



# SIR BRANCH 161 NEWS

January 2011 Volume 11 Issue 01

A Nonprofit Public Benefit Organization for Retired Men Devoted to the Promotion of Independence and Dignity of Retirement

## Vince Vargas, Big SIR

### Mark your Calendars!

January 18th, the third Tuesday, is our first meeting of 2011.

Happy New Year to all, 2011 is here!

First of all, I would like to thank Bob Damico and his board for doing an outstanding job this past year. 2010 was a good year for our SIRs Branch. Bob will be a difficult act to follow.

The Discovery Bay Country Club is a great place to have our meetings. Their management & staff support our branch with quality food and excellent service. We must follow the Club's Dress Code and provide them with accurate lunch counts for each meeting. You are expected to attend each monthly lunch meeting. If you are unable to attend, it is important that you notify the Attendance Chairman, Bill Konold 634-2738 or by e-mail [bkonold@comcast.net](mailto:bkonold@comcast.net)

Well, the tried & true continue to be the mainstay of our branch activities. Tom Kirtley orchestrates the bowling league & tournaments. Dale Welin schedules golf matches at local courses. Lex Overzet manages the bridge get together. Jim Heck leads the Dinner With The Ladies program. Dick Donald gets the new activities organized & started

Now where? Last year, we asked what activities would be of interest to you. Many were suggested



e.g. pickle ball, fishing, RV outings, model railroad-ing, wine tasting, etc. Some succeeded and some failed in drawing enough interest. One very successful new activity is wine tasting. It started slow and is now up to 8 couples and meets monthly. LaVan Bock & Ray Serafin initiated RV trips to Plymouth and to Casa de Fruita. I am sure that they are interested in having more outings.

Membership continues to be a challenge for all organizations. Each SIRs branch has a goal to increase its membership by 10%. In 2010 our membership remained level. We lost members and had seven pass away. Our goal was to bring in 17 and we brought in 21. The current members have done an outstanding job in introducing new members to SIRs this year. You, our current members, are most effective in bringing in new members. Please introduce your neighbors, friends and newly retired to one of our luncheons. Membership is open to men retired from full time gainful occupation, regardless of age.

See you at the club, Vince Vargas.

## Passing The Gavel

Bob Damico, our 2010 Big SIR, passes the gavel to Vince Vargas at the December meeting.

Bob also introduced Walt Shipilov, our 2011 Little SIR.



## SIR Activities, Dick Donald

Many of the activities started last year have declined due to lack of interest. If you would like to be involved with a leisure interest not currently active let me know and we will try to find others also interested in the same activity. Following are three of the SIR activities currently functioning, including details on current plans. Feel free to call Dick Donald (513-2849) for more information on these and other activities.



### Poker - Dick Donald – 513-2849

The next SIR poker game will be Thursday, January 20, 2011, at 7 PM. Dave Goodwin will be the host. This is a quarter limit dealer choice game. Contact Dick if interested in playing.

### Pickleball - Bob Lyman – 513-1939

Locally, drop-in play is Monday, Tuesday and Thursday at 9 am. Play is at the Discovery Bay public tennis courts on Willow Lake Rd. Beginner play is always welcome with both men and women playing and we have all the equipment for you to try it out. If you have any interests come out and watch and we'll show you what it is all about. For more information about Pickleball go to <http://www.usapa.org/>. The web site also notes our Discovery Bay play time under places to play.

### Wine Tasting – Dick Donald – 513-2849

The wine tastings have been very successful the last four months. The next wine tasting is scheduled for Thursday, January 27, 2011, and will be hosted by Dale and Sonja Welin. Contact Dick if interested in attending. Note that attendance will be limited to eight couples.

## January Bowling News, Tom Kirtley

At a tournament recently held in Concord at the Clayton Bowl we had some winners. Finishing in Second Place in Woman's Single Division was Dottie Harris. Also really bowling good was Alice Disney placing Third in Woman's Singles and Second in Woman's All Events.



### Upcoming Bowling Events

- January 18th, Tuesday in Stockton @ Pacific Bowl
- February 7th or 9th, Monday or Wednesday in Sonoma @ Napa Bowl
- February 23rd, Wednesday in Livermore @ Granada Bowl
- March 7th or 9th, Monday or Wednesday in Petaluma @ Boulevard Bowl
- March 21st or 23rd or 24th, Monday or Wednesday or Thursday in Concord @ Diablo Lanes

Happy New Year and Good Bowling.

## Golf News, Dale Welin

We wish all the golfing SIRs a Happy New Year and may there be lots of pars and birdies for you in the new year.



Our 2011 schedule is 75 % full, with many of the courses scheduled that you all suggested. Our first event will be on March, 2011, with more information to follow.

We look forward to seeing you at the January luncheon. See you on the green!!!

Dale Welin



## Annual Christmas Lunch

Our annual Christmas lunch was a sellout. Following turkey & trimmings, and December meeting formalities, we were entertained by guitar strumming Steve Gary. Steve encouraged the audience to join him in singing Christmas carols and other festive songs. Meanwhile, Vince Vargas handed out antlers, bells and other props. Attendees really got into the spirit when it came time to sing The Twelve Days of Christmas.





## Dinner with the Ladies, Jim Heck

January 25 at Orale-Orale Mexican restaurant, 5601 Lonetree Way, Bretwood. (925) 240-1963



## Bridge Table, Lex Overzet

There was no bridge game in December due to a lack of players.

Our next game will be on the fourth Tuesday, January 25 at the Discovery Bay Country Club.



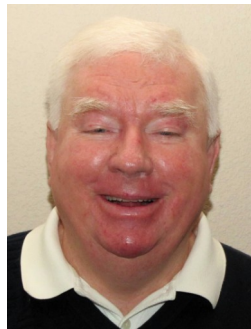
## Birthday Boys

Members celebrating their birthdays in January are:

Andy Anderson, LaVan Bock, Rex Brehmer, Lou Bruton, Robert Burke, Paul Elmer, Len Fadda, George Fraser, John Lopp, Earl Medeiros, Phil Paulson, Mike Reich, Russell Reid, Adolff Sisneroz, Frank Smith, Jack Thomas, Carl Wilkinson.

## January Meeting, Little SIR, Walt Shipilov

Our entertainment at the January meeting will be Jeff Conway, General Manager of Recreation District 800. Jeff will discuss the status of our Delta levees and the weed problem that continues to be an issue for homeowners and boaters.



## Editor's Note

A big thanks to our newsletter contributors for writing their articles early so we could avoid any delay due to the holidays. Thanks also to Wayne Berry for his help with the transition to your new Editor. Wayne will be a tough act to follow, but I'll try to live up to the high standard that Wayne set over the last eight years.

## Membership Requirements & Principles

Membership is open to men retired from full time occupation, regardless of age, race, color or religion. There are no dues, fees or assessments. Member volunteers and staff administer and govern all branch activities. Voluntary member contributions provide for these activities. SIR supports no outside cause or interest. We prohibit discussions of politics and religion or the selling of anything to any member. The only requirements to join SIR are that a man be retired, or semi-retired, and sponsored by an active member.

## Attendance Policy

Luncheon meetings are held on the second Tuesday of the month at the Discovery Bay Country Club, 1475 Club House Drive. Social hour is at 11.00am and lunch at noon. All members are expected to attend. You are required to notify the Attendance Chairman if you cannot attend. Regular members missing three consecutive meetings without notifying the Attendance Chairman, or attending less than seven meetings within the last year, shall be notified by Form Letter #4 of their pending membership termination. Certification of attendance at another branch will be considered a credit to attendance.

## Responsibility Clause

All tours, trips and other activities 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 responsibility for the well being or safety of the participants, or in any matters pertaining to tours, trips, or other activities.

## SIR Branch 161 Contacts

### Branch 161 Officers

Big SIR: Vince Vargas (925) 516-5915  
 Little SIR: Walt Shipilov (925) 634-3246  
 Secretary: Remy Giannini (925) 634-7007  
 Assist. Sec.: Ray Serafin (925) 516-8321  
 Treasurer: Tony Pacheco (925) 240-0523  
 Asst. Treasurer: Mike Reich (925) 634-7970

### Branch 161 Directors

Len Fadda (925) 513-0738  
 Jim Heck (925) 634-6142  
 Tom Kirtley (925) 240-8071  
 Lowell Onstad (925) 516-8468  
 Lowell Thomas (925) 516-8840  
 Dale Welin (925) 516-9463

### Branch 161 Chaplain

Chaplain: Gary Hess (925) 634-5114  
 Assistant: Clint Sparks (925) 634-2076

### Branch 161 on the web

For more news, photos, and links to state SIR information, visit our branch web site at:

**[www.sir161.org](http://www.sir161.org)**

### Branch 161 Committee Chairmen

Attendance: Bill Konold (925) 634-2738  
 Assistant: Bill Chelseth (925) 516-8767  
 Activities: Dick Donald (925) 513-2849  
 Audit: Lou Bruton (925) 634-8283  
 Myron Lenicioni (925) 634-3369  
 Bowling: Tom Kirtley (925) 240-8071  
 Assistant: Paul Elmer (925) 634-5690  
 Bridge: Lex Overzet (925) 634-4614  
 Assistant: Howie Fisher (925) 634-0490  
 Dinner with the ladies:  
 Jim Heck (925) 634-6142  
 Golf: Dale Welin (925) 516-9463  
 Assistant: Lowell Onstad (925) 516-8468  
 Greetings: Remy Giannini (925) 634-7007  
 Membership: Len Fadda (925) 513-0738  
 Newsletter:  
 Editor: Tom Jones (925) 634-7026  
 Distribution: Bill Konold (925) 634-2738  
 Support: LaVan Bock (925) 513-1070  
 Webmaster: Tom Jones (925) 634-7026  
 Pins, Supplies: Peter Constantine (925) 634-0208  
 Programs: Walt Shipilov (925) 634-3246  
 Sunshine: Bob Damico (925) 634-0465  
 Song Leader: Howie Fisher (925) 634-0490  
 Backup: Tom Jones (925) 634-7026



# SIR BRANCH 161 NEWS

January 2011 Volume 11 Issue 01 - Addendum

A Nonprofit Public Benefit Organization for Retired Men Devoted to the Promotion of Independence and Dignity of Retirement

Fellow SIRs:

January 6, 2011

There were a few omissions from our first Branch 161 News of this New Year.

**Luncheon Menu** for our meeting on Tuesday, January 18, 2011 will be:

*Roast Sirloin with Sauce Béarnaise, steamed new potatoes & vegetables.*

If you have special dietary requirements, please let Bill Konold know so he can inform the Country Club.

**Annual Voluntary Donation** funds are our only source of income and help defray the administrative costs of running our organization. Please bring \$20.00 cash or a check (made out to SIR Branch 161) to the next meeting. You can also mail it to our Treasurer:

*Tony Pacheco, 2111 St. Andrews Ct, Discovery Bay, CA 94505*

**Attendance.** It is very important for our organization to provide an accurate count of the members and their guests that will be attending the monthly SIR Branch 161 luncheon. You must call Bill Konold, the Attendance Chairman, if you will not be attending the monthly meeting. If you do not call and miss the meeting you will be charged for the lunch. Please notify Bill the Friday before the meeting:

*Bill Konold – Tel: 634-2738 or by e-mail: [bkonold@comcast.net](mailto:bkonold@comcast.net)*

**Dinner With The Ladies** will be Tuesday, January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2011 at the Orale-Orale Mexican Restaurant, 5601 Lonetree Way, Brentwood. Cost will be \$18.50 per person. For those who have not already committed, Jim Heck will have envelopes and menu selections available at the January 18<sup>th</sup> SIRs meeting.

**2011 SIR Branch 161 Meetings** - mark your 2011 calendar with the SIR Branch 161 Meeting dates. The meetings are on the 2nd Tuesday, except those noted. The dates are:

01/18/2011 - 3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday	07/12/2011
02/08/2011	08/16/2011 - 3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday
03/08/2011	09/13/2011
04/12/2011	10/11/2011
05/03/2011 - 1 <sup>st</sup> Tuesday, Mother's Day	11/08/2011
06/14/2011	12/13/2011 - Christmas

See you at the next Branch 161 meeting. Vince Vargas, Big SIR.