup>th</sup> at the home of **Sue & Walt Busenius**

on a nice cheerful day in Walnut Creek, after the Sir Call went to press. The good ole Friday special huffed and puffed its way through the hills and dales of Walnut Creek to **Sue & Walt's** doorstep. Gathering around the two tables were **Walt & Sue Busenius, Judy Richmond, Alicia Baily, Linda & Larry Brown and Joyce Wells & Jim Barry**. The group was bribed with table treats and delicious half-time faire.

Bringing her A<sup>+</sup> game and seizing bragging rights was **Linda Brown** who dominated with an avg. score of 11.45 pg. She went out 4 times. Yes, there was a **Walt Busenius** photo opportunity, as he somehow won 2<sup>nd</sup> place. Going out 5 times helped. He has not finished in the money since the dollar was worth a dollar. Well, maybe not that long but it feels like it. **Alicia Baily** played well and garnered 3<sup>rd</sup> place, showing her skills to the rest of the group.

We had fun, we chatted and gossiped some, and very much enjoyed the afternoon. We said our goodbyes, quietly boarded the ole Mexican Train and followed the sun to our various destinations.

We will meet next in August at **Alicia Baily's** casa.

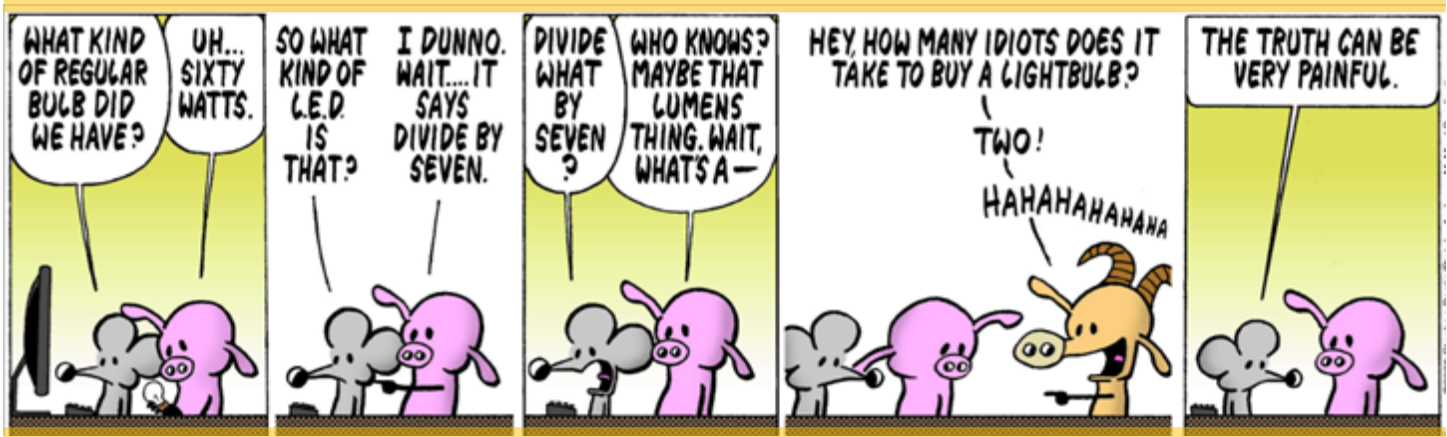
**Walt Busenius**

925.457.7428 [walterbusenius@gmail.com](mailto:walterbusenius@gmail.com)



Winner Circle

**Alicia Baily 3rd, Walt Busenius 2nd, and Linda Brown 1st**



I signed up for an exercise class and was told to wear loose fitting clothing.  
If I HAD any loose fitting clothing, I wouldn't have signed up to begin with!



## Mexican Train Dominoes "Cinco" Dennis Hallett

On August 21<sup>st</sup>, local temperatures were over 100 °F. Fortunately,

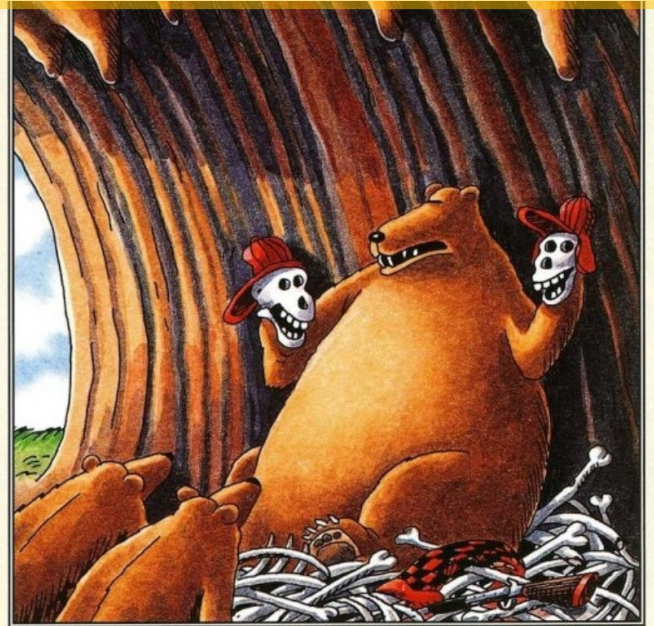
**Doug and Patti Eisner** welcomed us to their much cooler home. Regrettably, we were missing several of our regulars, good friends and worthy opponents. Four men and four women enjoyed the **Eisners'** hospitality.

It was a rare evening: the men bested the women, despite **Patti's** attempt to distract us with huge helpings of two kinds of apple pie à la mode. **Bob Yolland** was first (51), **Marty Campbell** was second (64), and **Doug** was third (71) after five rounds. Congratulations to all. **Joan Pierce** was a close fourth (79).

In September, **Bob and Janet Yolland** will host, and we hope our ranks will be bolstered by missing members who are in our thoughts

Dennis Hallett

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



"Okay, one more time and it's off to bed for the both of you. ...'Hey, Bob. Think there are any bears in this old cave?'...'I dunno, Jim. Let's take a look.'"



## Mexican Train Dominoes "Seis" Steve Lane

Our July - MDT-6 gathering was at **Kathe Mitchell's** home with **John Hendrick** hosting. Thank you, **Kathe and John**.

Time for semi mixed tables.

At table one was **Richard Hockenbrock** with the ladies. **Mary McCarthy**, **Mary Schmidt**, **Kathe Mitchell**, and **Carol Lane**.

At table two was **Virginia Tygart** with the men. **Bruce Borgman**, **Brian McCarthy**, **John Kendrick**, "Moose" **Kelly** and **Steve Lane**.

Finally, some men were in the winner's circle, with the winner **Kathe Mitchell** (12.4), **John Kendrick** second

(13.7) and third, **Brian McCarthy** (14.8).

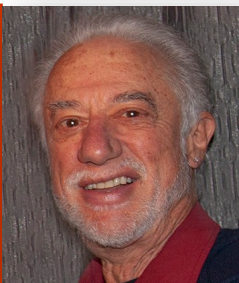
MTD-6's August get together will be at **McCarthy's** home on Wednesday, August 27, 2025.



Steve Lane

925.984.0341 [thelane3@aol.com](mailto:thelane3@aol.com).





## Mexican Train Dominoes "Siete" Bob Lucido

On July 9th **Bob & Jane West** hosted our MTD 7 event.

**Bob West** took first place with an avg score of 11.1, **Bev Collier** placed second with an avg score of 17.1 and **Bob Wilkenfeld** came in third with an avg score of 17.8.

Bob Lucido

[bobwendy3@comcast.net](mailto:bobwendy3@comcast.net)



## Mexican Train Dominoes "Ocho" Richard Hockenbrock

We broke a new attendance record, when twenty one (21) adventurous souls came to play a fun filled evening at

MTD 8. More people also meant the rewards in the form of our pot was also a record [ $\$3 \times 21 = \$63$ ]. We take \$2 out for pay for the two scratchers, leaving us with a payout of \$36 to the player with the lowest score which happened to be **Pam McAllister**. Looking back on last month's report, **Pam** was in second place on that evening. We keep telling everyone that the MTD game is pure luck but **Pam**, and for that matter, all our top winners in August were also winner in June, July, or August. **Pam** averaged a score of 9.71.

I got off track there a bit and I don't want to take anything away for our 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place winners. **Bill Holly** came in 2<sup>nd</sup> place with a average score of 14.42. I sat near to **Bill** at the same table, and he played masterly. He was #1 in July. **Bill's** 2<sup>nd</sup> place finish on this evening yielded him \$18.

**Steve Ybarra** was our 3<sup>rd</sup> place winner with an average score of 16.85 and prize money of \$6. Although **Steve** is a regular member of MTD 8, he doesn't attend every month. When he does attend, he seems to always be in the winner circle. In June, for example, he came in 1<sup>st</sup> place.

The August snacks and goodies were superbly hosted

by **Glenn Breslin**. Our next set of games will be played on the first Wednesday in September, which is the 3<sup>rd</sup>. Snacks will be hosted by **John & Sandi Foster**.

Richard Hockenbrock

925.324.1713 [rlhock@outlook.com](mailto:rlhock@outlook.com)







## Mexican Train Dominoes “Nueve” Bob Lucido

On July 16th, ten of us met at the lovely house of **bob & Jane West**.

**Bob West** was 1st with an average score of 8.1, **Jane West** came in second with 10.1 average score, and **Mary McCarthy** was 3rd with an average score of 20.7.

**Bob Lucido**

[bobwendy3@comcast.net](mailto:bobwendy3@comcast.net)



**Bob West 1st, Jane West 2nd and Mary McCarthy 3rd**



## Mexican Train Dominoes “Diez” (10) Mark Sorum and Cleo Bolen

In August, Mexican Train Dominoes “Diez” (Group 10) was hosted by **Rich and Ismini Ahlf** in their beautiful Clayton home. The July winners were **Ismini Ahlf, Linda Casey** and **Phil Lee**, with consolation prizes going to **Mark Sorum** and **Don Casey**.

We meet on the third Friday of each month at 1:00 pm to socialize and have some fun. Our next meeting will be September 19th at the home of **Eric Finson**. We rotate hosting among different homes.

This is a coed activity, but single SIR members are welcome. Please contact us if you are interested in joining us.

**Mark Sorum**

925.577.5153 [markandbarbsorum@gmail.com](mailto:markandbarbsorum@gmail.com)

**Cleo Bolen**

925.768.7902 [cleo.bolen@comcast.net](mailto:cleo.bolen@comcast.net)





# CARD GAMES

## ...we play



### Men's Hearts

#### Bob West and Steve Ybarra

Since the prior SIR Call submission, we are reporting on results from July 11<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>.

The big winners were **Bill Vizza** with 6 wins, followed by **Brian McCarthy** with 4.5 wins. **Steve Ybarra** had 4 2nds and **Bob West** had 2.5. The lowest average scorers were **Bill Vizza** with 40 and **Bob Haber** with 61. **Frank, Brian and Bill** each had 2 STM's.

YTD: **Brian McCarthy** and **Steve Ybarra** have the most wins with 16 followed by **Bill Vizza** with 15.

- Highest winning percentage is **Jim Passaglia** with 39% and **Steve** and **Brian** with 36%.
- **Steve Ybarra** leads in YTD 2nds with 15 and **Frank Lucas** and **Bill Vizza** have 14.
- Lowest Average Scorer is **Steve Ybarra** with 48.9 followed by **Ron Polivka** with 51.9.
- **Bill Vizza** has 8 STM's, followed by **Steve Ybarra** and **Ron Polivka** both having 7.
- Most Improved is **Brian McCarthy** with 139% better than last year, and **Ron Polivka** with 123%.

Future Meetings: We play 4 games at Rocco's on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Fridays, at 11:45, with an optional lunch at 11:15am. Our upcoming matches will be August 22nd, September 12th and September 26th.

Please email us if you have any questions or are interested in playing.

Co-Directors

**Bob West** and **Steve Ybarra**

[robertawest@aol.com](mailto:robertawest@aol.com) and [sjybar@gmail.com](mailto:sjybar@gmail.com)



### Couples Duplicate Bridge 1

#### John Kluesener

Couples Duplicate 1 met at the home of **Margot Somerville** for an evening of cards and comradery. As usual **Margot** outdid herself with fine

cheeses, chips, crackers, brownies, enhanced with wines, soft drinks and coffee. Games progressed well to the fifth round when our guests, **Steve Lofton**, felt ill and had to leave for the evening. We did our best to help **Margo** cleanup by emptying the food bowls and a bottle or two of wine to ease burden. We checked with the **Loftons'** in the morning and all was well. .

**John Kluesener**

[john@klueseners.com](mailto:john@klueseners.com)







## Couples Party Bridge Tony Greco

Brad and Lynne Hatcher hosted our August 5th event. For the first time since June 2024 all 6 regular couples played in this event. Nobody was vaca-

tioning in another part the world or on a cruise or had an appointment, all of which seem to have higher priority than party bridge. Who am I to question people's priorities? The added plus was nobody had any health issues that prevented them from playing.

Tony and Cindy Greco had favorable cards for the first two rounds and took a commanding lead. Reality set in for the final three rounds as they barely held on to the lead. The DeVoes and Chaffees each took a run at them. It was all decided on the last hand of the final round when the Grecos aggressively opened with a bid of 4 hearts and made it. The hand had 8 hearts headed by the ace-king for 8 solid tricks. The partner delivered 2 of the remaining 5 tricks and the rest is history.

The official results are as follows:

- 1st PLACE with 3370 points - **Tony and Cindy Greco**
- 2nd PLACE with 3110 points - **Dick and Christy DeVoe**
- 3rd PLACE with 3050 points - **Dick and Maggie Chaffee**

There will be no event in September due to conflict with the Labor Day holiday. Have a great Labor Day!

**Tony and Cindy Greco**

925.934.0395 [almanorwest@sbcglobal.net](mailto:almanorwest@sbcglobal.net)



## Pinochle

**Pete McNeill and Stan Johnson**

Any one interested in joining the group should give **Stan Johnson** a call at 925.938.7016, or myself at 925.858.9666. We meet at Rocco's Pizza at noon and for cards at 1:00pm

**Pete McNeill**

925.858.9666 [petamole@gmail.com](mailto:petamole@gmail.com)

**Stan Johnson**



## Area 16

## \$UMS Investment Group

As usual we will Zoom with SIR Branch 128 (San Ramon) on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday at 1:30pm.

Chair **Tom Henry** Branch 174

[tomhenry925@gmail.com](mailto:tomhenry925@gmail.com)

Co-chair **Dave Sutton** Branch 8

[davesutn@comcast.net](mailto:davesutn@comcast.net)







## Couples Duplicate Bridge 2 Dave Pierce

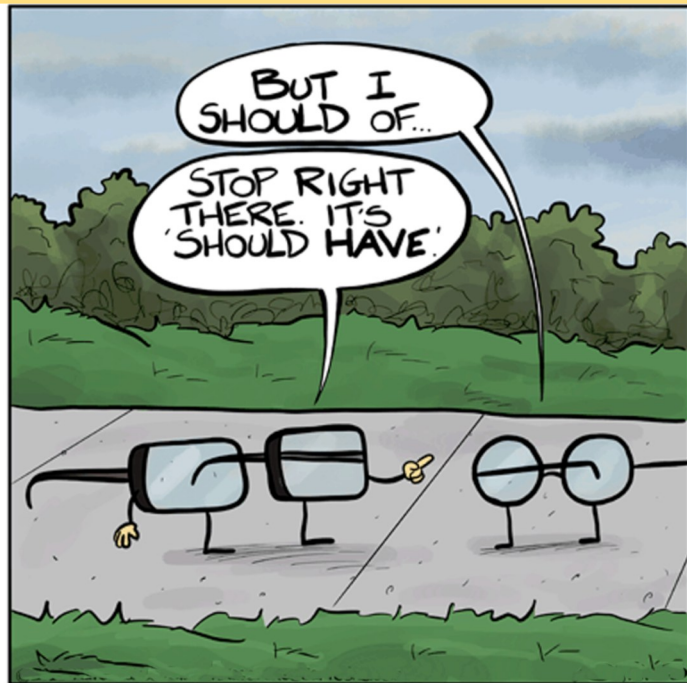
What a joy it was to greet all our regular members at our house on August 12<sup>th</sup>. We welcomed new regulars, **Margot Somerville** and

**Marilyn Miller**. **Margot** is the one remaining charter member of Couples Duplicate #1, which has existed for over 20 years. Regrettably, we began making plans to say goodbye to **Ken** and **Elaine Richter**, charter members of our Couples #2, who will be leaving us after our September game.

Card wise, it was a tough night. No slams were bid, and it seemed as though more than the usual number of contracts failed. At the end of the evening, **Dick** and **Christy DeVoe** were first (65%), and **Tony** and **Cindy Greco** tied **Ken** and **Elaine** for second (50%). Despite the cards, there was plenty of conviviality. We're doing our part to "make friends for life."

**Dave Pierce**

925.932.3877 [dwpi@astound.net](mailto:dwpi@astound.net)



Corrective Lens



## Men's Duplicate Bridge 2

Our Duplicate Bridge 2 event on Friday, August 1<sup>st</sup> with three tables and 12 players- was nicely hosted by **John** (and **Kathy**) **Kluesener**.

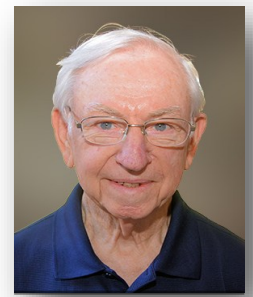
**Joe Fuchs** won 1st Place with 33.5 points. He had the most twos and 1.5's in our Dup 2 history! Not only that, he and three different partners scored 5.5-6.0 points each in their 3-board time together. Congratulations, **Joe**!

**Ed Marlovits** was 1.5 points behind in 2nd Place with 32.0 points.

**Max Hinkle** and **Dick DeVoe** tied for 3rd with 27.5 points each.

**Dick DeVoe**

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



## Party Bridge

**Jim Pope and Jim Stedman**

**Jim Pope** hosted a lively game on Monday August 4th. As usual **Jim** was a terrific host with ample goodies and great dessert. We had 8 dedicated players: **Dick DeVoe**, **Joe Fuchs**, **Ed Marlovits**, **Jim Pope**, **Bill Schaaf**, **Jim Stedman**, **Max Hinkle**, and **Ray Spears**.

The high scorers were **Ed Marlovits** with 6930 points, **Jim Stedman** with 5940 points and **Bill Schaaf** with 5220 points. Congratulations.

The next game will be on Sept 8th, the second Monday because the first Monday is Labor Day, at the home of **Bill Schaaf**. Please let me know if you will be able to play.

Co-Directors

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



## Poker Group 4

Our August game was at the home of **Frank Lucas**. We had several players on vacation in August and **Frank** was good enough to step up and volunteer to host the game. We only

had 4 of our regulars: **Bruce Kimmis**, **Pete Gates**, **Frank Lucas** and me able to attend. We were lucky enough to get **Dan Holland** and **Bob Campbell** to play and bring us to 6 players. We enjoyed a wide variety of games but breaking the recent trend of at least 1/3 of the hands being 7/27 we were fortunate to play it only 1 time. Most players finished about where they started except for our guest **Bob** and I who each finished in the green.

Games are usually scheduled for 1-4 pm on the 3rd Monday of each month. Hosting is rotated between members' homes. The host provides light snacks and beverages.

Buy-in is \$10 and stakes are nickel, dime, and quarter with a limit of three raises.

Dealer antes a nickel per player.

A wide variety of poker games are played. Dealers' choice.

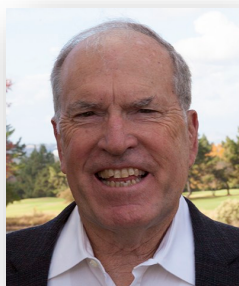
We are currently full.

**Mark Sorum**

925.577.5153 [markandbarbsorum@gmail.com](mailto:markandbarbsorum@gmail.com)

What did the hamburger name its baby?

Patty.



## Old Money Poker Group 6

**Brad Hatcher**

We gathered at the home of **Paul Dubow** for our August game. **Paul** was an excellent host to us with wine and snacks. Players

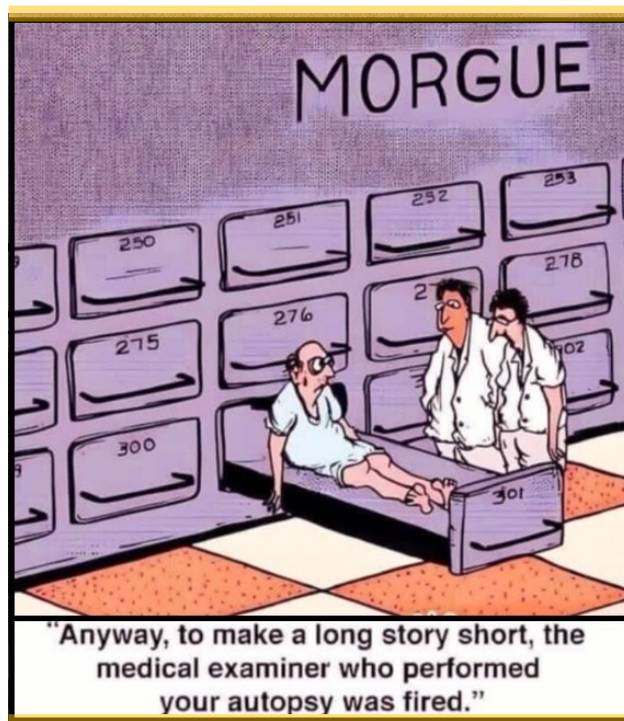
were **Frank Lucas**, **Rich Ahlf**, **Bruce Kimmis**, **Steve Ybarra**, **Carmelo Piccolo**, **Brad Hatcher** and **Paul Dubow**.

While there were no noticeable winning hands, **Bruce** and **Rich** found enough to leave the game with wallets noticeably fatter.

We will next meet on the first Thursday in September at **Brad Hatcher's** home. Several of us hope to get back some of the loot from **Rich** and **Bruce**.

**Brad Hatcher**

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



## SIR State Information

<https://sirinc.org/>



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

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

# Parting Shot



Enjoy every minute of your life.  
Be close to your family.  
Be close to your friends.  
Have compassion and understanding for other people.

RIP  
Judge Frank Caprio