



# SIR BRANCH 161 NEWS

May, 2013 Volume 13 Issue 05

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

## Frank Smith, Big Sir

### Opening statement

May is here !!! Weather is clear, yet a cloud remains overhead.

My job is to keep you informed of happenings within the Branch. During the April Branch Executive Committee (BEC) meeting a motion was introduced, discussed and, after some modifications, was passed. It reads:



*"The BEC should not make any efforts to use non-Sirs to contact SIR wives about any SIR activities."*

The intent was to ban a BEC member from using their wives or other wives, to contact members' wives about ANY SIR activities.

This issue arose after the Big Sir and Little Sir had some wives call others encouraging attendance at the May Mothers Day luncheon. In my opinion wives are an integral part of our organization, and should be encouraged to assist in organizing and coordinating various activities. This new rule does not allow that.

### Next luncheon meeting

Our next regular Luncheon meeting will be on Tuesday, May 14, 2013.

### 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-

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. (Mother's Day and Christmas With The Ladies are not 'required' Branch luncheon meetings.)

If you will not be available to attend for a long time  
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## **Big SIR Report, continued from page 1.**

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**

Our Branch membership remains at 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**

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.

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](http://www.sirinc.org) to see what is "happening" statewide. While you are browsing the Internet, visit our own outstanding Branch 161 web-site at [www.sir161.org](http://www.sir161.org) for more Branch 161 information and pictures.

### **Newsletter**

Continue to share the Branch 161 Newsletter with your wife or significant other. 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.

Looking forward to seeing everyone at our next regular luncheon meeting on May 14th, the Second Tuesday.

Frank

### **May Birthday Boys**

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

Carl Carlson, Fritz Dueming,  
Ken Fanucchi, Bob Harlan,  
Frank Headley, Joe Kile,  
Robert Lyman, Bill Momaney,  
Norm Petersen, Rodger Sweeny,  
Phil Talley, Jim Wangeman,  
Richard Wisdom, Mitchell Wisinski.

**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.*

### **In Memoriam**

It is with deep sadness that we report the passing of Jim Heck. Jim joined Branch 161 in 2003, was an active golfer and bowler, and served as Director on the Branch Executive Committee. Please keep his wife Val and family in your thoughts and prayers.

Jim's Celebration of Life will be held May 11, 2013 from 3:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M. at the Discovery Bay Yacht Club, 5871 Marina Road, Discovery Bay. Hors d'oeuvres will be welcomed.



### **Branch 161 on the web**

**[www.sir161.org](http://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.

## Floyd McBeth, Little Sir

### April 2013 Recap

The Branch Committee voted for a free lunch in April. We were served Chicken Picatta, Rice and Seasonal Vegetables.

### Free Lunch Winners

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



### April luncheon Speakers

We had two Contra Costa County Canine Officers as speakers. They both brought their partners, Shadow and Duke. Shadow's handler, Officer Roger Canady, put him through some of the basic training techniques. He also demonstrated the bullet proof vest



that the dogs wear. He explained where the dogs are acquired and trained for police duty.



Officer Scott Piler discussed his role with the Canine Unit and demonstrated how the dogs apprehend the bad guys. Officer Canady put on a training jacket and had Duke come after him. The dog latched onto Officer Canady and would not let go until commanded to do so. The two officers put on one of the best programs I have ever

seen. They offered to return next year for additional demonstrations. What a wonderful program.

### May Luncheon Meal

The May lunch with the wives will be Crepes a la Reine, Rice and Seasonal vegetables. The club will serve a special dessert for the occasion.

### May entertainment

Because it is a Mother's Day celebration, we will have a very short meeting. Instead, we will be entertained by the Sparks Sisters. Don't miss this special day to enjoy lunch with our wives. Tickets are still available for \$21.00 per person. Our lovely wives will also receive a long stemmed yellow rose to symbolize how much they brighten our lives and how pleased we are that they can join us.

The Sparks Sisters are Melody Sparks, 15 and Violet Sparks, 14. They are the granddaughters of our own Sir Clinton and Bernadine Sparks. The girls and their parents will join us for lunch as part of our thank you for their performance.

We hope to see many wives and widows of past SIR members on May 14th at noon.

Call Tony Pacheco @ 240-0523 for tickets.

### Classic Car Day at Branch 161

#### Attention classic and speciality car owners.

At our June meeting we plan to repeat a "parking lot event" held in 2012. If you have an old car, muscle car, street rod, or a collector type vehicle, be sure to bring (drive) it to our June meeting. Last year's event was very popular, with 19 old and speciality cars on display in the parking lot. Owners proudly displayed their cars and patiently answered questions for Branch 161 members after the luncheon meeting.

Eric Jensen and Bill Konold



## Loyal Membership Awards



At our April meeting, five Sirs received award certificates for 22 years of loyal membership and support to SIR Branch 161. Our Branch was started in 1990 and was chartered in 1991. These Sirs have been members since the beginning: Left to Right- Bob Damico (HLM), assisting Big Sir Frank Smith (in background) with the presentation of the awards, Coy Madsen, Pete Constantine, Joe Philbrick, Stan Krotz, and Murray Cole.

## COMING SOON: The 20th Annual Al DiGiusto Boat Cruise and Luncheon



In 1993, 20 YEARS AGO, Al DiGiusto conceived the idea to plan a SIR event that would introduce the non-boating Sirs and their wives to the world of boating on the Delta. The Sirs with boats invited the non-boaters to ride with them on a cruise to one of the many Delta waterfront restaurants for lunch. Al coordinated this very successful event for 12 years, until his passing in 2005. The event continues in his honor.

This year's Boat Cruise and Lunch will be held Thursday, July 18th, 2013 and starts at The Boardwalk Grill

in Discovery Bay. Mark your calendars. There will be more information in the June Newsletter, and sign-up sheets will be available at the June and July meetings. Contact Bob Damico for additional information: 925-634-0465.

## 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.

No new members were inducted at our April 9, 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.

## Bowling News, Paul Elmer

Let's start this bowling news-letter with our deepest regret in losing one of our long time bowlers to cancer. Jim Heck, what an incredible encouragement for the rest of us. For those of us who have been through major trauma, being able to have the attitude of an outgoing, smiling, joking, loving, encouraging person of strength like Jim is indeed enviable. We will miss him very much. The earliest records of Jim bowling with SIR was in 2002 where he averaged 165. He continued on each year increasing his average to 179, then 180, until in 2008 he reached his highest average of 188. Even in the 2011-2012 season he averaged 182 for 87 games and was a joy to be around.



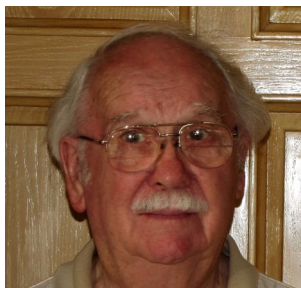
For the last four weeks of this current winter bowling season we have a three-way tie for 1st place between Team 9 (Mary Branscum, Jack Bree, and Dick Donald), The Misfits, (Shirley Madsen, Dottie Harris, Pam Jarvie, and Greg Mattus), and Ten Pin Alley (Warren Young, Connie Ryan, Doris Cole, and Frank Smith). But wait, there's more; Team 22, (Jim Padilla, Mary Hershberger, Woody Oehlert, and Dave Goplen) are only one game behind. 12 games to and it should be a battle to the end.

The Carson City Tournament was held on April 15th – 18th with occasional snow and rain outside, but hot lanes inside for some of the 32 bowlers representing Branch 161 and 108. The results are not yet posted, but we will definitely have quite a few bowlers in the money. The next tournament will be at Cambrian Bowl in Sunnyvale on May 16th – 18th.

## Bridge - Harry Ohlson

Bridge on May 21st at the Discovery Bay Country Club - 12:30 p.m. New or old players are welcome. Please call me for seating.

Harry O. 925-513-3048



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

## 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 member of the team know.

## Golf News, Dale Welin

The SIR 161 Invitational was held on Monday, April 15 at Discovery Bay Country Club. We hosted 95 golfers from Livermore, San Ramon and Pleasanton on a breezy day. Box lunches were distributed by the staff while we were golfing and all the arrangements went well. We received many positive comments about the day. We hope to repeat the same event next year.



The May tournament is scheduled for Tuesday, May 21. The details for the tournament are below:

**When:** Tuesday, May 21, 2013.

**Where:** Deer Ridge CC, Brentwood.

**Time:** 8:00 a.m. shotgun start.

**Format:** To be announced.

**Cost:** \$46.00 includes golf, cart, prize money and \$5.00 lunch voucher

Dale will be out of town for the May luncheon AND the golf tournament. Lowell Onstad will be the Tournament Chairman for the event and will handle the sign ups, preparing the scorecards, prize money, etc. As we do each month, please let Lowell know of your intention to play and get your name on the player list. Then send your check PAYABLE to Lowell at 5605 Marlin Drive, Discovery Bay, Ca 94505.

His phone number is 516-8468.

His e-mail address is [ljonstad@comcast.net](mailto:ljonstad@comcast.net)

If there are any question, please call Lowell.

Dale

## Movie discount ended

The SIR "two for \$10 Thursdays" program at the AMC theaters has ended. The new discount program is: Senior Tuesdays for \$6.50 each or Senior entry weekdays for \$6.50 before noon.

Eric Jensen

## 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](mailto:DickDonald@yahoo.com) for more information on these and other activities.



### Wine Tasting, Dick Donald – 513-2849

Will and Raquel Myers will be hosting the May SIR wine tasting event on Thursday, May 23, at 4 PM. If you are interested in attending this very popular activity please contact Dick Donald at 513-2849, or email [DickDonald@Yahoo.com](mailto:DickDonald@Yahoo.com).

### Poker, Dick Donald – 513-2849

The SIR poker game has started again with games the last two months. The next game is scheduled for Tuesday, May 14. If you are interested in a quarter limit dealer choice game (fun poker, not serious money), please contact Dick Donald at 513-2849, or email [DickDonald@Yahoo.com](mailto:DickDonald@Yahoo.com).

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

Bocce Ball has suffered from lack of attendance the last few weeks. I am now sending out an email each week to determine whether there will be sufficient players to hold a game. If you are interested in playing, let me know (513-2849, or email [DickDonald@Yahoo.com](mailto:DickDonald@Yahoo.com)) to put you on the bocce ball email list.

### 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 a.m. This is a very easy way to give it a try. Drop-in play schedule is now Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday at 8:00 a.m. and Wednesday at 4:00 p.m. 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

Send ideas for new SIR activities to Dick Donald.

## 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)