



SIR

BRANCH 161 NEWS

March 2012 Volume 12 Issue 3

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

Walt Shipilov, Big SIR

Branch 161 had a great meeting in February. The Big SIR was on vacation in Mexico and did not attend. Everything was handled beautifully by the ever capable Little SIR Frank Smith. The luncheon went off without a hitch. It was great training for Frank and his duties-to-be for next year.



As a result on my not being there in February, I have very little to report.

Mark your calendars – next meeting Tuesday, March 13th, 2012.

Tickets for the Mother's Day Luncheon, which will be on May 8th, will go on sale at our March meeting. So mark your calendar and make plans to attend this special event.

The Greenhorn Creek Golf Tournament has been re-scheduled to October 3rd and 4th. Golfers mark your calendars for this fun event.

The membership was reminded that private conversations at the tables when there is a speaker at the podium should be avoided as a matter of courtesy.

2012 SIR Branch Handbook is available now. If you did not pick yours up in February, make sure you get your copy in March. It is filled with very useful information on each member.

SIR Membership requirements are simple: Men retired from full time employment. Our goal this year is 10% increase over 2011 ending membership, which stood at 175 members. Our current membership stands at 171. Each you are encouraged to invite an eligible person to one of our monthly luncheons. In February we had one new member join and had four guests brought by members.

Annual Voluntary Contributions Donation is due again. This is Branch 161's only source of income to help with the administrative costs of running our Branch. 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

Get out there and participate in a SIR activity or create a new one for others to participate in. Just do it! Bring a Guest to the next Luncheon.

See you at our March 13th meeting.
Walter

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Frank Smith, Little SIR

February recap: For the February meeting we were presented with baked Lasagna and mixed vegetables. In addition we had the usual rolls, butter, iced tea, coffee with cookies and brownies for dessert.



One new member, Norman Spencer was inducted and introduced to the members. Norman was recruited by Mar Knittel who received a free lunch for his efforts. Dr. Clinton Sparks gave the invocation as Gary Hess was out of the country. Thank you Dr. Sparks.

Our Guest speakers, Greg Eisner, Eisner Financial and Campbell Judge, Fidelity Investments, presented a little different look at investing.



They presented charts indicating the long term ups and downs of the stock market and the bond market. They also presented their view of the future. Basically a flat stock market for a few more years and a good bond market.

Free lunch winners this month were Dave Goodwin and Loyd Sindel. Congratulations Dave and Loyd.

In March we will have:

Luncheon meal: For the March meeting, in honor of St. Patrick's day, we will have the following meal. Corned beef & cabbage, baked potatoes and carrots. Of course there will also be rolls, coffee, tea and the wonderful mix of cookies and brownies.

Please note that any special dietary needs need to be pre-arranged several days before the meeting; Contact Bill Konold.

March speaker: Rich Howard, representing the community of Discovery Bay, will be our speaker discussing what is happening in Discovery Bay.

March Birthday Boys

The following Branch 161 members celebrate their birthday in March:

Don Blotz, Steve Bordi, Lefty Brabec, Jim Doran, Jake Fair, Jim Furlong, Dave Goodwin, Alan Jarvie, Gary Lewis, David Lopes, Coy Madsen, Floyd McBeth, Dennis Pachucki, Joe Phillips, Gordon Piepho, Vince Vargas, and Vic Vasquez.

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.

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



SIR Branch 161 on the web

www.sir161.org

For more news, photos, and links to state SIR information, visit our web site.

The Winter 2012 issue of **SIR Happenings** can be downloaded via a link on our web site.

Membership, Tom Kirtley

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 Tom Kirtley. Have the guest complete the form, and return it to Tom. 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.

One new member was inducted at our February Branch 161 meeting:

Norm Spencer retired from Almanor Custom Concrete in 2005. He has lived in Discovery Bay for 2.5 years, and enjoys flying, boating, travel and cars. Norm and his wife Luetta have four children and eight grandchildren. He was sponsored by Sir Mar Knittel.



THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

Our friend and fellow SIR member Mike Witnov passed away February 11, 2012 at 93 years of age. He was born in Kingsburg, CA, on August 11, 1918. Mike was a WWII Vet, and had a successful career as an Optometrist in Albany, CA before retiring to Discovery Bay. Mike joined SIR Branch 161 in August 1991. He loved golf and playing bridge and poker. Please keep Mike and his family in your thoughts and prayers.

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.

Bowling News, Paul Elmer

As of this writing we have completed 23 of 35 weeks. Team #15 The Sharpshooters (led by Jose Arroyo, Margee Arroyo, Anne Wangeman and Glenn Macbride) are still managing to hold on to first place by 3 games Over Spare Us. There are still five other teams who are within 7 games of them and are looking forward to facing them head to head.

We had moderate representation at Granada Bowl in Livermore on Feb. 14th and 15th but have not received any results yet as to how we placed.

The next tournament is on March 5th and 7th in Petaluma but there has been no interest in traveling there due to distance and traffic problems. There is also a March tournament in Concord at Diablo Bowl on the 19th and 21st. Entry forms are available and those interested are encouraged to contact me as soon as possible so that we can coordinate the entries.

Bowler Of The Month

The featured Bowler Of The Month is Bob Damico. Here is a guy who, as we all know, totally jumps into whatever he is doing. Besides the Monday SIR league, he helps coach the junior kids at Harvest Park Bowl, not only one afternoon a week, but three times – Wednesday, Friday, and Saturdays. Totally dedicated.

Bob started bowling at Harvest Park Bowl in 2003 and had an average of 147. His natural competitiveness took over and his average rose each year to 171, 185, 199, and finally in 2009 he hit 202 and has a current average of 196 (oops) This will definitely improve as we all know due to his determination.

So we acknowledge a job well done by a past Big SIR.

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 Wednesday, March 21 (note the different day of the week), and will be hosted by David and Shirley Lopes. If you are interested in attending please contact Dick Donald at 513-2849, or email DickDonald@Yahoo.com . Also let me know if you would like to host a future wine tasting event.

Bocce Ball – Dick Donald – 513-2849

Bocce ball has been on a winter hiatus, but we expect to start up again in March after daylight savings time starts. I will email everyone who has indicated an interest in playing when we plan to start. If you would like to receive that information, please let me know at DickDonald@Yahoo.com .

Poker – Ben Mahlberg – 516-4380

We are continuing to have a SIR poker game each month. The next game is scheduled for March 15. If you are interested in playing, either as a regular player or as a substitute, in a once-monthly quarter-limit game, please contact Ben at BMahlberg@Yahoo.com or Dick Donald at dickdonald@yahoo.com.

Pickleball - Bob Lyman – 628-7906

Try Pickleball with SIR in 2012. Come join in the fun for a little exercise. Play is taking place Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday at 9:00am and Wednesday at 3:00pm. We play at the public tennis courts on Willow Lake Road. When new players try the game we all focus on teaching.

Call for pictures

Pictures help add interest to our newsletter, and we encourage activities leaders to take pictures of their events.

Dinner With The Ladies, Jim Heck

When: March 27, 2012

Where: Texas Roadhouse
2422 Naglee Road, Tracy
(Grantline Road and Naglee
Road).

Time: 5:00pm.

Price: \$21.00 per person
(includes tax and tip).

Menu Choices:

10oz. ribeye steak, 1/2 slab of ribs, BBQ ribs and chicken combo, BBQ chicken and shrimp combo. Each plate is served with a salad and baked potato or baked beans, dessert included, tea and coffee included. Indicate your choices on the tear-out form at the bottom of this page.

Deadline: Need your RSVP no later than March 20, 2012. There will be envelopes at our next meeting on March 13, 2012.

If you will please send your checks and menu choices to me it would be helpful. Make checks out to James Heck and mail to 5401 Fairway Ct. Discovery Bay, Ca, 94505. Phone 634-6142.



Golf News, Dale Welin

Our first tournament for 2012 is scheduled for March 20 at Elkhorn GC, Stockton. Details are below:

When: Tuesday, March 20

Time: 8:00am shotgun start

Where: Elkhorn GC, Stockton, CA

Cost: \$41.00 for green fee, cart and prizes

Format: To be announced



This course was a private course for years and closed about 2 years ago due to default on the loan. Some homeowners came together and bought the course. It re-opened in November, 2011 as a public course, after \$1 million was spent to replace the greens. With the greens re-done, the course has had some regular play. Please let Dale know of your intentions to play and then send a check to Dale Welin, 2867 Cherry Hills Drive, Discovery Bay, CA, 94505. The deadline for the cutoff will be at the Tuesday, March 13 monthly luncheon. We hope you will sign up for this first event of the year.

If you have any questions, please call Dale. See you on the green! Dale

Nominations for SIR State Office

The SIR State Nominating Committee is looking for candidates for State President, Vice-President, Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer for 2013. If you did not receive the email with the details, but wish to be considered for one of these positions, please see our Big SIR or Little SIR.

From your newsletter team

This publication is produced and published through a team effort by LaVan Bock, Bill Konold, and Tom Jones. If we can improve this publication, please let any one of the team know.

----- Tear out and return with your check -----

Make your checks out to Jim Heck and mail to Jim Heck, 5401 Fairway Court, Discovery Bay, CA 94505.

Name(s):

Phone:

10oz. Ribeye steak _____ BBQ Ribs and Chicken Combo _____

Half slab of ribs _____ BBQ Chicken and Shrimp Combo _____

Dinner with the ladies , March 27, 2012 at Texas Roadhouse