



SIR BRANCH 161 NEWS

March, 2015 Volume 15 Issue 03

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

Jim Davis, Big Sir

February Luncheon

We have a wonderful SIR Branch here in Discovery Bay, and we have had a great Branch ever since it was started as Branch 161 some 24 years ago back in 1991. Some quick grade-school math reminds us that we will be celebrating our Branch's 25th anniversary next year.



By about 1999 our membership had steadily increased to 150, with a maximum membership in 2003/2005 of 185. We currently have 155 members, with a year-end goal of inviting enough men to join us to increase our membership to 159. It would be very exciting for us if we could start our 25th year with an increasing number of men enjoying good times with us, a membership climbing even beyond our goal. Speaking of inviting other men to join us and enjoying good times together, here's a question for you: "How many Sirs do you think it takes to start a new activity?" I ask this question, because a healthy and enjoyable SIR Branch, among other things, has a variety of activities that are of interest to as many of the men in the Branch as possible. But, before we see the answer to this question, let me ask another:

"How many legislators does it take to change a light bulb?" First, it takes one legislator to introduce a bill to get the light bulb replaced. Next, it takes 51% of the legislators to pass this bill, followed by an affirmative vote of 67% of the legislators to tax the people to pay for a ladder and a new light bulb. Then, nine legislators will be appointed to a committee to oversee the light bulb replacement. Finally, the Chairman of

the committee will stand on the ladder holding the light bulb (likely in a victorious pose) while the other eight legislators rotate the ladder. But, they suddenly realize that the original bill left out any means for turning the light on, and a new bill will need to be introduced to fix this problem in the original bill. But, back to our original question of "How many Sirs do you think it takes to start a new activity?" The answer is that it is far fewer and simpler than getting legislators to change a light bulb – It takes only 2 Sirs to start a new Branch activity – depending of course on the activity.

Our Branch currently has 13 activities. One very successful Branch has 44 activities, ranging from 1-day short trips to hiking and various indoor and outdoor games and other social activities. If there is something that you like to do and you would like to have men in our Branch join you, contact our Activities Chairman, Dick Donald. Remember, it can start with you – and just one other Sir.

There can be and is more to a fun, successful SIR Branch than once-a-month luncheons. Having a larger variety of activities in which our men or couples can participate throughout each month will inherently make our Branch an inviting and fun venue to enjoy

In this issue

- Message from Big Sir
- Little Sir report; Birthday Boys; Golf
- Dinner with the ladies
- Membership; Photography; Special awards
- Bowling news
- Bridge; SIR Travel; 2015 meetings calendar
- Activities
- Policy and responsibility clauses

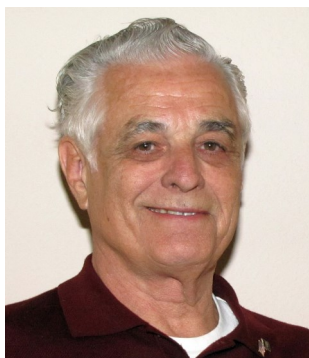
Continued from page 1

retirement and meet new people. And, you will enjoy being able to invite your friends to our Branch and to join you with other Sirs in activities that you like.

Have a great time enjoying your retirement.
Your Big Sir - Jim Davis

Micheal White, Little Sir

Mother's Day Luncheon tickets are now on sale. The tickets will be available at the March meeting and by mail. Send your request to Glenn MacBride, 1860 Tangier Terrace, Brentwood, CA 94513. Include your check, made out to SIR Branch 161. The cost of the tickets are \$22.00 each.



February Speaker

Our February speaker was Nick Williams from Lawrence Livermore Lab.



March luncheon menu

Corned Beef & Cabbage, Vegetables & Boiled Potatoes.

Please note: If you have any special dietary needs, please call Bill Konold at 634-2738 by Friday before the meeting to arrange this.

March birthdays

Ed Barriskill, Don Blotz, Steve Bordi, John Davis, Jim Doran, Jake Fair, Dave Goodwin, Steve Greenfield, Alan Jarvie, Keith Jones, Gary Lewis, Floyd McBeth, Dennis Pachucki, Gordon Piepho, Vince Vargas, Dave Vicencio.

Free Lunch Winners

Phil Talley and Lavan Bock.

March Speaker

Our March speaker is Mr. Chris Steele, President, Discovery Bay Community Service District (CSD).

Golf News, Dale Welin

Happy Springtime to the SIR golfers!



We have 36 golfers in our NCGA golf club for 2015. Thank you for your renewal. If there are other SIR Branch 161 members who are interested in golfing with us, please call Dale Welin, 516-9463.

This message contains the necessary entry information for the first tournament of the new year, 2015. We will start again this year at Elkhorn CC, as we are well treated in working with the head pro there. The necessary information is below.

When: Tuesday, March 17, 2015
Time: 8:30 am shotgun start
Where: Elkhorn CC, Stockton
Cost: \$41.00 for golf, cart, prize money
Format: To be announced

You can enter by e-mailing your entry, call me or see me in person and I will add your name to the player list. Then send your check (payable to Dale Welin) to Dale Welin, 2867 Cherry Hills Drive, Discovery Bay, CA 94505. The cut off for the tournament is the monthly luncheon on Feb. 10. I will be at the March luncheon and will be happy to get your check then.

Dale Welin - Tournament Chairman

Your luncheon responsibility

If you will not be able to attend the March luncheon, it is important that you call Bill Konold at 634-2738 as soon as you know that you will not be at the luncheon. We assume that you will be there, and we order a lunch for you, unless we hear from you that you will not be there.

Dinner With The Ladies, Alan Jarvie

When: March 24, 2015.

Where: Texas Roadhouse, 2422 Naglee Rd, Tracy.

Time: Arrival and cocktails starting at 5:00pm, Dinner served at 6:00pm.

Menu choices: (Dessert & non-alcoholic beverage included. All entrees except the Vegetarian Plate include two sides):

Entrees:

- Sirloin Steak (8 ounce)
- Grilled BBQ Chicken Breast
- BBQ Ribs (Half Slab)
- Grilled Salmon
- Grilled Shrimp (2 skewers)
- Vegetarian Plate (Choice of any four sides)

Side Dishes (Choose two per person):

- Dinner Salad
- Fresh vegetable mix – broccoli & baby carrots with lemon pepper butter
- Green Beans
- Baked Potato
- Sweet Potato
- Mashed potatoes

Cost: \$22.00 per person (includes tax and tip).

Deadline: Need your RSVP no later than March 17th, 2015. There will be envelopes at our General Meeting on March 10th, 2015. Please send your checks to me in advance. Please make your checks out to Alan Jarvie and mail to: 4121 Windward Court, Discovery Bay, CA 94505.

Cell phone 408-219-8240.

Directions: The Texas Roadhouse is located at 2422 Naglee Road, Tracy CA. Take Hwy 4 west out of Discovery Bay, turn left at the traffic light for Byron Highway; continue south into Tracy (approximately 13 miles), and turn left at the traffic light for Grant Line Road. At the third traffic light (about 1 mile), turn left onto Naglee Road - you'll see the Texas Roadhouse on your right. Turn right at the next traffic light (~150 yards), then bear right into the Texas Roadhouse parking lot – the entrance faces Naglee Road.



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

Name(s): _____

Phone: _____

Sirloin steak _____

Grilled BBQ chicken _____

BBQ ribs _____

Grilled salmon _____

Grilled shrimp _____

Vegetarian plate _____

Dinner With The Ladies, March 24, 2015 at The Texas Roadhouse, 2422 Naglee Road, Tracy 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.

One new member was inducted at our February luncheon.

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.

New Member

Gary Campbell



Gary was inducted at our February luncheon.

Interests include golf.

Gary's sponsor was Will Myers.

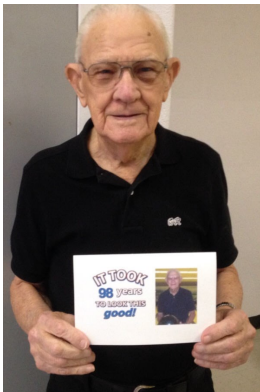
Photography, Frank Headley, 240-6511

The photography group meets periodically to share photographic knowledge and tips, ranging from scene composition to image storage and cataloging, to post-processing using software tools.

We also hold occasional field trips to photograph interesting scenes, activities, or objects.

To join our group, call Frank Headley at 240-6511. No special knowledge or equipment needed.

Ed Stewart



The bowling group recently celebrated Ed Stewart's 98th Birthday at the Bowling center.

Ed's birthdate was February 23, 1917

Floyd McBeth award



Area Governor Ron Saltgaver presented Floyd McBeth with the SIR Presidential Award for his service as our 2014 Big Sir, .

Bowling News, Paul Elmer

Question of the month - how many of our senior bowlers have bowled a perfect 300 game? One? Three? Five? (Answer and more later).



But first of all, the league standings as of February 23rd are as follows: In first place by 4 games are Lusky's Friends with 26 wins. Who are these guys anyway? (They are: Barbara Mensch, Larry Mensch, Cam Donald and Dick Donald). Well, they seem to be having their way with the rest of the league. Split Happens (Jean Scurlock, Beth Edwards, Harris Edwards, and Tom Kirtley) is 4 games back with 22 wins. Three other teams are within 5-6 games back and with 11 weeks left almost anything can and probably will happen.

The current season high scores are as follows: for the men, scratch series is Paul Elmer with 768, scratch game is Greg Mattus with 299, handicap series is Dick Donald with 757, and handicap game is Jim George with 315. For the women, Marie Wilson has 627 for scratch series, Roisie Elmer has the scratch game of 226, Mary Hershberger has the handicap series of 770, and Roberta Bodine has the handicap game of 297.

Now for the answer to how many seniors have bowled 300's? Would you believe 8? Yes, and they are Greg Mattus, Rosie Elmer, Paul Elmer, Cal Hampton, Joe Arroyo, Art Lopez, Jerry Marshall, and Curtis Manning. Now, how many have had 299 or 298? Five have had this. They are: Greg Mattus 299 & 296, Paul Elmer 299 (twice) 298 and 297, Joe Arroyo 299, Art Lopez 299, Jerry Marshall 298 and 296. Eric Jensen had 11 strikes in a row with a 290 game and the only one to have an 800 series is Curtis Manning with 802. Do you realize that he averaged 267 for three games?

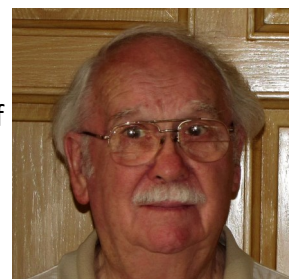
April will be here very soon so, if you want to bowl the Carson City tournament, be sure to see John Fry or get the entry forms at sirinc.org. You can enter online or download the entry form and mail it.

Paul

Bridge report, Harry Ohlson

Next session on March 17th at noon in the Discovery Bay Country Club. If you wish to join us, please call me for seating

(925) 513-3048.



SIR Travel Opportunities

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.



2015 Branch 161 Meetings Calendar

01/13/2015	07/14/2015
02/10/2015	08/11/2015
03/10/2015	09/1/2015
04/7/2015	10/13/2015
05/12/2015 (note 1)	11/10/2015
06/9/2015	12/8/2015 (note 1)
Note 1: Not 'required' Branch luncheon meetings.	

SIR Activities, Dick Donald

We're always looking for new activities among Sirs. If you have a suggestion for an activity not currently supported, let us know and we'll see if we can get a group going. You can contact me at 513-2849 or email DickDonald@Yahoo.com



Following are some ongoing SIR activities, including details on current plans.

Wine Tasting, Dick Donald, 513-2849

The next wine tasting will be on Thursday, March 26th. If you are interested in attending this very popular activity, please contact Dick Donald at 513-2849, or email DickDonald@Yahoo.com by Friday, March 5th.

Pickleball, Bob Lyman, 628-7906

Any of you Sirs who have an interest in doing something slightly more active than a long walk, you should come give pickleball a try. If you have ever played racquetball, tennis, squash or badminton, you will find this a game somewhat similar but with less energy required using a large ping pong type paddle and a whiffle ball on a badminton sized

court. Drop-in play times are 9:00 am Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday and 3:00 pm Wednesday at the Discovery Bay public pickleball courts on Willow Lake Rd.



Just bring yourself, we have everything else needed. The game is easy for beginners to learn but can develop into a quick, fast-paced, competitive game for experienced players.

Poker, Colin Brodie, 634-8564

Colin Brodie is looking for poker players interested in a game each month. If you would like to play in a fun, low-stakes game with fellow Sirs, please contact Colin or Dick Donald (513-2849).

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 (not counting May and December), will have their membership reviewed by the Branch Executive Committee (BEC), and may receive a notice from the BEC of their decision to consider terminating the absent Sir's 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, Glenn MacBride.

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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