



# SIR BRANCH 161 NEWS

November, 2012 Volume 12 Issue 11

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

## Walt Shipilov, Big SIR

### Next luncheon meeting

Our next Luncheon meeting will be on Tuesday, November 13th, 2012. This is the second Tuesday in November.

If you know you will not attend the luncheon make sure that you contact our Attendance Chairman, Bill Konold at 634-2738 or [bkonold@comcast.net](mailto:bkonold@comcast.net).

If you miss the meeting and do not let us know in advance you may be charged for the meal, since we have to guarantee seating to the Country Club.



### Attendance

Attendance at the Luncheon meetings is important to us as a group. It is where we renew relationships, exchange stories about our recent experiences and plan for new events to participate in. So it is important to us that you participate in our monthly Luncheons. The Board has recently revised our Luncheon attendance policy. In summary you are expected to attend 5 Luncheon meetings per year to be a member in good standing. If you are an active member and miss more than 3 meetings in a row or more than 5 Luncheon meetings in a year you may be dropped from membership by the Branch Board. If you will not be available to attend for a long time due to travel, illness or being a care giver you can request be placed on inactive status for six months by the Branch Board. Just let us know.

### Membership

Our Branch 161 membership continues to stand at 175 with 9 inactive members. Last month we had two

members reclassified to inactive status and one member was dropped on his request. We had one new member accepted by the Board last month.

### Activities

Start lining up your dates (yes both people and calendar) and start making plans for our Christmas Luncheon. The date will be December 11th and the cost will be \$21 per person with some outstanding entertainment.

The Fall Bowling League continues on Monday mornings with pins flying and balls rolling everywhere. People are having a great time. This is fun for everyone. Make sure to try this activity. Block out your Monday mornings for the Spring now.

October was our Branch Golf Championship Tournament at Roddy Ranch. For most of us the course won. Ed Carr is the Champ for 2012 in card off I am told.

Our Branch activities remain strong and well attended. Continue to participate. For you daring SIRs try

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### **Big SIR Report, continued from page 1.**

something new or try it again, you might like it this time. We will be having Golf, Bowling, Pickle Ball, Bridge and Wine Tasting events in November. And don't forget the Christmas Luncheon in December. There is a lot to do; GO GET'EM SIRs.

### **BIG PICTURE**

Check out [www.sirinc.org](http://www.sirinc.org) to see what is "happening" statewide. While you are browsing the Internet, visit our own outstanding Branch website at [www.sir161.org](http://www.sir161.org) for more Branch information and pictures.

### **NEWSLETTER**

Continue to share the Branch 161 Newsletter with your wife or significant other, or make sure that she shares the Newsletter with you, the actual Branch member, if that's the way it works in your household. Then share the newsletter with others; It's a great ice breaker to then invite guests to our luncheons.

**REMEMBER** - Get out there and participate in our Branch activities or create a new one for others to join you in doing. Just get out there and do SOMETHING.

Looking forward to seeing everyone at our next Luncheon Meeting on November 13th, the second Tuesday in November.

Walter

### **2012 Branch 161 Meetings Calendar**

|                     |                     |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| 01/10/2012          | 07/10/2012          |
| 02/14/2012          | 08/14/2012          |
| 03/13/2012          | 09/11/2012          |
| 04/10/2012          | 10/9/2012           |
| 05/08/2012 (note 1) | 11/13/2012          |
| 06/12/2012          | 12/11/2012 (note 1) |

**Note 1:** Mother's Day and Christmas With The Ladies are not 'required' Branch luncheon meetings.

### **November Birthday Boys**

*The following Branch 161 members celebrate their birthday in November:*

Jack Bree, Rick Crago, Frank Cramer, Jim Davis, Ron Finch, Lou Kirkpatrick, Art Meyers, Chuck Niessen, Lex Overzet, Joseph Philbrick, Frank Tisch, and Andrew Zwemer.

### **HAPPY BIRTHDAY Boys!!!!**

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

### **Meet your newsletter team**



Tom Jones  
Editor



LaVan Bock  
email distribution



Bill Konold  
Hard copy mailing

## Frank Smith, Little SIR

### October Recap

For the October meeting we were served bratwurst, red cabbage, sauerkraut and potato pancakes. In addition we had the usual rolls, butter, iced tea, coffee with cookies and brownies.



The speaker was Fire Chief Hugh Henderson from the East Contra Costa Fire Prevention District. He explained the cutbacks created by the budget and the failure to increase parcel taxes. He then told us of the grant that would enable the District to restore



almost all of the cuts. This is only a temporary fix, as the grant is for two years. The district has a new Commission and everyone is working on the budget problem, with no solution in the near future.

The Chief explained the rationale for having both firemen and ambulance personnel arrive at all calls. The Fire Department has an 8-minute response time, while the ambulance service has a longer response time in their contract. Also there are many times that there is a need for more than two people to move a patient.

Retirement costs were also discussed. The high costs in the news do not reflect this District. Firemen receive 3% of their salary/year with a retirement at 30 years. So if a fireman retires after 30 years, which most do not, they receive 90 % of their salary.

Lastly he explained the Fire District budget is much less than any others in the County. In some cases less than half that of other districts. The primary reason is that the percentage of property tax allocated to Fire Prevention was based on population when Prop 13 was passed; There currently is no method to raise this percentage, even though the East County has grown a couple of hundred percent since that time.

## Free Lunch Winners

Winners of the October free lunch were Fritz Dueming and Russ Reid.

## November speaker

This month our speaker will be Chris Mains. Chris, as Head Maintenance Manager of the Discovery Bay Golf course, will discuss what efforts go into the maintenance of golf courses.

### NOVEMBER LUNCHEON MEAL

The following meal is planned for the November meeting: Fried Chicken, whipped potatoes w/gravy and vegetables. All of this complimented with rolls, coffee, tea and the always 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.

## Christmas Luncheon Tickets

Tickets for the Christmas Luncheon on December 11th will be available at the November meeting. Cost is \$21.00 each, so bring your checks to insure you and yours will get a seat. Alternatively, call Tony Pacheco at (925) 240-0523.

Seating is limited to 170 and we had more requests than that last year.

Frank.



**SIR Branch 161 on the web**  
**[www.sir161.org](http://www.sir161.org)**

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

The latest 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 October Branch 161 meeting.



**Tony D'Onofrio** retired in 1981 from selling real estate.

He has lived in Discovery Bay for 13 years. His hobbies include walking and cooking.

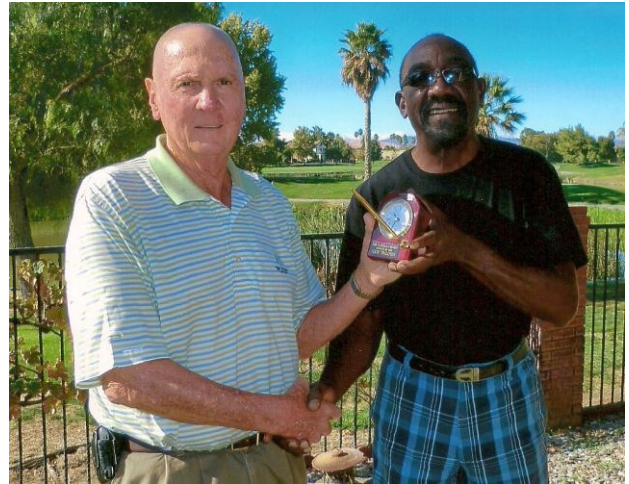
Tony and his wife Lina have 4 children, 7 grandchildren and

1 great grandchild.

### 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 the last page of this newsletter for more information.

## From The Photo Gallery



Dale Welin presents an award to Ed Carr for his achievement during the golf tournament. For the full story and more photos, see Dale's article on page 6.



Jose Arroyo bowled his first perfect 300 game on October 26. Congratulations! Photo by Bob Damico.



Dancing to songs by Elvis (Gabe Gucho) at the October Dinner with the Ladies at CAP's in Brentwood. Photo by Bob Damico.

## Bowling News, Paul Elmer

The ninth annual Bob Matteucci tournament was held on October 16th and 18th with 146 bowlers participating. They came from the Bay Area, Vallejo, Yuba City, Modesto, and all over. There were very few problems in the actual tournament itself but a few with the results. As best that we can tell now this is how it resulted- Singles, division 1 men, 5th place – Paul Elmer, 7th place – John Fry, 12th place – Tom Burt, and 16th place – Curtis Manning.



Singles, division 2 men, 4th place – Ed Gallagher, 7th place – Bill Bayer, and 10th place – Jack Bree

Singles, division 3 women, 1st place – Doris Cole, 4th place – Dottie Harris, 6th place – Val Heck.

Doubles division 1, 7th place – Paul and Rosie Elmer, 9th place Jose Arroyo and Drew Hanson.

Doubles division 2, 5th place, Connie Ryan and Warren Young.

All Events division 1 men, 5th place – Paul Elmer, 8th place – Warren Young, 14th place – Bob Rhiner, and 17th place – Curtis Manning

All Events division 2 men, 3rd place – Jack Bree

All Events division 3 women, 2nd place – Doris Cole, 3rd place – Connie Ryan, 5th place – Dottie Harris, 6th place – Peggy Hampton.

Congratulations to all. All of the above are paid finishes. Branches 161 and 108 had a very good showing. I wanted to especially thank Bill Bayer, Bob Rhiner, John Fry and Curtis Manning for all the help in running the tournament; It doesn't take a village but it takes a few good men to make it run as smoothly as possible.

Also in the photo is Barbara Matteucci. The tournament is held in memory of Barbara's deceased husband SIR Bob Matteucci.

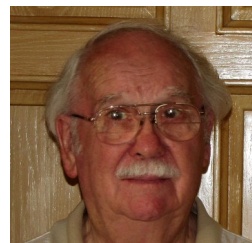
We have completed 6 weeks of the 35 week schedule and find that team #1 named "Almost" is in first place. Almost is piloted by our local Olympian Jack Disney, Alice Disney, Val Heck and Jim Heck. Don't look now guys but there are 23 other teams gunning' for ya. What is in the water these days? We have 9 people who are bowling out of their gourds so far this year. They are Jack Disney + 16 pins (over entering average), Jim Heck +19, Frances Shipilov +16, Walt Shipilov +13, Videlle Marshall +13, Jack Bree +12, Mary Pittsa-Fry (who supplies a lot of data) +17, Vic Vasquez +13 and Tammy Fanucchi +13. Very good bowling, keep it up!

Paul

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## Bridge - Harry Ohlson

The next bridge session will be held at 12:30pm on November 20th at the Discovery Bay Country Club.



All interested Bridge Players should contact me to reserve a seat. email - seniorbjo@sbcglobal.net or call 925-513-3048.

Harry





## Golf News, Dale Welin

Our Branch Championship Tournament completed our golf season for 2012. 31 players participated at Roddy Ranch on Thursday, October 18th, which turned out to be a challenge for all of us.



Dale Welin, and Randy Zierau.

See you all next year.

Dale Welin



The defending champion from 2011, Ed Carr was a repeat winner in 2012. CONGRATULATIONS TO Ed. Ed and Jerry Wiebe tied with a net score of 68, with Ed winning on a tie-breaker. The results follow:

1st - Ed Carr - 68 net - won tiebreaker

2nd - Jerry Wiebe - 68 net

3rd - Rich Brunetto - 69 net

4th - Don Rentzel - 70 net

T 5th - Glenn Macbride, Ken Fanucchi - 71 net

T 7th - Dan Denis, John Fry - 72 net

T 9th - Lowell Onstad, Dale Welin - 73 net

Closest to the pin winners were John Fry and Norm Petersen.

Congratulations to the winners.

We ended up with 51 branch members in our NCGA golf club for 2012. This is an invitation for others in our branch interested in golf to contact Dale Welin, 516-9463, and sign up for the 2013 golf season. You must be a member of our NCGA golf club. We averaged 29 players during our 8 tournaments in 2012. Five of our members played in all 8 tournaments for 2012 - Jack Disney, John Fry, Don Ramos,

## 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

Dick and Cam Donald will host the wine tasting in November, which will be held on Thursday, November 15. If you are interested in attending or hosting please contact Dick Donald at 513-2849, or email DickDonald@Yahoo.com .

### Bocce Ball– Dick Donald – 513-2849

Attendance at bocce ball has been down recently, so we will be suspending play for the winter. We will start again next March.

### Pickleball - Bob Lyman – 628-7906

Pickleball is still looking for a few more good men (and women)!! The winter schedule starts with the change in time, and play is now Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday at 9:00 am and Wednesday at 3:00 pm. So come join in the fun for a little exercise and competition. We play at the public tennis courts on Willow Lake Rd. Just bring yourself; we have everything

## SIR Travel Opportunities Reminder

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. For more info. contact Bob Damico at 634-0465 or deltacruz@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 *(Revised July, 2012)*

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 to when 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 Luncheon meetings unless prevented by illness, absence from the Branch locale, or acting as a caregiver to a spouse or companion. If you cannot attend, you are required to notify the Attendance Chairman by the Friday prior to the luncheon meeting or you may be charged for the luncheon.

Regular members missing three consecutive meetings without notifying the Attendance Chairman, or missing more than five (5) meetings within the last 12 months for any reason, shall be notified by letter or email of the Branch Executive Committee's pending action to terminate their membership.

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.

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### 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](mailto:bkonold@comcast.net)