



SIR BRANCH 161 NEWS

December 2011 Volume 11 Issue 12

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

Vince Vargas, Big SIR

Don't forget the Christmas luncheon on December 13th.

Only those members with tickets are expected at the luncheon. Do not call Bill Konold if you are NOT attending!



This is a great time of year! Thanksgiving, a time to recognize our blessings. Many of us will be getting into "frantic" mode so we can be ready for the Christmas & New Year's holidays. It is a great time to enjoy our families and friends.

We have much to be thankful for and good reason to take pride in our SIR branch. You have introduced 31 of your friends to our membership this year, reaching a new high in active membership of 177. Our members' average age is 73.6 years; It would be great to introduce younger retired gentlemen to our branch. Our members are the best – introducing and sponsoring prospective members.

I cannot say enough about the 2011 board; Without them we would not have this great branch.

Little Sir Walt Shipilov for arranging speakers & entertainment.

Secretary Remy Giannini & Jim Davis for recording minutes & keeping us on track.

Treasurer Tony Pacheco & Mike Reich for managing the financials & supporting our activities.

And the Directors for their outstanding efforts – Len Fadda for Membership, Lowell Thomas/Bob Damico for Sunshine, Lowell Onstad for Special Committees, Tom Kirtley for Bowling, Dale Welin for Golf, Jim Heck for Dinner with the Ladies, Dick Donald for Poker Night and developing Wine Tasting & Bocce Ball as new activities. And then there is Tom Jones, Newsletter editor & Webmaster, La Van Bock for Roster & e-mailing, and Bill Konold, who has the best "crystal ball" for attendance accuracy; Bill also takes care of snail mailing copies of the newsletter to folks who don't have email.

The 2012 Branch Executive Board members are excellent and deserve all of your support. Our branch has been very fortunate to have former Board & Life Members who are very dedicated to SIR; They continue to be active and involved when needed.

Thank you all for your support and especially your friendship during this year.

See you at The Christmas Luncheon!

Vince

In this issue

Message from Big SIR.

Little SIR report.

Birthday boys.

Membership update.

Bowling, golf and activities reports.

Branch 161 contacts.

Walt Shipilov, Little SIR

Reminder: Time to purchase tickets for the Branch 161 annual Christmas Luncheon with the Ladies. We are almost sold out, so get your tickets now.

Bring your special lady to this special event.



Entertainment: This year our entertainment will be provided by the Summerset Singers, a local choral group from the Brentwood Summerset development. They will perform some of our favorite seasonal songs to prepare us for the Christmas season. They are a very popular group that are sure to entertain us all.

Luncheon meal: Our Christmas luncheon meal will be roast turkey breast, mashed potatoes, cranberry & seasonal vegetables. Chef Jeff will be preparing a special dessert for all.

There will be a flower for each of our lady guests. Tickets for this event will cost \$22 each.

A great lunch, a flower and entertainment, all for only \$22, what a bargain.

November recap: At our November meeting we were entertained by the Delta Strummers, a local ukulele group. Several of our Branch 161 members are also members of The Delta Strummers.



Free lunch winners: The Free Lunch drawing winners were Tom State and Eric Jensen. Remember, you must be present to win this monthly free lunch drawing.

Walt

Reminders

Voluntary contributions defray the administrative costs of running our organization. For those who have not “donated” their contribution, be sure to bring \$20.00 cash or a check (made out to SIR Branch 161) to our next meeting. You can also mail it to our Treasurer:

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

Dress Code for our meetings is “Country Club Casual”, which means no jeans or denim, cutoffs or exercise shorts, shirts must have a collar, no tank tops or T-shirts, no flip-flops or thong type sandals. Please ensure that your guests are aware of this policy. Simple etiquette requires that hats be removed while in the dining room.

Attendance Policy

Our Branch is obligated to pay for lunches not served. Please contact Bill Konold by the Friday preceding the meeting if you don't plan to attend.

Bill Konold, 634-2738 or email: bkonold@comcast.net

Birthday Boys

Due to an error on my part, the December Birthday Boys were published in November. So here are the **November Birthday Boys**:

Jack Bree, Frank Cramer, Jim Davis, Ron Finch, Lou Kirkpatrick, Art Meyers, Chuck Niessen, Lex Overzet, Joseph Philbrick, Bill Scholle, Frank Tisch & Andy Zwemer.

And here again are the **December Birthday Boys**:
Colin Brodie, John Capelli, Pete Dean, Dick Donald, Gary Hess, Jack Hodson, Chet Loveland, Dr. Clinton Sparks & Craig Wilson. Loyd Sindel, turns 90 this month.

Thanks for your understanding, Vince

The Happenings

You can view the latest issue of ***The Happenings*** (the State SIR bulletin) by visiting the link on our Branch 161 web site.

Membership, Len Fadda

Sponsor a new member

Branch members wishing to sponsor a new member should invite the prospect to a regular luncheon meeting as a guest.

If the guest wishes to become a SIR member, the sponsor should obtain an application form from Membership Chairman Len Fadda. Have the guest complete the form, and return the form to Len.

The prospective member and their sponsor should attend the next regular luncheon meeting. The Executive Board will vote on the membership, and the new member will be inducted immediately prior to the luncheon.

Two new members were inducted at our November 8 Branch 161 meeting:

Alberto Delgado has lived in Discovery Bay for 20 years. He retired in 1998 from a division of Shell Oil.

Alberto has two children. His hobbies include hiking, golf and traveling.

Alberto was sponsored by SIR Will Myers.

Brian Ensom has lived in Discovery Bay for three years. He retired in 2010 from Coast Tool Co.

Brian and his wife Diane have two children. His hobbies include golf, flying, and building a Cobra.

Brian was sponsored by SIR Jim Heck.



Bowling News, Paul Elmer

We have completed week 10 of 35 weeks with Team #6 "MJ's PINBUSTERS" in first place featuring Barbara Matteucci, Ed Gallagher, Roberta Bodine and Al Fleisher. At this point high scratch series belongs to Art Lopez (720), scratch game Bob Damico (279), handicap series Greg Mattus (837) and handicap game Warren Young (315). The women's scratch series belongs to Rosie Elmer, (634), scratch game goes to Marlena Morgan (226), handicap series Jean Scurlock (761), and handicap game Mary Branscum (284). No results in yet for the tournaments held at Modesto and Concord.

We are going to start a new feature in the monthly newsletter featuring a Bowler Of The Month. This month we have the honor of featuring SIR Elwood Davis who is the oldest bowler in the league at 95!. He has a current average of 109 but entered the season with 119. He was introduced to bowling back around 1930 when his father owned a machine shop (K.A. Davis Manufacturing Co.) in Oakland manufacturing pin setting equipment, among many other items. According to Jim Davis, Elwood had a high game of 198 in 2010 at age 94 and a previous high game of 180 in 2009. His current high game this year is 156, but there are 25 weeks left in the season.

Elwood's team calls him their "secret weapon". He still throws a 14 pound ball, not too fast, but normally pretty accurate. His background as an engineer for the Friden Calculator Co. in San Leandro from 1940 to 1975 explains his methodical approach to bowling and attitude. His main motivators are fun, fellowship, and personal challenge. These are areas that we can all apply to bowling and life in general.

Thanks to Jim Davis for supplying the details and background for Elwood.

Paul



SIR Activities, Dick Donald

Following are some ongoing SIR activities, including details on current plans. Feel free to call Dick Donald (513-2849) for more information on these and other activities.



Wine Tasting – Dick Donald – 513-2849

The next wine tasting will be on December 8, and will be hosted by Lynn and Harriet Pierce. If you are interested in attending please contact me at 513-2849, or email me at DickDonald@Yahoo.com . Also let me know if you would like to host a future wine tasting event.



Here Big Sir Vince Vargas acts the perfect host at a recent wine tasting.

Bocce Ball– Dick Donald – 513-2849

We are currently playing bocce ball every Wednesday at 3 PM. If you are interested in playing you just need to show up at the Discovery Bay Country Club bocce ball courts any Wednesday.

Poker – Dick Donald – 513-2849

We are continuing to have a SIR poker game each month, but will skip the game in December because of the holidays. The next game is scheduled for January 19. If you are interested in playing, either as a regular player or as a substitute, in a once monthly quar-

ter-limit game playing on Thursday evening, please contact me at dickdonald@yahoo.com .

Pickleball - Bob Lyman – 628-7906

Local SIRs are still playing Pickleball. Come join in the fun for a little exercise. Play is taking place Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday at 9 am and Wednesday at 3:00 pm. We play at the public tennis courts on Willow Lake Rd.



Don Patterson, his wife Karen and Pete Dean having some fun competition

Golf News, Dale Welin

The 2012 golf schedule has begun to take form and thank you for your input for course choices you suggested. About 40 of you have sent your check for the 2012 NCGA dues for our SIRS golf club. Remember that the deadline is Dec. 15.



Please send your check for \$36 to Dale Welin, 2867 Cherry Hills Drive, Discovery Bay, CA 94505. Make the check payable to Dale Welin.

Have a very nice holiday with your family, and Happy New Year.

Dale

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.:	Jim Davis	(925) 634-3232
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 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	634-3369
Bowling:	Paul Elmer	(925) 634-5690
Assistant:	John Fry	(925) 634-8647
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	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

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 normally held on the second Tuesday of the month at the Discovery Bay Country Club, 1475 Club House Drive. (There are exceptions where we need to hold our meetings on a different Tuesday, so please check the Meetings Calendar (elsewhere in this issue).

Social hour is at 11.00am and lunch at noon. All members are expected to attend. You are required to notify the Attendance Chairman by the Friday prior to the meeting 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.