



SIR BRANCH 161 NEWS

March, 2013 Volume 13 Issue 03

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

Frank Smith, Big Sir

Opening statement

The weather is warming up, the days are getting longer, so Spring must be just around the corner. This means that several "activities" will be starting up again. Be sure to read about them in this newsletter.



Remember that it takes volunteers to keep the Branch moving forward. As you read this newsletter you will note volunteers are doing all that is possible to maintain the level of participation in our many activities. Also, this will be the last year for some of them, including me, so please strongly consider offering your help.

Our Nominating Committee will soon be looking for your help to volunteer for one of the "open" positions. Read all of this Newsletter to be informed on "What's Happening" in the Branch. It takes a lot of work by a lot of people to publish it, so it would be a shame not to read it. Stay active, be happy and healthy.

Next Regular luncheon meeting

Our next regular Luncheon meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 12th, 2013. This is the SECOND Tuesday in March.

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. 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 May luncheon meeting with the ladies

Our annual Mothers Day Luncheon with the ladies is not far away. Our Little Sir Floyd McBeth is working on the details and will present them at our March meeting. Tickets will go on sale at our April meeting, so be prepared. The December luncheon sold out, so do not be left out of this "special" luncheon.

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. Last year the Board revised our Luncheon attendance policy. In summary, you are

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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. The Christmas and Mothers Day lunches do not count as "regular" meetings as there is no business conducted.

If you will not be available to attend for a long time due to travel, illness or being a care giver, you can request that you be placed on inactive status for six months by the Branch Board. Just let us know.

Membership

Due to deaths, illnesses and members leaving the area, our Branch membership slipped to 167. Recruiting is still a very important key to keeping us strong, so please continue to invite friends, neighbors, street people, bowlers, golfers and others who would like to participate to come visit us and possibly join.

Activities

SIR is not just about attending monthly luncheons, but includes a multitude of activities. Details on these activities are in this newsletter. Read about them and consider joining.

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. If we do not provide an activity YOU are interested in, let me know and maybe we can start it up.

Big Picture

Check out 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 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 house-

hold. Share the newsletter with others, it is 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.

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 Pachuki, Gordon Piepho, Vince Vargas and Vic Vasquez.

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.

Golf cart shuttle

Several members have told us they have difficulty walking up the hill from the parking lot to the Discovery Bay Country Club. Beginning with the March 12, 2013 meeting, the Country Club will provide two courtesy golf carts for our use. Branch 161 members requiring a ride will be driven up the hill between 11:00am and 11:45am, and will be given a ride back down the hill at the conclusion of our meeting.

We need 18 volunteers to drive the courtesy golf carts at the times shown above, two for each of our nine remaining meetings in 2013. So, you'd only be committing to driving before and after one meeting. If you'd like to volunteer as a driver, please contact me.

Looking forward to seeing everyone at our next Luncheon Meeting on March 12th, the second Tuesday in March 2013.

Frank

Floyd McBeth, Little Sir

February 2013 Recap

For the February lunch we were served lasagna & assorted vegetables, and assorted cookies for dessert.



Free Lunch Winners

Winners of a free lunch were Howie Fisher & Lou Kirkpatrick.

February luncheon Speaker

Our February luncheon speakers were Ron Tripp & Rob Tueckes from 1st Light Solar Systems. Ron gave



us a quick overview on why we should all have solar electrical power in our homes. It was then opened up for a question and answer period.

Ron lives here in Discovery Bay and he has done many installations here. They were very informative speakers.

March Luncheon Meal

The March menu will be Corned Beef and Cabbage, boiled potatoes, and assorted vegetables. There will be a cookie assortment for dessert.

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

March speaker

In March Ms. Sue Heini will be our speaker. She works for the Town of Discovery Bay, in charge of landscaping and the restoration of our plants and trees. This will be a good time to find out what will be happening with maintenance and any new plans for Discovery Bay.

Distinguished guests

Big Sir Frank Smith welcomed Dean Steichen, Director, Region 6 and Marty Seaman, Director, Region 6, Area 24 to our February, 2013 meeting.



Super Senior SIR President's Award



Region 6 Director Dean Steichen presented Ed Stewart with the Super Senior SIR President's award at our February, 2013 meeting.

Congratulations Ed!

Branch 161 on the web

www.sir161.org



For more Branch 161 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

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.

Two new members were inducted at our February 12th meeting.

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.

New members



Dane McCoy retired from the Alameda County Sheriff's department in 2003. Hobbies include boating, bocce ball and travel.

Dane and his wife Pam have 4 children and 2 grandchildren. They have lived in Discovery Bay for 8 years, having relocated from Benicia.

Dane was sponsored by Sir Ken Fanucchi.



Dan Cadigan retired from Portland General Electric in 2004. Hobbies include golf, investing, reading, sudoku and television.

Dan and his wife Sarah have 2 children and 7 grandchildren. They have lived in Discovery Bay for 18 months, having relocated from Longview, WA.

Dan was sponsored by Sir Len Fadda.

In memoriam

It was with deep sadness that we learned of the passing of two members in February.

Chet Loveland passed away on February 2nd. A celebration of Chet's life was held at the Discovery Bay Country Club on February 17th.

Elwood Davis passed away on February 23rd. A memorial will be held at 2:00pm on March 9th at the Delta Community Presbyterian Church, 1900 Willow Lake Rd. Discovery Bay.

Your newsletter team

Let us know if we can improve this publication.



Tom Jones
Editor



LaVan Bock
*email
distribution*

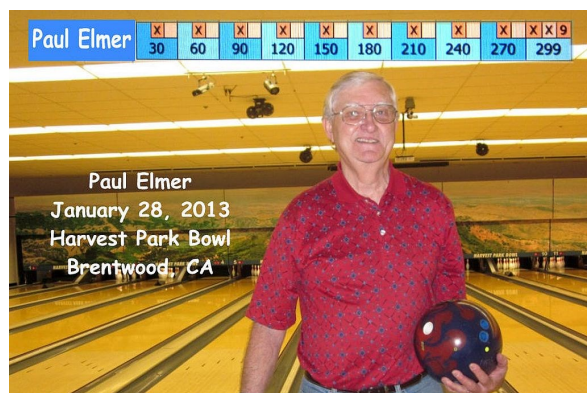


Bill Konold
*Paper copies
and mailing*

Paul Elmer Bowls 299 by Bob Damico

On January 28, 2013, during our Monday SIR League at Harvest Park Bowl in Brentwood, Paul Elmer (our Bowling Director) bowled a near-perfect game.

Paul started the game with 11 Strikes in a Row, then in the final ball left one pin, for a "one pin shy of a perfect" game of 299! Great Bowling Paul!



2013 Branch 161 Meetings Calendar

01/22/2013	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: 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.

Dinner With The Ladies, Micheal White

When: 26 March 2013.

Where: Tao San Jin Restaurant, 5867-A, Lone Tree Way, Antioch, CA.

Time: Arrive 5:00pm, Dinner served at 6:00pm.

Menu: Flaming Po Po Platter, Chicken Corn Soup, Crispy Chicken with sauce, King Pao San-Yan, Steamed Rice, Sesame Beef, Honey Walnut Prawns, & House Chow Mein.

Cost: \$25.00 per person (includes tax and tip).

Deadline: Need your RSVP no later than 19th March, 2013. There will be envelopes at our meeting on 12th March. If you will please send your checks to me prior it would be helpful. Make your checks out to M. E. White and mail to 2146 Sand Point Road, Discovery Bay, CA 94505. Phone: 634-0415.

DIRECTIONS: Tao San Jin is located within the Empire Shopping Center. From Discovery Bay take Hwy 4 to Marsh Creek Rd. Turn on the Bypass heading North. Leave the Bypass at Lone Tree Way. Go South on Lone Tree Way. Get into the left lane. Turn left at the SECOND stop light (Shady Willow Lane). Turn right at the first right turn. Drive straight to the stop sign. Turn left; Tao San Jin is on your left.



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

Name(s):

Phone:

Dinner With The Ladies, March 26, 2013 at Tao San Jin Restaurant, 5867-A, Lone Tree Way, Antioch, CA.

Bowling News, Paul Elmer

We have completed 21 weeks of 35 in the SIR Monday Bowling League with the Misfits in 1st place by only ½ game over Ed's Ten Pinners. The misfits led by Shirley Madsen, Dottie Harris, Pam Jarvie, and anchored by Greg Mattus won only 2 games on Monday but that was enough to squeak out a slim lead. The difference between 1st and 9th place is only three games. The remaining 14 weeks should be very interesting.



The tournament in Petaluma on March 4th and 6th has very few entries as traveling there on week days and having to cross two bridges during commute hours can be very difficult. The Concord tournament on March 18th and 20th should be well attended. The big tournament in April on the 15th – 18th is the Carson City tournament which is always very well attended. Last year we had over 30 people sign up.

The SIR State Bowling Committee meeting was held in February in Vallejo with a lot of discussion being held on establishing a tournament average so that it might discourage "sandbagging". This would require a very large data base but there is a person who has volunteered to do it. Also, the criteria used to establish the average has yet to be determined so it won't be imposed any time soon.

O.K., let's give a little information about the featured bowler of the month. He is a person who gives much of his time to bowling (3 leagues), and coaching kids (certified) at Harvest Park Bowl 3 times a week, spending many hours on SIR committees, and did I mention voted bowler of the year at Harvest Park Bowl. He booked a 197 average last year and currently has 192 this year. He has a high game this year of 258 and also a 721 series. Of course by now you probably know that this man is Bob Damico, a past Big Sir and currently is a Director on the Branch Executive Committee.



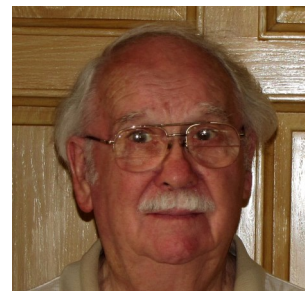
Bob was born in San Jose and raised in Cupertino. He worked for Lockheed Corporation for 38 years as a safety engineer, retired and moved to Discovery Bay in 2001. As if he didn't have much to do, he also joined the Lions Club. This tireless man deserves many, many, thanks for his unending effort to help others. Thank you Bob, you are highly valued and appreciated.

Paul

Bridge - Harry Ohlson

There was no bridge game in February as the Country Club was closed. Our next session is on March 19th. Please let me know if you wish to attend.

Harry O.



Home Security Alert for Discovery Bay

A recent email from a Discovery Bay resident ...

Tonight we noticed a Contra Costa County Sheriff going up our street. About an hour later he drove back by and, seeing my wife and I out front, stopped us.

He asked if we lived here, and we replied "Yes". He advised us that there has been an elevated level of crime recently in Discovery Bay. The crime is taking place both from the water and from the street. He said the "targets" tend to be unoccupied houses – 2nd homes/vacation homes. He literally told us that if we have any kind of security safety protection system to arm it! In my case, I am here often and we have our two dogs; He said that helps!

Coincidentally, a few months ago I received a call from a friend who was out of town; He asked me to go check on his house because he'd received a report that there had been a break-in. Some of these break-ins are happening during daylight hours when the occupants go out to lunch.

Tom Jones

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 February wine tasting was so popular that two separate tastings were held, one hosted by Dale and Sonja Welin and the other by Alan and Pam Jarvie. The March tasting will be held on Thursday, March 28 at 4 PM, and will be hosted by Ed and Michelle Carr. A second tasting will be held on the same date if there is sufficient interest. If you are interested in attending please contact Dick Donald at 513-2849, or email DickDonald@Yahoo.com

Poker, Dick Donald – 513-2849

There has been interest in reviving the monthly SIR poker game. The game was held monthly for several years until it was suspended last Spring due to lack of attendance. We will start holding games again if we can get enough players. If you are interested in a quarter limit dealer choice game (fun poker, not serious money), then contact Dick Donald at 513-2849, or email DickDonald@Yahoo.com

Bocce Ball, Dick Donald – 513-2849

Bocce Ball has been suspended during the winter, but will start again with the advent of daylight savings time in March. The first game will be held on the first Wednesday after DST starts at 4:00 pm in the Country Club parking lot. Anyone interested in playing just needs to show up and teams are made up on the spot.

Pickleball, Bob Lyman – 628-7906

Pickleball is still looking for a few more good men (and women)!! Beginner pickleball classes are being offered the 2nd and 4th Saturdays at noon. This is a very easy way to give it a try. Drop-in winter play 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 at 641 Willow Lake Road. Just bring yourself; we have everything else needed.

Suggestions for new activities

If you have an idea for a new SIR activity and would like to lead it, let Dick Donald know.

Photography - editor's note

I'm what is called a 'point and shoot' picture taker. I have some decent camera equipment, but could really use a lot of help in utilizing all the features to take good 'photographs'. If there are any photographers among our group who would be willing to spend some time teaching us neophytes, we'd have the beginnings of a new SIR activity.

Golf News, Dale Welin

Our March tournament is set for Tuesday, March 26, 2013. The details of the event have been sent to the NCGA golfers and we trust that you will sign up for the event on the 26th.



We have 42 players in our NCGA SIR golf club. Please plan on playing in our monthly events, for which you all have a copy of the dates and venues. See you at our March luncheon and on the 26th.

Dale

SIR Travel Opportunities Reminder

Various bargain-priced trips are available to SIR members through local travel agencies and other SIR branches. Look for the TRAVEL binder located on the entrance table at each monthly meeting. For more information 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 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.

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

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