



SIR BRANCH 161 NEWS

April, 2013 Volume 13 Issue 04

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 has warmed up, the days are longer, Spring is here. The inaugural "Shuttle Service" was a success with many taking advantage and not walking up that mountain road to the clubhouse. Thanks to the two volunteers. The Golf Club is providing the carts and shuttle service runs 11:00 AM to 11:45. Now I need 18 more volunteers, two a month, for the rest of the year. Please call me or email me and I'll schedule you in. Heck, you may even meet some new people.



The Board has initiated a new program to honor long term members. Starting next month we will be giving a Service Certificate and a free lunch to members with 20 plus years of membership. We will also institute the same awards for members when they reach 25, 30 and 35 years of membership.

Our summer "activities" are 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. I believe we are looking for a Secretary as well as one or two other positions. If interested, call me. Please strongly consider helping out by offering your help. Read all of this Newsletter to be informed of "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 luncheon meeting

Our next regular Luncheon meeting will be on Tuesday, April 9, 2013. This is the SECOND Tuesday in April.

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. See Our Little Sir's column in this newsletter.

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 rela-

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Big SIR Report, continued from page 1.

tionships, 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 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.

Membership

Due to deaths, illnesses and members leaving the area our Branch membership slipped to 166. Recruiting is still a very important key to keeping us strong, so please continue to remind friends and neighbors to come visit us and possibly join up.

Activities

Special Note: SIR Day at the Ball park has been scheduled for August 8th. Members from all over the Region will be attending. The Giants and Milwaukee will be playing. For more info contact the Giants ticket coordinator, Marisa Coppersmith, at (415) 992-2259 or mcoppersmith@sfgiants.com

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 161 website at www.sir161.org for more Branch 161 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 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**.

April Birthday Boys

The following Branch 161 members celebrate their birthday in April:

Carlo Delazzar Howie Fisher, Saul Gold,
Eric Jensen, Bill Konold, Don Rentzel,
Norm Spencer, Hal Whitlow
Rodger Wood, Randy Zierau.

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.*

Looking forward to seeing everyone at our next regular luncheon meeting on April 9th, the **Second** Tuesday.

Frank

Floyd McBeth, Little Sir

March 2013 Recap

For the March lunch we were served Corned and Cabbage, vegetables & boiled potatoes. An assortment of cookies was served for dessert. It was feared that we might end up with a bad lunch like we had last year, but we were all delighted at how good the corned beef was. Big Sir, Frank, asked the membership if they liked the lunch and they responded with a very loud applause of appreciation.



Free Lunch Winners

Winners of a free lunch were Ed Stewart and George Fraser.

March luncheon Speaker

Our March speaker was Ms. Fairin Perez, Manager of Parks and Landscape for the Town of Discovery Bay.



She brought handouts for everyone showing the proposed development for our new Community Center. The Town has a 3-phase conceptual plan, and work should begin on phase one in the near future.

Ms. Fairin discussed the further development of Slifer Park located on Newport Drive.

The CSD is working closely with the Discovery Bay Garden Club on the plants and trees that will be added. The Garden Club has received approval from the National Garden Club to place a Blue Star By-Way marker in the park. The Blue Star Memorial Highways started in 1945, and are highways marked in the United States to pay tribute to our U.S. Armed Forces. In 1994 the program was expanded to include

Memorial Markers and Memorial By-ways Markers. The area around the plaque will have "a theme of serenity and peace with a Zen-type feeling". It will be put in place in time for the Town of Discovery Bay's Earth Day 2013. Everyone is invited to participate on April 21, 2013. You will hear more from the Town as this exciting event approaches.

April Luncheon Meal

The April menu will be Chicken Picatta, rice & fresh vegetables.

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

April speaker

In April our speaker will be Sgt. Robert Roberts of the Contra Costa County Sheriff's Department, Canine Division. Sgt. Roberts will be assisted by a dog handler and of course a canine from that department. The dogs in this unit are highly trained and the program promises to be very interesting.

Mother's Day celebration tickets on sale

Tuesday, May 14th luncheon

Be sure to buy your tickets for our Mother's Day luncheon at the April meeting. The ladies will enjoy Crepes ala Reine for lunch and entertainment by the Sparks Sisters. These two young ladies are wonderfully talented and they will sing for our enjoyment. The girls are the granddaughters of Sir Clinton Sparks.



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 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.

There were two new members inducted at our March 12, 2013 Branch 161 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.

Mike Quier retired from Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory in 2007.

He has lived in the Brentwood area for over 13 years. Mike and his wife Pam have 2 children, 6 grandchildren and 1 great grandchild.

Hobbies include woodworking, golf and bowling.

Mike's sponsor was Sir Bob Damico.



Keith Jones retired from Ricoh in 2010. Keith has lived in the Brentwood area for 23 years. He has one daughter.

Hobbies include bowling, car shows and motorcycle events.

Keith's sponsor was Sir Paul Elmer.



Golf Cart Shuttle Service

See Big Sir Frank Smith's report for details.



Get your Mothers Day Luncheon Tickets

In case you missed it, see Little Sir Floyd McBeth's article for details on the Mothers Day luncheon, entertainment, and how you can obtain tickets.

These events are usually a sellout, so be sure to get your tickets early.

Sirs playing pickleball

Sir Randy Zierau checks the scores at a pickleball tournament. Check the Activities report for more information regarding this active sport.



Your newsletter team



Tom Jones

Editor



LaVan Bock

*email
distribution*



Bill Konold

*Paper copies
and mailing*

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

Dinner With The Ladies, Micheal White

When: 23 April 2013.

Where: Island Joe's Café & Bakery, 6210 Bethel Island Rd., Bethel Island, CA.

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

Menu Choices: Jagerschnitzel, homemade breaded German pork cutlet with a creamy mushroom gravy. Tropical Salmon, grilled salmon served with a homemade tropical salsa (mango, jalapeno, onions all chopped fine). Gnocchi, homemade potato dumplings with a pesto sauce. Chicken Cordon Bleu, hand rolled chicken breast with ham and Swiss cheese lightly breaded. Served with a creamy cheese sauce. All dishes except the Gnocchi will come with a side of Rice Pilaf and seasonal vegetables. Table service will include homemade Alaskan sourdough bread and a side salad with Italian dressing. Dessert will be homemade Cobbler with farm fresh seasonal fruit and a scoop of ice cream. (Coffee, Tea, or Water included).

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

Deadline: Need your RSVP no later than 17th April, 2013. There will be envelopes at our meeting on 9th April. Make your checks out to M. E. White and mail to 2146 Sand Point Road, Discovery Bay, CA 94505. Phone: 634-0415.



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

Name(s):

Phone:

Jagerschnitzel _____

Tropical Salmon _____

Gnocchi _____

Chicken Cordon Bleu _____

Dinner With The Ladies, April 23, 2013 at Island Joe's Café & Bakery, 6210 Bethel Island Rd., Bethel Island, CA.

Bowling News, Paul Elmer

As of this writing we have completed 25 of 35 weeks of bowling with team 20 (Giddy Up Go) led by Art Lopez, Cliff Boehrer, Ed Fitzpatrick, and Mitch Wisinske, and team 3 (Misfits) led by Greg Mattus, Shirley Madsen, Dotie Harris, and Pam Jarvie are tied with 22 wins each. Team 8 (Ed's Ten Pinners) is only ½ game back. There are 7 other teams within striking distance (no pun intended) of those first 3 teams.



Season high statistics continue to change with scratch series for men held by Curtis Manning (735), scratch game held by Paul Elmer with 299, handicap game held by Eric Jensen with 316, and handicap series held by John Fry with 763. For the women, Rosie Elmer has scratch series with 650, scratch game is held by Mary Branscum with 221, handicap series goes to Terry Damico with 752, and handicap game has Karen Capra with 287.

The tournament this month was held in Concord at Diablo Lanes on the 16th and 18th of March. Only eight bowlers signed up for it, which is a shame because Concord is very close to us. No news on results yet. The big tournament in Carson City is next on the list for April 15th – 18th. We'll have an excellent turnout for that one with 32 bowlers already signed up. It should be interesting this year, because last year we did very well with many people cashing for prize money.

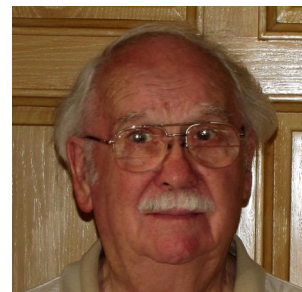
Now, let's talk about extremes. Plus and minus extremes for averages. Tami Fanucchi leads on the plus side with 18 pins over her entering average, and Al Fleisher on the other extreme is down 20 pins. Here are some more; Pam Jarvie is plus 17, Jack Bree is plus 12, and Tom State is plus 11. Some other interesting minuses are Al Winston minus 13, Jim George minus 14, and Cam Donald along with Shirley Madsen, Roberta Bodine, and Mary Branscum are all minus 11. Thank the Lord that we have 10 weeks left to bring it up. There is always next week, right?

Paul

Bridge - Harry Ohlson

The next bridge session will be on April 16th at the Discovery Bay Country Club. Two additional players are needed for two tables. Let's hope the calls come in!

Harry O.



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 Discovery Bay Country Club, the January meeting was 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.

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

Golf News, Dale Welin

For our March 26 tournament at Elkhorn GC, we had a very nice weather day on a good golf course. The pace of play was OUTSTANDING, 4 hours and 10 minutes. Thank you.



The format was 1 best net ball on the odd holes and 2 best net balls on the even holes. The results for Tuesday are below:

1st place - 84 - Riordan, Fitzpatrick, Cadigan.

2nd place - won tiebreaker - 86 - Watkins, Headley, Goodwin.

3rd place - 86 - Carr, Disney, F. Smith, Neubauer.

4th place - 87 - Onstad, Rentzel, Macbride, Delgado.

Closest to the pin winners: Watkins and F. Smith.

We like to acknowledge good scores for the day and there were 6 players who netted in the 60's: 64 - Disney and Neubauer, 66 - Headley, 68 - Delgado, 69 - Fitzpatrick and Cadigan. Congrats for the good play.

For April, we are hosting the SIR Branch 161 Invitational at Discovery Bay Country Club. The details are below for you.

When: Monday, April 15, 2013.

Where: Discovery Bay Country Club.

Time: 9:00 am shotgun start.

Participants:

Branches 161 (DB), 128 (San Ramon), 34 (Pleasanton), 101, 121, 155 (Livermore).

Format: 2 best net balls of the foursome.

Cost: Non member of DBCC - \$54.00, includes golf, cart, range balls, box lunch, prizes.

Member of DBCC with no cart - \$27.00, includes golf, cart, range balls, box lunch, prizes.

Member of DBCC with cart - \$12.00, includes golf, cart, range balls, box, lunch, prizes.

Please let Dale Welin know that you are going to play

and we will add your name to the player list; We need a good turnout as hosts. Then send Dale a check for the amount you would owe. We hope to have a field a little larger than last year's count, which was 97 players. We have added Branch 34 this year. If you have any questions, please call me .

Dale

SIR Activities, Dick Donald

Following are some ongoing SIR activities, including details on current plans. Feel free to call Dick Donald (513-2849) or email DickDonald@yahoo.com for more information on these and other activities.



Wine Tasting, Dick Donald – 513-2849

The April SIR wine tasting event will be hosted by Larry and Barbara Mensch on Thursday, April 25, at 4:00 PM. If you are interested in attending this very popular activity please contact Dick Donald.

Poker, Dick Donald – 513-2849

The SIR poker game has started again with a game last month. The next game is scheduled for Thursday, April 18. If you are interested in a quarter limit dealer choice game (fun poker, not serious money), please contact Dick Donald.

Bocce Ball , Dick Donald – 513-2849

Bocce Ball has started again for the new season. We play every Wednesday 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 11:00 am. This is a very easy way to give it a try. Drop-in play schedule is now Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday at 8:00 am and Wednesday at 4:00 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.

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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