



SIR BRANCH 161 NEWS

April 2012 Volume 12 Issue 4

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

Walt Shipilov, Big SIR

March Luncheon Meal

Branch Officers heard an ear full from members about the quality of the meal last month. This was communicated to Mark Tisot, General Manager of the Country Club. He has acknowledged the problem and has apologized. At our April meeting Head Chef Jeff Churchill will speak to the general membership explaining what happened.



Mother's Day Luncheon – May 8th

Little Sir, Frank Smith has set up a grand luncheon for Tuesday, May 8th with special entertainment. Make sure to attend this event to celebrate this special day with our wives and special lady friends. The April meeting is the last time that you can buy tickets at our Luncheon at check in. The cost is \$22 per person.

Membership

Our branch membership is now at 175 active members plus 6 inactive. We added 5 new members in March, one a transfer from Brentwood. We had one person drop his membership in March.

We had 131 members and one guest at our Luncheon last month, with one member bringing a guest to the luncheon.

You, our members, are the best advocates for bringing prospective member guests. Last year, we did a great job in introducing your neighbors, friends, "newly retired" or the "previously retired", to Branch 161. We continue to strive to attract newly retired

men so we can lower the 71.5 average age of our Branch.

Newsletter

How many of you share the newsletter with your wife or friend? I feel very strongly that the involvement of the wives in the SIRs activities is very important. Let's face it, the wives set our social calendar for the most family activities, like getting together with other couples and they enjoy the involvement in our activities. Bowling, dinner with the ladies, wine tasting and bocce ball are very good examples of the wives' involvement. Please share the monthly newsletter & calendar of events with your wives & lady friends.

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 April 10th meeting.
Walter

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Frank Smith, Little SIR

March Recap

For the March meeting we were presented with corned beef, potatoes, cabbage and two carrots. In addition, we had the usual rolls and butter, iced tea, coffee with cookies and brownies for dessert. This meal was definitely not up to par. As a result of many complaints the Chef will speak at the next meeting and explain what happened. No, he is not the guest speaker, just trying to do the right thing.



Five new members were inducted: Joe Arroyo, Lee Brant, Ward Proescher, Robert White and, Loren Ward. Welcome to you all !!!

Our Guest speaker, Rick Howard, General Manager for the Town of Discovery Bay, updated us on the



current activities, including landscaping along Hwy 4, planned resumption of building in the Bixler area, and the status of water and sewage facilities.

Free Lunch Winners

Winners this month were Chuck Niessen and Roger Wood.

Our April Speaker

Contra Costa County Supervisor Mary Piepho will provide information on the County and the effects on our area. Hopefully, Gordon Piepho, one of our illustrious members, will hold his applause to a minimum.

April Luncheon Meal

For this month the menu includes Chicken Piccata with rice and vegetables. There will also be rolls, steaming coffee, iced tea and the wonderful mix of cookies and brownies.

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

Mothers Day Tickets

May's Mothers Day meeting tickets are on sale. Get them NOW from Tony Pacheco (240-0523) or get them at the April meeting. A great meal & entertainment only \$22.00. Five bucks extra gets you entertainment and a Rose for your lady.

Note: Singles are welcome at the Mothers Day luncheon!

Frank

April Birthday Boys

The following Branch 161 members celebrate their birthday in April:

Elwood Davis, Carlo Delazzar, Howie Fisher, Saul Gold, Eric Jensen, Bill Konold, Don Rentzel, Norm Spencer, Hal Whitlow, Roger Wood, and Randy Zierau. **HAPPY BIRTHDAY Boys!!!!.**

If your name is missing or not correct let Big Sir, Walter Shipilov at 634-3246, know so the records are corrected.

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.

Five new members were inducted at our March Branch 161 meeting:

Joe Arroyo has lived in Discovery Bay for five years. He and his wife Margarita have two children and three grandchildren. Joe retired from Salinas Reinforcing in 2008. Hobbies include bowling, reading, sports and traveling. Joe transferred from Branch 108 and was sponsored by Bob Damico.

Lee Brant has lived in Discovery Bay for one year. He and his wife Lin have four children and three grandchildren. Lee retired as a self-employed beekeeper in 2011. Hobbies include baseball and car trips. Lee was sponsored by



Alan Jarvie.

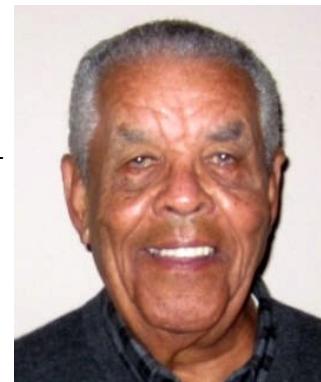
Ward Proescher has lived in Discovery Bay for three years. He and his wife Susan have two children and one grandchild. Ward retired as owner of Commodore Cruises and Events in 1980. Hobbies include fishing, golfing and theater. Ward was sponsored by Bill Murphy.



Loren Ward has lived in Discovery Bay for 15 years. He and his wife Linda have four children and eight grandchildren. He retired from 3Com in 2003. Hobbies include golf, trap shooting, and travel. Loren was sponsored by Joe Kile.



Robert White has lived in Discovery Bay for 23 years. He and his wife Cece have two children, four grandchildren and two great grandchildren. Robert retired as a Senior Building Inspector in 2007. Hobbies include hunting, fishing and shooting. Robert was sponsored by Larry Green.



SIR Membership Requirements

Membership in **Sons In Retirement** is open to men retired from full time occupation, regardless of age, race, color or religion. See page 7 for more information.

Bowling News, Paul Elmer

Well, here we are after completing 27 of 35 weeks of competition with 25 teams in the SIRs Monday morning league. The Sharp Shooters and Spare Us are tied with 30 wins each. There are four other teams within 5 games of 1st place. This should make for a tough competitive finish. The final position round is only 6 weeks away and has all of the makings for a photo finish, which would result in a playoff of the two or three teams tied for 1st place.

We have results in for the February 14th and 15th tournament held in Livermore. Greg Mattus and Bill Bayer came in 1st in Division A doubles. Greg also finished 1st in Division B handicap game and 2nd in Division B all events. Great bowling guys!

Speaking of tournaments, there was one in Concord at Diablo Bowl in which no one from Branch 161 or Branch 108 did very well. The next tournament is the Carson City Tournament on April 16th-19th. We are well represented with 28 entries to date.

Bowler Of The Month

The featured bowler of the month is Bob Rhiner. He is currently bowling in three leagues/week with an average of 215. In the 12 games during the last four weeks he has bowled nine of them over his average and had a high game of 258. He started bowling at Harvest Park Bowl in 2003 with 3 winter leagues and an average ranging from 191 to 208. His high average year came in 2006-2007 when he bowled in ten leagues, counting winter and summer, where he reached 235 for an average! Most of us would be grateful to get 2 or 3 of those for a year let alone an average.

He currently holds the season high scratch series with 741 (that's a 247 average!) edging out past Big SIR Bob Damico by two pins. Bob is one of those people who are glad to answer any bowling questions or help in improving one's game, sometimes even will-



ingly. Only joking! Good going Bob, keep it up.

Thanks again to John and Mary Fry for help with the stats.

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 – 516-2849

The next wine tasting will be on Wednesday, April 18, and will be hosted by Dale and Sonja Welin. If you are interested in attending please contact Dick Donald at 513-2849, or email DickDonald@Yahoo.com

Bocce Ball– Dick Donald – 516-2849

Bocce ball has started again, playing Wednesday afternoons at 4 PM. If you would like to play just show up at the bocce ball courts at the country club and we will put together teams on the spot.

Poker – Ben Mahlberg – 516-4380

We are continuing to have a SIR poker game each month. 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



Pickleball - Bob Lyman – 628-7906

Pickleball is having some competition with members of Brentwood SIRs. Jerry Marshall says why can't you Discovery Bay guys do any better!! Come join in the fun for a little exercise and competition. Play is taking place Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday at 9:00 am and Wednesday at 3:00 pm. We play at the public tennis courts on Willow Lake Road. Just bring yourself; we have everything else needed.

Golf News, Dale Welin

The results for our first tournament of 2012, at Elkhorn GC on Tuesday, March 20 are below. The weather turned out very satisfactorily for us after our past week. We had 32 players participate and we thank you. Our format was a modified par point. The results are as follows:



1st place - 132 - Socher, Disney, Lopp, Pachucki
 2nd place - 124 - Shipilov, B. Anderson, Ward, Vargas
 3rd place - 123 - Enbom, Giannini, Pacheco, Zierau
 4th place - 122 - Watkins, Petersen, Rentzel, Willmes
 Closest to the pin winners were Heck and Ramos.

We had 6 players finish with net par or better for the day as follows: Ramos - 67, B. Anderson, Vargas, Welin - 70, Disney, Lopp - 71. Nice playing!

Welcome to Mr. Enbom, Mr. Ward, Mr. Watkins, and Mr. Willmes to our SIR golf club. The course played well after a major renovation of the greens. I heard from several that they enjoyed the day at a different course for many.

We have invited 8 other SIR Branches to play golf at DBCC on Monday, April 16. The entry information is below for our Branch.

When: Monday, April 16, 2012

Time: 9:00 am shotgun start

Where: Discovery Bay Country Club

Format: 2 best net balls of the foursome

Entry fees: For non-members of DBCC, the fee is \$50.00. Includes golf, cart, range balls, box lunch, soda or bottle of water, and prizes.

For members of DBCC **without** cart plan/private cart, the fee will be \$24 for the above. For members of DBCC **with** cart plan/private cart, the fee will be \$11 for the above.

Lunch choice: You will have to decide on the sandwich choice: ham, turkey or tuna. Let me know your choice when you sign up please.

You can e-mail or call me to get on the entry list. Our Branch will be hosting about 100 players that day. We hope you will sign up and participate. Any questions, please call Dale Welin at 516-9463.

See you on the green, Dale

Dinner With The Ladies, Jim Heck

When: April 24, 2012

Where: Deals, 6277 Bethel Island Road , Bethel Island

Time: 6:00pm.

Price: \$20.00 per person (includes tax and tip).

Menu Choices:

Lamb Shank; Chicken Jerusalem; Filet of Sole; New York Steak 8oz. Non-alcoholic drink (soda, tea, coffee, and water) free. Also includes soup, salad, pasta and fresh vegetables. Indicate your choices on the tear-out form at the bottom of this page.



Deadline: Need your RSVP no later than April 17, 2012. There will be envelopes at our next meeting.

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.

----- 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:

Lamb Shank _____ Chicken Jerusalem _____

Fillet of Sole _____ New York Steak 8oz _____

Annual SIR Golfing Tournament—Will Myers

It is that time to announce the beginning of sign-ups for our annual SIR Golfing Tournament at the Greenhorn Creek Golf Resort near Angels Camp taking place this year on Wednesday, October 3rd and Thursday, October 4th. This is the only SIR golfing event where you can bring your wife or significant other, whether they play golf or not.

The golfing package consists of two days of golf on the fine Greenhorn Creek Resort course and housing at the adjacent WorldMark time share villas. The golfing format for both days will be two best-balls between teams made up of mixed men and women foursomes. The housing villas are four person (two bedrooms, two baths) units providing access to the facilities, spas and pools, tennis courts, pool tables, and exercise rooms. Again this year, SIR members will have the option of staying at the villas for one night or two nights. For the Wednesday night dinner, couples can either eat at a choice of local restaurants, or they can do as most have done in the past where we meet at the fine Greenhorn Resort restaurant for dinner. An awards buffet banquet will be held on Thursday night at the Greenhorn Creek Resort restaurant. The nearby towns of Angels Camp and Murphy provide other restaurants, wine tasting or shopping places for the non-golfers.

The total cost per person for those golfing (which includes two-days of golfing, awards dinner, two-days of after-golf hors d'oeuvres, villa housing, and prize money) is \$227.00 for those staying one night, while it is \$274.00 for those staying two nights. The total cost per person for the non-golfers (which includes awards dinner, two days of after-golf hors d'oeuvres, and villa housing) is \$90.00 for those staying one night, while it is \$137.00 for those staying two nights.

A sign-up sheet will be in the lobby at our April SIR Branch 161 meeting, so look for it and sign up. If you would like to share a villa with another couple, please indicate this on the sign-up sheet. Those couples choosing to stay one night will have to share a villa with another couple staying one night. Please indicate if you are staying for the awards dinner.

If you have any questions, see or call Will Myers at 925-516-9448.

Bridge Resurgence - Harry Ohlson

A group of dedicated bridge players are working to bring back our bridge sessions. To achieve that goal a few rules must be observed:

1. Players will be seated in the order of their phone call. First call, first served.
2. Players, once committed, should attempt to find a replacement if cancelling.
3. A kitty of \$3.00 per player will be started for cards, score sheet, etc. and replacement as needed.
4. Play will be the third Tuesday of each month at 1:00 pm.

Our first game under the new rules was held on March 20th.

The next play date will be April 17th at 1:00 p.m. We meet in the bar area at the Discovery Bay Country Club. Call Harry Ohlson @ 513-3048 (note that my listing in the Branch 161 Handbook shows an incorrect phone number).

Harry

Travel Opportunities Reminder

For those of you interested in traveling, there are various bargain-priced trips available to SIRs through local travel agencies and other SIR branches.

Look for the TRAVEL binder located on the entrance table at each monthly meeting. There are many travel opportunities. Example: April 28- May 13; 15-day cruise aboard the Star Princess, from SF to Hawaii round trip (stops in Hilo, Honolulu, Kauai, Maui and Ensenada, Mx). Cost: \$1695 (inside). For more info. contact Bob Damico 634-0465 or delttacrzer@comcast.net

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.

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.

If you're unable to attend a meeting

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

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.

Special thanks this month go to Bob Damico for taking pictures of new members and the guest speaker at the March meeting.