



SIR BRANCH 161 NEWS

August, 2013 Volume 13 Issue 08

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

Frank Smith, Big Sir

Opening statement

August, do we call it the Dog Days of Summer? Probably not. Well anyway its ELECTION month for the SIR. All across the world, well Northern California anyway, all of the SIR branches will be electing members of their Branch Executive Committee. Recently we emailed and snail mailed a list of the Branch 161 BEC candidates for your perusal. Hopefully you looked at it and are ready to vote. Prior to the vote we will accept nominees for any of the posts.



Next Regular luncheon meeting

Our next regular Luncheon meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 13, 2013. 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.

Attendance

By the way, our luncheon attendance numbers are down a bit, so please try and make the luncheon. Have a few drinks, visit with others, nap and have a decent lunch. If you love brownies, there are always some left at various tables. Sometimes you may even hear a reasonably good joke or two. It is important to us that you participate in our regular monthly luncheons. If you will not be available to attend for an extended time due to travel, illness or being a care giver

you can request to be placed on inactive status for six months by the Branch Board. Just let us know.

Membership

Our Branch membership has shrunk to 163. 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. Finding new members is like finding money; You get a free meal for bringing in a new member.

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 interesting in, let me know and maybe we can start it up.

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Big SIR Report, continued from page 1.

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, significant other, insignificant relative or friend. Share the newsletter with others; it is 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 **SOME-THING**.

Looking forward to seeing everyone at our next luncheon meeting on August 13.

Frank

Floyd McBeth, Little Sir

July 2013 Recap

Our July lunch of Chicken Marsala, rice & seasonal vegetables was well received by all.

Free Lunch Winners

Tom Kirtley and Richard Meyer were the lucky winners drawn for a free lunch in the future. Congratulations to you both.



July Speaker



Our July speaker was well-known columnist Marla Luckhardt. She spoke on our generation of older people and how to stay active and healthy. Her advice about keeping busy and participating in local activities is so true. It is up to each of us to see that we remain active and involved and therefore happy. Enjoy her regular column in the Discovery Bay Press.

August Birthday Boys

The following Branch 161 members celebrate their birthday in August:

Al Box, Edward Carr, Earl Cole, Peter Constantine, Hal Crose, Ken Dickens, Tom Gomez, Farrell Hinkle, Mike McCleery, Ward Messersmith, Bil Murphy, Willard Myers, Harry Ohlson, Don Patterson, Lynn Pierce, Captain Proescher, Don Ramos and Warren Young.

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.

August Luncheon Meal

The August meal will be Salisbury steak with mashed potatoes & gravy & seasonal vegetables.

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

August speaker

Kathy Leighton, local historian, will be our speaker. Kathy is very active with the East Contra Costa Historical Society. She will cover many local and perhaps unknown facts about our area. She is an enthusiastic speaker and will be a welcome addition to our luncheon.

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I want to apologize for the film failure we had during our June presentation with naturalist, Robert Kanagaki, from the East Bay Regional Park.

The film he tried to show is an excellent one and is the one you will see if you were to go into the

visitor's center at the Black Diamond Mines. I encourage you to visit the mine in Antioch; they run this film continuously every day.

Floyd McBeth, Little Sir

Al DiGiusto Boat Cruise and Lunch, Bob Damico

Another Success!

July 18 was a good weather day, perfect for the 20th annual Al DiGiusto Boat Cruise and lunch.

73 people ate lunch, 46 people (in 7 boats) cruised Discovery Bay . We had great food, and a great time in honor of, and remembering, Al DiGiusto who started this event in 1993, 20 years ago!!

This year we also remembered Angie, Al's wife who passed away on May 31, 2013; This was the first Boat Cruise without her. We toasted both of them and thanked them both for starting this great event.

We thanked the boat captains and their first mates, Bob & Sandy Smith, Carlo & Connie DeLazzar, Dick & Carolyn Jamison, Larry & Barbara Mensch, Norm & Luetta Spencer, John & Margaret Lopp, and Bob & Terry Damico, for sharing their boats and for providing their passengers with a tour of the bays.

Norm Spencer's 1960 Chris Craft ski boat gets the Best Classic Award !!! The boat is 53 years old, has been in the family since it was new, and still looks brand new.



Carlo Delazzar gets the award for the most passengers (10) in his Sun Tracker pontoon boat. See picture on page 8.

Once again, the Boardwalk Grill did an outstanding job with the food, and the gift certificate winners were Pam Jarvie and Rosie Elmer.

We'll be doing it again next year, and hope you can join us.

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SIR Golf Tournament, Will Myers

Again it is time to announce the beginning of sign-ups for our annual SIR Golfing Tournament for members and their mates at the Greenhorn Creek Resort at nearby Angels Camp scheduled this year for Wednesday, October 2 and Thursday, October 3, 2013. This is the only SIR golfing event which involves the ladies, whether they play golf or not.



The golfing package consists of two days of golf on the beautiful Greenhorn Creek golf course and housing at the adjacent excellent WorldMark time share villas. The golfing format for both days will be two best-balls between teams made up of mixed men and women foursomes. The housing villas are four person (two bedrooms, two baths) units providing access to the facilities, spas and pools, tennis courts, pool tables, and exercise rooms. SIR members have the option of staying at the villas for one night or two nights. Another option is to either seek your own source of dinner on Wednesday night and/or Thursday night, or what most have done in past years is to meet and have dinner at the excellent Greenhorn Creek resort restaurant. Each day after golfing, hors d'oeuvres of nachos, calamari, buffalo wings, and batter fried asparagus will be provided by the Greenhorn Creek staff on the patio overlooking the 18th green. The nearby towns of Angels Camp and Murphy provide plenty of entertainment, restaurants and shopping during the day for both golfers and non-golfers.

The total cost per golfer (which includes golfing, two days of hors d'oeuvres, housing, and golf prize money) is \$183 for those staying one night, while it is \$222 for those staying two nights. The total cost per person for the non-golfers (which includes two days of hors d'oeuvres, and housing) is \$47 for those staying one night, while it is \$86 for those staying two

nights. Past participants of this event will note that the total prices are the same as they were last year.

A sign-up sheet will be in the Discovery Bay Country Club lobby at our monthly SIR meetings through September. If you would like to share a villa with another couple, please indicate this on the sign-up sheet.

Those couples choosing to stay one night will have to share a villa with another couple staying one night. Sign up and come join us for two days of fun at this beautiful, yet nearby location. If you have any questions, see or call Will Myers at 925-516-9448.

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 July 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.

Dinner With The Ladies, Micheal White

When: 27 August 2013.

Where: Shirasoni Steakhouse, Teppanyaki and Sushi Bar. 6367 Lone Tree Way, Brentwood, CA

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

Menu:

Hors d'oeuvres: Shrimp Sauté and Crispy Calamari.

Dessert: Mochi Ice Cream.

Entrée - your choice of the following:

Chicken Teriyaki: Chicken breasts grilled with sweet teriyaki sauce.

New York steak: Tender and juicy steak hibachi grilled to your perfection.

Sukiyaki Steak: Thinly sliced choice of sirloin cooked with care & sweet teriyaki sauce.

Hibachi Shrimp: Succulent shrimp grilled with lemon and butter.

Hibachi Salmon: Salmon grilled with care and a hint of lemon to seal in the dedicate flavor.

Vegetable Delight: Assorted fresh vegetables grilled in a light sauce.

All entrees include: Mushroom soup, green salad with ginger dressing, hibachi vegetables, choice of steam rice, fried rice, or garlic fried rice. (Soda, tea, or water included.)

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

Deadline: Need your RSVP no later than 20 August 2013. There will be envelopes at our General Meeting on 13 August 2013. 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.

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

Name(s):

Phone:

Chicken Teriyaki _____

New York Steak _____

Sukiyaki Steak _____

Hibachi Shrimp _____

Hibachi Salmon _____

Vegetable Delight _____

Steam Rice _____ Fried Rice _____ Garlic Rice _____ **(Indicate which Rice with your choice)**

Please indicate any special days (birthday, anniversary, etc.):

Dinner With The Ladies, 27 August, 2013 at Shirasoni Steakhouse, Teppanyaki and Sushi Bar. 6367 Lone Tree Way, Brentwood.

Bowling News, Paul Elmer

We have completed 7 weeks of a 12 week summer schedule with only three games separating the first seven teams. Did I not tell you that it would be a shoot out this summer? Tied for 1st place are the Misfits, with Shirley Madsen, Dottie Harris, Pam Jarvie, and Greg Mattus and For The Heck Of It with Jack and Alice Disney, Woody Oehlert, and Val Heck. Three teams are tied for 2nd place only one game back.



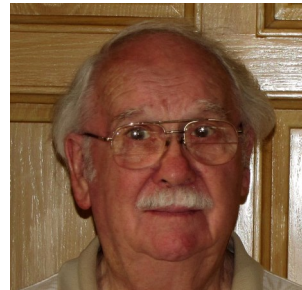
So far there has been very little interest expressed for the tournaments in July for Yuba City, Napa or Sonora. However the upcoming tournament in Reno on August 19th – 21st has had great response with 28 entries between branches 161 and 108. This is always a good tournament held at the “Bowling Stadium” in Reno, just 1 ½ blocks from the Silver Legacy Hotel and Casino. The Stadium has 80 lanes and lane conditions that are a little more difficult than a regular house shot. Sometimes the lighting conditions with the very high ceiling creates some glare problems right at your target point. Concentration is the key here, with not a lot of time during bowling competition for socializing; that comes later at the casinos and restaurants where you are likely to run into anyone. It seems like everyone is really looking forward to it for a little mid-week getaway. We might have some early results by the September newsletter.

So far this season, Jerry Marshall has scratch series with 655, Bob Damico has scratch game of 247, John Fry has handicap series of 727, and Mike Carmichael has handicap game of 285. For the women, Marie Wilson has scratch series of 579 and Mary Branscum has scratch game of 218. Alice Disney has the handicap series of 761 and Barbara Mensch has handicap game of 265. Good job, people, keep it up!

Paul

Bridge - Harry Ohlson

We have a date in August!
Our session is August 20th
(third Tuesday) at the Discovery Bay Country Club at noon
(12:00 p.m.).



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

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.

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 & Cam Donald will be hosting the August SIR wine tasting event on Thursday, August 29, at 4:00PM. (Note that this is the fifth Thursday of the month.) If you are interested in attending this very popular activity, please contact Dick Donald at 513-2849, or email DickDonald@Yahoo.com

Poker, Dick Donald – 513-2849

The SIR poker game has started again with games the last few months. The next game is scheduled for Thursday, August 15, with Tom Kirtley hosting. 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

Bocce Ball, Dick Donald – 513-2849

Bocce Ball has had spotty attendance the last few weeks, probably due to the hot weather. It is expected that play will pick up in the fall as the weather cools a bit. If you are interested in playing, let me know (513-2849, or email DickDonald@Yahoo.com) to put you on the bocce ball email list.

Gin Rummy , Ralph Tatum – 786-7008

WANTED – Four good men to help organize a new activity – OKLAHOMA GIN RUMMY. Play will be bi-monthly in the afternoon. For further details contact Ralph Tatum at 786-7008.

Pickleball, Bob Lyman – 628-7906

Exciting pickleball news! Pickleball play now has brand new facilities, because the Town of Discovery Bay just converted one tennis court into two excellent fenced pickleball courts at Cornell Park on Willow Lake Road. If you would like to give it a try, the drop-in play schedule is now Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday at 8:00 am and Wednesday at 4:00 pm.

Come join in the fun for a little exercise, competition and socializing. Just bring yourself; we have everything else needed.

Golf News, Dale Welin

25 players joined in the July golf tournament at Swenson Park, Stockton. The weather was perfect, the greens had been aerated and were bumpy, and the course played long. We had 7 teams and the results are below:



1st place - T for 1st (won tie breaker) 95 - Shipilov, Quier, Fanuuchi, and Berry

2nd place - 95 - Giannini, Disney, Kirtley, Vargas

3rd place - 96 - Watkins, Fry, Smith, Brodie

CTP winners were Bill Konold and John Fry. Congratulations to Bill Konold on your play, netting 68. He was the only one to net under par for the day.

Each year I try to play a course we have not played or have not played in a while. This year I booked The Bridges, San Ramon for Tuesday, August 20, 2013. This is a challenging course I have heard, as I have not played it. The white tees have yardage of 6123 yards with a rating/slope of 71.1/139. The gold tees have a yardage of 5625 yards and a rating/slope of 68.9/134. We will play the gold tees and it will be plenty of golf course for our group. I have heard that some of our players are going to try and play it before the 20th of August as a practice round. Frank Smith suggested you bring an extra dozen golf balls, but let's prove him wrong!!!! The details for the event follow:

Where: The Bridges, San Ramon, CA

When: Tuesday, August 20th, 2013

Time: 8:30 from the 1st tee with assigned tee times.

Cost: \$50.00 for golf, cart and range balls

Format: To be announced (it will be a simple one!)

As usual, please advise Dale Welin of your intentions

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to play by email or phone and we will add your name to the player list. Then get me a check, payable to Dale Welin, and send it or give it to me before the event. My phone number is 925-516-9463, and email works great!

Getting to The Bridges for an 8:00 check-in time with me and going via Vasco to 580 (W) to 680 (N) to Bollinger Canyon Rd will have lots of traffic. If you go the back way off Vasco (1st traffic light over hill) and head to Blackhawk CC, then find Crow Canyon Rd, then Daugherty Rd, then Bollinger Canyon Rd and then the golf course at 9000 S. Gale Ridge Rd, will be much better for all of us. Lots of you carpool for these events and this would be a great day to do that.

We hope you will participate at this new venue for our golf group. Remember that we have just 2 remaining events to qualify for the club championship in October.

See you on the green!

Dale Welin



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.

Thoughts and prayers

Bill LaForest, SIR Branch 161 member July, 2010 - July, 2012, golfer, and avid bowler, passed away on July 3, 2013 following a brief illness. Bill was our one-and-only "Leap Year SIR". He was born on February 29, 1928 and, on February 29, 2012, celebrated his 21st actual birthday with friends and family at the Wednesday Discovery Bay Mixers Bowling League at Harvest Park Bowl. His unique birthday/age was also acknowledged that same month in the Brentwood/Discovery Bay Press and at our monthly SIR luncheon. He was 21 with 85 years of life experience!

Bill was a gentle man, an asset to our SIR Organization, and a friend to many. He bowled in three leagues, until the effects of alzheimer's took over. Earlier this year he moved into assisted living, where he developed an infection; other complications led to a heart attack.

At this time, there are no plans for a funeral. Bill wanted to donate his body to science. His family carried out that wish and found an organization that specializes in Alzheimer's research. After the research they will cremate him and cast his ashes at sea, as he wanted. A memorial service may be planned sometime in the future.

Please keep Bill and his family in your thoughts

Carlo Delazzar and passengers in his Sun Tracker boat. See Boat Cruise & Lunch report on page 3.



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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