



# SIR BRANCH 161 NEWS

December, 2012 Volume 12 Issue 12

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 regular Luncheon meeting will be on Tuesday, January 22th, 2013. This is the **FOURTH** Tuesday in January 2013. Surprise everyone and bring a guest, and have them check us out.



If you know you will not attend this 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.

### Annual Christmas luncheon meeting with the ladies

Our December 11th meeting will be the Annual Christmas Luncheon, held at the Discovery Bay Country Club, with our Ladies. There will be some great entertainment in addition to a special meal. This event requires tickets be purchased in advance. Currently, this event is sold out, but you can get your name on a waiting list if you contact Little SIR, Frank Smith at 513-2885 or [elpancho@comcast.net](mailto:elpancho@comcast.net).

If you did not get tickets this time and want to make sure you go next time, get the tickets purchased earlier, to both our "with the Ladies Luncheons" events, the Mother's Day Luncheon and the Christmas Luncheon.

At the Christmas Luncheon we will have a brief ceremony to install our new 2013 Branch Officers.

### Attendance

Attendance at our regular luncheon meetings is important to us as a Branch. If you are not there you will be missed. Our luncheons are a time to 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 regular 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 caregiver, you can request to be placed on inactive status for six months by the Branch Board. Just let us know.

*Continued on page 2 ...*

### In this issue

- Message from Big SIR
- Birthday Boys
- Tribute to our veterans
- Little SIR report
- 2013 meetings calendar
- Membership
- Bowling news
- Greenhorn Creek report and photos
- Bridge report
- Golf news
- Activities news
- Policy and responsibility clauses

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

### **Membership**

Last month our Discovery Bay, Branch 161, membership continued to stand at 173 with 9 inactive members. We had five new members accepted, with one member reclassified to inactive status and six members dropped or terminated by the Branch Board.

### **Activities**

Again, a reminder our Christmas Luncheon will be December 11th with some outstanding entertainment.

Since we will be having the Christmas Luncheon with the Ladies there will NOT be the regular Dinner with Ladies event in December.

The Fall Bowling League continues on Monday mornings with pins flying and balls rolling everywhere. Some have had great scores and other not so much, but 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.

Golf is on hiatus until March 2013, and NCGA dues are due to Dale Welin if you are interested in playing in our monthly Branch tournaments in 2013.

Bocce is on hiatus also. No sun, no polino. No sun, no bocce.

Our Branch activities remain strong and well attended. Continue to participate. For you daring SIRs try something new or try it again, you might like it this time. We will be having in-door events only, Bowling, Pickle Ball (exception), Bridge, Wine Tasting. I have heard talk about maybe a Gin-Rummy group?? There are still lots 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.

### **December Birthday Boys**

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

Colin Brodie, John Capelli, Pete Dean,  
Dick Donald, Gary Hess, Jack Hodson,  
Chet Loveland, Bob Pharr, Clinton Sparks,  
Robert White, Craig Wilson.

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

*If your name is missing or not correct  
let Big SIR, Frank Smith at 513-2885, know so our  
records are corrected.*

**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 regular luncheon meeting on January 22th, the **FOURTH** Tuesday in January 2013. Walter

### **Tribute To Our Veterans**

At our November meeting, Gary Hess paid tribute to veterans of all 5 five branches of our armed services. He led a singalong of the respective service 'marching songs', while a video tribute played in the background. Gary also recognized the 237th birthday of the Marine Corps. The audio and video projection team were Eric Jensen and Tom Jones. This may become an annual tradition for our branch.

## Frank Smith, Little SIR

### November Recap

For the November meeting were served fried chicken, whipped potatoes with gravy and vegetables. In addition we had the usual rolls, butter, iced tea, coffee with cookies and brownies.



The speaker was Chris Mains, the Superintendent of DB Country Club Golf course. Chris gave us a good



basic understanding of the many facets of golf course maintenance. He covered the various "jobs" he has. Weather forecasting, environmental rules and regulations, personnel management and ac-

counting are just examples. He explained the usage of chemicals to maintain the course; the need to control golf cart access; specific mowing requirements for the rough, fairway and most important the greens. He explained the use of various pieces of machinery and how important they are to the overall maintenance activity.

### Free Lunch Winners

November, the winners of the free lunch were Ralph Pfirman and Ron Finch.

be provided by "The Vintage".

Frank.

## 2013 Branch 161 Meetings Calendar

01/22/2013 (note 1)	07/9/2013
02/12/2013	08/13/2013
03/12/2013	09/17/2013 (note 1)
04/9/2013	10/8/2013
05/14/2013 (note 2)	11/12/2013
06/11/2013	12/10/2013 (note 2)

**Note 1:** Due to availability of the DB Country Club, the January meeting will be held on the 4th Tuesday and the September meeting will be held on the 3rd Tuesday.

**Note 2:** Mother's Day and Christmas With The Ladies are not 'required' Branch luncheon meetings.

### DECEMBER LUNCHEON MEAL

The following meal is planned for the December meeting: Roast Turkey Breast, whipped potatoes with 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.



**SIR Branch 161 on the web**  
**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.

### December entertainment

There is no speaker this month. Entertainment will

## 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 November Branch 161 meeting.



**Larry Mensch** retired in 2003 as a school principal.

He has lived in Discovery Bay for 8 years. His hobbies include tennis, golf and bridge.

Larry and his wife Barbara have 3 children and 4 grandchildren. Larry's sponsor was Sir Dick Donald.



**Ralph Tatum** retired in 1980 from a career in sales. He has lived in Discovery Bay for nearly two years. His hobbies include playing gin rummy.

Ralph and his wife Jo Anne have 3 children. Ralph's sponsor was Big Sir Walter Shipilov.



**Bob Pfarr** retired in July, 2012 from Sales Management at Honeywell. He has lived in Discovery Bay for 18 years. His hobbies include sports and boating.

Bob and his wife Roxie have 3 sons. Bob's sponsor was Sir Micheal White.



**Mitch Wisinski** retired in 2012 as a firefighter. He has lived in Discovery Bay for 10 years. His hobbies include bowling, bicycle riding and spending time with grandchildren.

Mitch and his wife Gina have 3 children and 2 grandchildren. Mitch's sponsor was Sir Bob Rhiner.



**Ray Qualls** retired in 2012. He has lived in Discovery Bay for 19 years. Hobbies include fishing and bible studies.

Ray and his wife Susan have 5 grandchildren. Ray's sponsor was Sir Marty Price.

### 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.



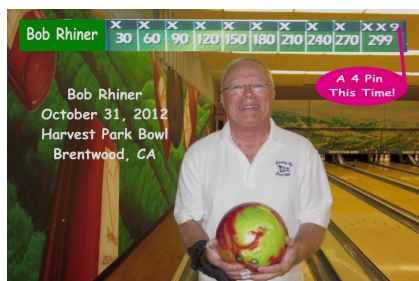
## Bowling News, Paul Elmer

After completing 11 of 35 weeks the Monday SIRs Bowling is getting very interesting. We have two teams tied at 29 games for first place and two teams tied for third place with 28 games. When you consider that there are 5 other teams that are only three and four games out of first place this could be a rather intense ending to the first half in the remaining 7 weeks. The team of Almost, tied for first place, has Jack and Alice Disney, and Jim and Val Heck. The other team tied for first is Giddy-Up-Go, with Ed Fitzpatrick, our newest SIR Mitch Wisinski, Cliff Boehrer and Art Lopez.

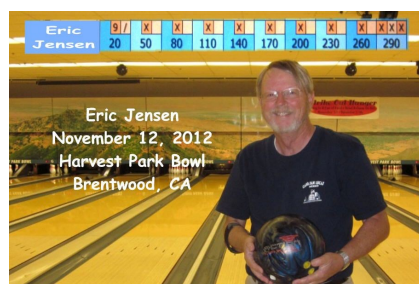


I have not heard of any results from the end of the year tournament held at Clayton Valley Bowl in Concord. We only had six people who entered that tournament. There are 21 scheduled tournaments for 2013, with the first one to be held on Jan 15th in Stockton at Pacific Bowl. The State Tournament will be held May 19th – 21st at Cambrian Bowl, with this being the first time SIRs has been there.

This month it would be appropriate to mention two of our bowlers who accomplished a very good achievement this last month.



Bob Rhiner shot a 299 game (his seventh time that he has had 11 strikes in a row) to go with his 300 game back in 2008.



Eric Jensen had a 290 game (also 11 strikes in a row, his first!). His 290 game is currently the league leading scratch high game score and Bob has the 2nd high

scratch series with 720.

Great going gentlemen, keep it up!! Paul

## Greenhorn Creek - Will Myers

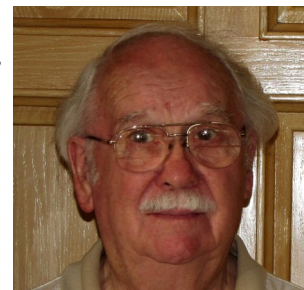
These photos show some of the couples who enjoyed the two day SIR Annual Golf Tournament at the Greenhorn Creek Resort near Angel's Camp this year.



Next year's event will be held October 2 - 4, so mark your calendar to make sure you don't miss out on this wonderful couples experience.

## Bridge - Harry Ohlson

For the second time this year, our November session had eight players (two tables!). It's my goal to maintain that level in 2013.



The next bridge session will be held at 12:30pm on December 18th at the Discovery Bay Country Club.

All interested Bridge Players should contact me to reserve a seat. email - [seniorbjo@sbcglobal.net](mailto:seniorbjo@sbcglobal.net) or call 925-513-3048.

I don't yet have a date for January, but will let you know in the next newsletter. Harry

## Golf News, Dale Welin

There are 3 reminders for the golfing SIRs:

- 1) The 2013 NCGA dues are due now (21 of you are on my list as paid). Please send a check for \$36.00 payable to Dale Welin and get the check or mail it to Dale. The deadline is Dec. 15, as we need to submit the list to NCGA. If there are any questions, please call.
- 2) The 2013 schedule for our golf outings is about complete. A couple of surprises for you.
- 3) We sent an e-mail announcing the 2 for 1 Value Book for 2013. This book has many golf courses in California, Nevada and Arizona that offer 2 for 1 green fees, or discounts for green fees. There are some restrictions regarding the time of play, but it is a very good value. If you use the book 2-3 times in 2013, it pays for itself. The book is \$18.00 a copy, and some of you have used the book as Christmas gifts for your golfing family. We must have a minimum of 5 books for the order, and we currently have 2 of you who have each ordered 1 book. If you are interested, please send a check to Dale for \$18.00. If you want to write 1 check for NCGA dues and a book, you can send a check for \$54.00.

Have a nice holiday with your family and we will see you in January.

Dale Welin



## 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

Al and Dana Box will host the December wine tasting on Thursday, December 20 at 4:00 pm. The theme this month is *wine you would serve with Christmas dinner*. If you are interested in attending or hosting please contact Dick Donald at 513-2849, or email DickDonald@Yahoo.com .

### Pickleball - Bob Lyman – 628-7906

Pickleball is still looking for a few more good men (and women)!! The winter schedule 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 Road. Just bring yourself; we have everything else needed.

## Your newsletter team



**Tom Jones**  
*Editor*



**LaVan Bock**  
*email  
distribution*



**Bill Konold**  
*Paper copies  
and mailing*

You can also download a copy of this newsletter from our web site at [www.sir161.org](http://www.sir161.org)

If we can improve this publication, please let any one of the team know.

## SIR Travel Opportunities Reminder

Various bargain-priced trips are 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](mailto: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 is 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)