



SIR BRANCH 161 NEWS

February, 2014 Volume 14 Issue 2

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

Floyd McBeth, Big Sir

Opening statement

We found our new membership rosters laid out on a table when we entered the country club for lunch. Also on the table were Christmas luncheon photographs; thanks to Bob Damico for doing this.



Many people helped in getting our new roster published. Particular thanks go to Tom Jones for his hard work pulling it all together. We are thankful.

We were honored with a visit from our SIR Area Governor, Marty Seaman. He was here to give Past Big Sir Frank Smith his new name badge and a thank you certificate for a job well done.



As you know, my goal this year is to bring in new members, as we have been dropping off each year. We are down 12 members from 2011. Three SIR members received free lunch tickets this meeting, just by bringing a friend to lunch, which turned into three new members. My thanks to Ed Fitzpatrick, Bill Martin and Ward Proescher. These gentlemen helped

us get off to a very good start in reaching our goal.

Next Regular luncheon meeting

Our next regular luncheon meeting will be held Tuesday, February 11. Be sure you mark your calendars and try to attend. Bring a friend and introduce him to SIRs. A friendly reminder, we have to order lunches in advance. You must call Bill Konold, 634-2738, if you are not joining us in February. This has to be done by Friday, February 7. Save yourself \$17.00 by calling.

Attendance

The one hundred and twenty four SIR members that attended lunch this month gave us a 77% turnout. The branch turnout goal is 70% so congratulations, we did a great job. Will we get 80% next month?

Membership

I hope you'll all join me in the drive for new members. It is so important for our continued success. Getting a free lunch is also a fun prize to earn. Let me know

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Big SIR Report, continued from page 1.

if I can help you in any way.

Activities

We offer many advantages to newcomers, and of course to you as a current member; great lunches and speakers, golf, bowling, wine tasting and many more activities. Our new Travel Coordinator, Mitch Wisinski, is working on a trip to a Giants baseball game on July 3rd. He also thinks a trip to the new casino in Petaluma could be fun; I agree. Mitch will investigate this possibility and let us know. If you have thoughts on a new activity, we are very open to your suggestions. Call Mitch at (408) 515-7655.

Big Picture

I continue to recommend checking out our web site. It's fun to see the bigger picture of our amazing group. Our Branch 161 site is: www.sir161.org or the State site at: www.sirinc.org.

Newsletter

Be sure to share our newsletter with your better half and your friends. The more people who know about our organization, the more potential members we can reach.

February Birthday Boys

The following Branch 161 members celebrate their birthday in February:

Fred Baca, Mike Cullen, Bob Damico,
Stan Hodge, Stan Krotz, Myron Lencioni,
Glenn MacBride, Dane McCoy,
Ed Stewart and Jim Venhaus.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY Boys!!!!.

*If your name is missing or not correct
let Big Sir, Floyd McBeth at 516-9191, know so
our records are corrected.*

New Changes for 2014

I have slightly changed the format of our lunch meetings; From this point on, our Little SIR Jim Davis will take a more active part in our meetings. Jim was

ill this month so I will follow up with his report under Little Sir. Get well soon Jim, we missed you.

Floyd

Jim Davis, Little Sir

January 2014 Recap

Jim wanted to convey to all of you how bad he felt about missing the meeting.

We had an excellent lunch of Roast Sirloin with Béarnaise Sauce, steamed new potatoes and seasonal vegetables. Our dessert was cookies and brownies.



Free Lunch Winners

Steve Bordi and Tom Snyder were present and received a free lunch ticket. It does pay to attend our meetings, and there is such a thing as a 'free lunch'.

January Speaker



Our Program for this month was Martin Engelmann from the Contra Costa Transportation Authority.

He brought us up to date on the upcoming Highway construction around the area.

February program

Our speaker for February will be Sherri Livingston from the Contra Costa County Sheriff's Department. I know he will be very interesting and very informative about our area and what is happening

February lunch menu

Our lunch in February will be Lasagna and Vegetables. This is always a real winner. Of course you will get all the water, iced tea and coffee you can drink, and don't forget the tray of dessert cookies.

Please note: Any special dietary needs need to be pre-arranged several days before the meeting. Contact: Bill Konold at 634-2738 to arrange this.

SIR Happenings

The SIR Inc. newsletter, known as *SIR Happenings*, provides quite a bit of information about the SIR organization. Each issue, compiled and published by the Information Systems Committee, features news and activities from a number of SIR branches. Reading these articles might suggest new activities for our own Branch 161.

Occasionally, Branch 161 is featured, with articles written by our various activities Chairmen, and including accompanying pictures.

You can download the latest issue of *SIR Happenings* via a link on our own Branch 161 web site at www.sir161.org

Dinner With The Ladies, Micheal White

When: 25 February 2014.

Where: Schooner's Grille & Brewery, 4250 Lone Tree Way, Antioch, CA.

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

Menu choices:

Include salad, dessert, non alcoholic drink (ice tea/coffee and water).

Prime Rib, Top Sirloin, Teriyaki Chicken, or Penne Alfredo
(indicate your choice below)

Cost: \$23.00 per person (includes tax and tip).

All martinis are \$5.

Deadline: Need your RSVP no later than 19th February, 2014.

There will be envelopes at our General Meeting on 11th February, 2014. 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: Schooner's is located in the shopping center at the corner of Dear Valley Road and Lone Tree Way.



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

Name(s):

Phone:

Prime rib: _____

Top sirloin: _____

Teriyaki chicken : _____

Penne Alfredo: _____

Dinner With The Ladies, February 25, 2014 at Schooner's Grille & Brewery, 4250 Lone Tree Way, Antioch, CA.

Membership, Len Fadda

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 Len Fadda. Have the guest complete the form, and return it to Len. 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 January luncheon (see below).

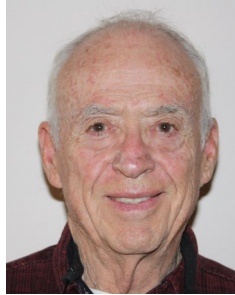
SIR Membership Requirements

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.



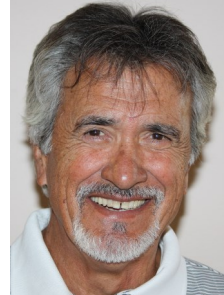
Jim Jenkins retired as Vice President, Human Resources at a public hospital in Kansas City. He has

lived in Discovery Bay for four months. Jim and his wife Sally have 2 daughters and 3 grandchildren. Hobbies include golf, fishing and travel. His sponsor was Dan Cadigan.



Ron Martin retired from a career in electronic engineering. Hobbies include dominoes, fishing,

investing and walking. His sponsor was Ward Proescher.



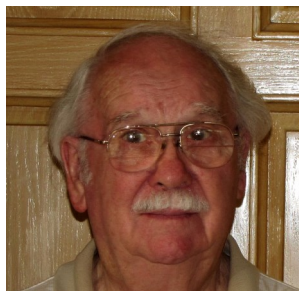
Robin Williams retired from PG&E in 2006. He has lived in Discovery Bay for four years. Robin and his wife

Milllicent have two daughters and nine grandchildren. Hobbies include biking, golf and tennis. His sponsor was Ed Fitzpatrick.

Bridge report

Harry Ohlson

Our next Bridge Session is on February 18th at noon. Please email me or call me at 925 513 3048. Help me get 8 players and two tables this year.



Attention musicians and singers

Rumor has it that we have a number of musicians and singers in our branch who would like to get together and make music. There has been some discussion about forming one or more ensembles. An example might be a folk group, comprised of guitar, banjo, fiddle and harmonica. Another might be a barbershop group. If there's any interest, contact Tom Jones at 634-7026.

Bowling News, Paul Elmer

And so it starts! The new tournament bowling season that is - January 21st at Pacific Bowl in Stockton. We have 14 entries (as of this writing) with the usual expectations for excellent results from Branches 161 and 108. After Stockton there is Sonoma, only one week later, on Jan 27th. So far no interest. On the other hand Livermore is next on the list on Feb. 11th and 12th. We have usually done well there and expect the same this year.



After the Misfits won the first half of the winter season there are rumors and determination to not let them win the second half. The reason? Competition of course, for the ultimate season ending playoff between the 1st and 2nd half winners. Not only that, but the honor and recognition of their names being emblazoned on the perennial Elwood Davis – Jim Heck trophy.

As of January 20th the Sharpshooters and Split happens are tied for 1st place with 9 wins each. Right behind them are Lucky 13 and Cam's Crew with 8 wins each. It should be noted that Cam's Crew, led by Frank Cramer, Don Rentzel, John Lopp, and Cam Donald, battled the Misfits for the 1st half winners and would dearly love to have that chance once again.

John Fry still leads the men's high scratch series with an obscenely high (but well done) 760 series. Scratch game is held by Curtis Manning with 282, handicap series is Paul Elmer with 777, and handicap game goes to Warren Young with 295.

For the women, Rosie Elmer has high scratch series with 628, scratch game is held by Mary Branscum with 237, handicap series goes to Anne Wangeman with 794 (well done!), and Julie Bayer has the high handicap game of 305.

If anyone wishes to join the SIR Bowling League, please contact me or John Fry. We currently have 20 full teams but the summer season starts at the end of April – not that far away – make plans now.

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 Mitch Wisinski at: (408) 515-7655.



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.

2014 Branch 161 Meetings Calendar

01/14/2014	07/8/2014
02/11/2014	08/12/2014
03/11/2014	09/9/2014
04/8/2014	10/14/2014
05/13/2014 (note 1)	11/11/2014
06/10/2014	12/9/2014 (note 1)

Note 1: 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

Larry and Barbara Mensch will be hosting the February wine tasting on Thursday, February 27. If you are interested in attending this very popular activity please contact Dick Donald at 513-2849.

Poker, Dick Donald, 513-2849

I'm looking for potential players for the SIR poker game. If you are interested in a quarter limit dealer choice game (fun poker, not serious money), please contact Dick Donald at 513-2849. We'll get a game going if we can find enough players.

Pickleball, Bob Lyman, 628-7906

With the nice weather we have been having, pickleball play has been picking up. Regular drop-in play 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, competition and socializing. Just bring yourself; we have everything else needed

For someone wanting to learn the basics of pickleball, the Town of Discovery Bay has a beginner's class scheduled, starting in February; Sign up for the class at the new Community Center.

Photography, Frank Headley, 240-6511

The Photography Club is growing. Several additional members have signed up since it was announced at the January 14th Branch 161 luncheon.

At our January Photography Club meeting, we explored the unique features of a couple of members' cameras. We also critiqued several professionally-taken photos, learning about composition and exposure. We're looking forward to field trips.

Anyone wishing to join, contact Frank Headley at 240-6511.

Communication among activities groups

The Photography Club has adopted a couple of ways of communicating:

- An online forum, allowing interaction between members and sharing of photos and files.
- A moderated mailing list residing on our web server.

Other activities Chairmen wishing to avail themselves of these capabilities, contact our SIR Branch 161 webmaster Tom Jones.

Golf News, Dale Welin

Even though the weather has been very good for golf if you can wait until about 10:30 am, we hope there will be some rain soon and not interfere with our golf schedule. I will call your attention to the first 2 events for 2014.



The first is our kickoff tournament at Elkhorn GC on Tuesday, March 25. We have an early shotgun start at 7:30 am. We hope to see your name on the pairings list.

The second will be the 3rd Annual SIR Branch 161 Invitational scheduled for Monday, April 14 at Discovery Bay Country Club. Last year we had 100+ players and we hope to attract at least that many in 2014. Details will follow as we get closer to the middle of March.

Finally, at present we have 41 members of our NCGA golf club. A good number for our golfing season. See you soon on the links.

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

Your newsletter team

Let us know if we can improve this publication.



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