



SIR BRANCH 161 NEWS

November, 2013 Volume 13 Issue 11

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

Frank Smith, Big Sir

Opening statement

November is here and this will be my last BEC meeting as the new "crew" will take over. I truly appreciate all of your support during the year. I am a little disappointed that we did not reach our new member goal. While we did not grow, we did not shrink either.



I am also disappointed in the attendance at recent luncheons. Some of us noticed that there were unoccupied tables, the first time in years. The October meeting was the poorest attendance level in years and sadly many did not even think it was important to call in. There were 20 no show/no call including a past Big Sir (not recent). It was also a meeting that the Area Governor attended, and we did not live up to expectations. Calling or e-mailing, by Friday AM, should not be THAT difficult unless you do not really care about SIR and our regular members. Of course, there are always emergencies but a call, anytime, would be helpful.

Next Regular luncheon meeting

Our next regular Luncheon meeting will be held on November 12, the second Tuesday of the month. 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

Our last two luncheons averaged just around 60%, which is on the fringe of being bad. This is 15/20% down from normal. Try and make sure to keep luncheon dates open when making future plans. 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 from a high of 175 to 164. Recruiting is still very important to keeping us strong, so please continue to remind friends, and neighbors to come visit us and possibly join up. Finding new members is like finding money; Remember, you get a free meal for bringing in a new member.

Activities

SIR is not just about attending monthly luncheons,

Continued on page 2 ...

In this issue

- Message from Big Sir
- Birthday Boys
- Little Sir report
- Golf tournament photos
- Membership
- Bowling news
- 2013 meetings calendar
- Activities news
- Golf news
- Policy and responsibility clauses

Big SIR Report, continued from page 1.

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 us know and maybe we can start it up.

Big Picture

Check out www.sirinc.org to see what is "happening" statewide. While browsing the Internet, visit our own Branch 161 website for more Branch information and pictures.

Newsletter

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

Frank

November Birthday Boys

The following Branch 161 members celebrate their birthday in November:

Jack Bree, Rick Crago, Frank Cramer,
Jim Davis, Ron Finch, Lou Kirkpatrick,
Art Meyers, Chuck Niessen, Lex Overzet,
Frank Tisch, Andrew Zwemer.

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.*

Floyd McBeth, Little Sir

October 2013 Recap

Our meal this month was Beef Bourguignon over Risotto with vegetables. We also had tea, coffee and dessert. I thought the meal was tasty and well prepared.



Free Lunch Winners

One table won it all this month. Tony Pacheco and LaVan Bock were sitting at the same table and both were drawn for a free lunch.

October Speaker

Mark Simon, a director for the CSD Governing Board for Discovery Bay was our speaker this month. Mark explained what is happening in our area, covering water, a new well, landscaping and future growth.



He said that, when the Pantasa Bays Development goes in, the developer will have to pay Discovery Bay over \$13,000 per home. This project is well on its way. Mark also said that Hoffman plans to build up to 600 homes but they will be grandfathered in under the original \$2,800 per lot.

A seventh well is currently being drilled on Newport Drive and should be ready by next April. This well will be used for future construction as well as homes located close to it.

Continued on page 3

Continued from page 2

Mark held a question and answer session at the conclusion which brought out a lot of good questions and answers. Everyone seemed to enjoy his presentation.

November Speaker

Ms. Lisa Ferranti will be our speaker. She comes highly recommended by Past Big Sir Ralph Pfirman. She will speak on the state of our economy and what the national financial world looks like. Bring any questions you may have, she will be happy to answer them for you.

November Luncheon Meal

We are going to have one of my favorite meals this month. Fried Chicken, whipped potatoes with gravy and vegetables; and of course, the famous dessert tray.

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

Remember the date December 10:

Annual Christmas lunch with the ladies

Our meal will be Roast Turkey Breast, Whipped Potatoes w/ gravy, vegetables and a special dessert prepared for this occasion.

We have hired Singer Steven Gary to entertain us with Christmas songs.

This event always sells out, so make sure you purchase your tickets at our November meeting. After that, it will be a 'maybe' situation as far as available tickets are concerned.

Little Sir Floyd McBeth

SIR Golf Tournament Club Champion



Sir Dale Welin presents Sir Dan Ramos with the SIR Golf Tournament Club Championship trophy. See Dale's Golf Report on page 6 for more details.

Greenhorn Creek Golf Tournament

Attendees at the Annual SIR Golf Tournament at Greenhorn Creek experienced another great event.



Photos from these and other events can be found in the photo gallery 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.

Three new members were inducted at our October 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.



Giancarlo Cuciz retired from self employment in 2008. He has lived in Discovery Bay for 6 months. Giancarlo and his wife Barbara have one daughter and two grandchildren. His hobbies include cooking, dancing, and travel.



Dave Vicencio retired from Delicato Vinyards in March, 2013. He has lived in Discovery Bay for 24 years. Dave and his wife Lee have one child. Hobbies include bowling, golf, hiking and travel.



Jack Kramer retired from Air Borne Freight. He lives in Discovery Bay with his wife Krissy. Jack is a returning Sir. His hobbies include bowling and golf.

Christmas Luncheon tickets

Don't forget your tickets for the Christmas luncheon being held on December 10th. They can be purchased from Tony Pacheco at the November 12th Branch 161 luncheon. Tickets are \$21.00 per person.

Special thanks to Bob Damico

A big thanks to Bob Damico for taking photos of our new members at the last meeting, and the photo of our October speaker. Bob is a past Big Sir, but continues to be very active in various Branch 161 functions.

Bowling News, Paul Elmer

The tenth annual Bob Matteucci Memorial Tournament, co-sponsored by branches 161 and 108, was held on Oct. 15th and 17th at Harvest Park Bowl in Brentwood. We had 105 entries, which was down by 35 from last year. It was a very good tournament, however, with some notable high scores. Steve Szasz of Stockton had a perfect 300 game and a 792 series (264 average for 3 games). Alan Close of El Cerrito had a 289 game and a 793 series.



Our local people from Discovery Bay and Brentwood did quite well also. There were 14 of us cashin' in. They were:

Div 1 Singles – Bob Damico 7th, Mitch Wisinsky 8th, and Jose Arroyo 11th.

Div 2 Singles – Harris Edwards 2nd, Jack Bree 5th and Fred Critchfield 6th.

Division 3 Singles – Terry Damico 3rd and Rosie Elmer 5th.

Doubles Division 1 was Bob and Terry Damico 5th. All-Events Division 1 Greg Mattus 6th and Jose Arroyo 8th.

All-Events Division 2 was Harris Edwards 2nd.

All-Events Division 3 was Terry Damico 1st, and Rosie Elmer 5th. Well done!!

Many thanks to Bill Bayer, Curtis Manning, and John Fry for the help in running this tournament, and also Natalie Paris who kept track of the stats.

There are only two tournaments left for this year; In Modesto on November 6th and 8th, at Mchenry Bowl, and Concord at Clayton Valley Bowl on November 12th or 13th.

We have completed 7 weeks of 35 for the winter session of SIR bowling with only 2 games separating the top 4 teams. It is still very close with a long way to go to the finale in May of 2014.

Paul

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



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.

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

Wine Tasting, Dick Donald – 513-2849

Gary and Linda Tucker will be hosting the November wine tasting on Thursday, November 21. Note that this is the third 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



Bocce Ball, Dick Donald – 513-2849

Bocce Ball will be taking a hiatus for the winter and will resume in the Spring.

Pickleball, Bob Lyman – 628-7906

Come try pickleball on our new courts in Discovery Bay at Cornell Park on Willow Lake Road. Drop-in play schedule is now Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday at 8:00 am and Wednesday at 3:00 pm. So come join in the fun for a little exercise, competition and socializing. Just bring yourself; we have everything else.



The Wine Tasting group at a recent event.

Golf News, Dale Welin

We have a new Champion for our SIR Golf Championship tournament. The venue was Poppy Ridge GC in Livermore, a very good test of our skills. Don Ramos won and is the "CHAMP" for a year!!! There was a small correction in reviewing the scores. The results are below:

- 1st place - Don Ramos - net 65.
- 2nd place - Jack Disney - net (a past club champ).
- 3rd place - Ed Carr - net 72 (the past club champ).



Tie 4th place - Kile, Welin - 74.

Tie 6th place - Watkins, Smith, Cadigan, Konold, Pacheco, Burke.

Congratulations to all the winners above.

Closest to the pin winners were 1st place - Konold, 2nd place - Pacheco, and 3rd place - Cadigan.

Beginning Nov. 1, it is the time to renew your SIR NCGA golf club dues for 2014. We will be sending out the details to follow for this via email, as soon as we receive the information from NCGA. Until then, have a good Fall and early Spring and we will start our 2014 schedule in March.

Dale Welin

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

Your newsletter team

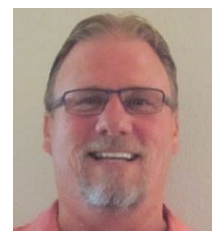
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