



SIR BRANCH 161 NEWS

August, 2015 Volume 15 Issue 08

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

Jim Davis, Big Sir

Marketing & Improving Our Branch

There are numerous men who live in and near Discovery Bay, men who would enjoy being active members with us in SIR. The challenge is they have never heard of Sons In Retirement. Also, there are steps we can take to make our Branch better. To address these challenges, we established a Member Relations Committee, which is headed up by our Director of Membership, Len Fadda. The committee's purpose is to actively pursue creative ways of promoting our SIR Branch here in Discovery Bay, and to identify how we can improve our Branch.

To advertise our Branch to retired men in our community, the Member Relations Committee proposed, and the Board approved: Publishing periodic news articles about our Branch in the Discovery Bay Press; Posting information at Discovery Bay's community billboard at the Community Center; Presenting information at the Discovery Bay Chamber Mixer; Distributing SIR brochures, which are available from the state SIR organization.

The committee also proposed some steps for us to take toward improving our Branch. The Board approved: Assigning seating at two luncheons per year to help our new members meet men in our Branch who they might otherwise never get to know; and emailing our monthly Branch newsletters to our spouses (we have about 10 different activities that can involve couples).



2016 Branch Officers

Election of members to serve on our 2016 Board will take place at our upcoming monthly luncheon on Tuesday, August 11th. Our Branch's Nominating Committee has made the following nominations:

Big Sir: Micheal White (2015 Little Sir)

Little Sir: Len Fadda (2015 Director)

Secretary: Larry Mensch (Incumbent)

Assistant Secretary: Jack Bree (Appointed mid 2015)

Treasurer: Bill Monamey

Assistant Treasurer: Ed Coats (Incumbent)

Director: Bob Damico (Incumbent)

Director: Paul Elmer (Incumbent)

Director: Alan Jarvie (Incumbent)

Director: Tom Kirtley

Director: Lowell Onstad (Incumbent)

Director: Dale Welin (Incumbent)

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Election of officers will be by verbal vote, unless there are nominations from the floor, in which case election will be by written ballot.

August Luncheon - 2nd Tuesday

Looking forward to seeing you all on Tuesday, August 11th for another great time together.

Your Big Sir,
Jim Davis

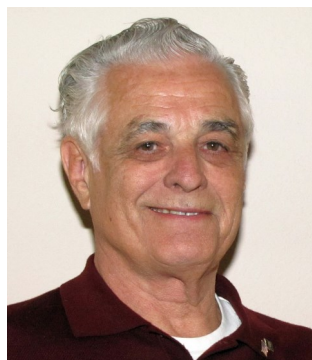
Micheal White, Little Sir

July free lunch winners

Daniel Crus and Tom Kirtley.

July Speaker

Our July speaker was Barry Banford of the Sacred Space Cremation & Burial Society. His talk focused on the subject of VA Benefits.



Little Sir Micheal White presents a Certificate of Appreciation to our July speaker.

August luncheon menu

Salisbury Steak with mashed potatoes, gravy & vegetables.

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

August Speaker

Our August speaker will be Virgil Koehne, Discovery Bay Water and Waste Water Manager.

August birthdays

Al Box, Ed Carr, Earl Cole, Hal Crose,
Ken Dickens, Mike McCleery,
Ward Messersmith, Will Myers,
Harry Ohlson, Don Patterson, Don Ramos,
Pat Woods, Warren Young.

Golf News, Dale Welin

We had a small player list for July, only 17 players. The results for the day are below with a format of Cha, Cha, and Cha.



1st place - 125 - Carr, Goodwin,
Headley, Onstad

2nd place - 129 - Watkins, Shipilov, Konieczny,
Rentzel

The CTP winners were Macdonald and Welin.

3 players finished with net scores in the 60's:
Konieczny - 64, Goodwin - 68 and Onstad - 69. Congratulations to you 3.

The August golf venue is at Delta View, Pittsburgh.
Entry info follows:

When: Tuesday, August 25, 2015

Where: Delta View GC in Pittsburg, off Leland

Time: 8:30 am modified shotgun

Cost: \$41.00 for golf, cart, and prize money

Format: To be announced

As before with each past month, please call, email Dale or tell me to add your name to the player list. Then send your check to Dale for \$40.00 (payable to Dale Welin). Cut off will be Tuesday, August 18. We hope you will participate this month.

Dale Welin

SIR Activities, Dick Donald

We're always looking for new activities among SIR. 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.



Wine Tasting, Dick Donald, 513-2849

Larry and Barbara Mensch will be hosting the next wine tasting on Thursday, August 27th. If you are interested in attending this very popular activity please contact Dick Donald at 513-2849, or email DickDonald@yahoo.com by Friday, August 14th.

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 8:00 am Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday and 5:00 pm Wednesday at the Discovery Bay public pickleball courts on Willow Lake Road. 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).

Bocce Ball, Dick Donald, 513-2849

There has been a suggestion that a group of bocce players meet for lunch and bocce at the Campo di Bocce in Livermore. This would probably be on a Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday sometime next month. If you are interested contact either Alan Jarvie (408-219-8240) or myself and let us know when you are available to go.

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.

Hot August Afternoon Car Show For All.

It is time again for a gathering of collector and unique cars or even motorcycles. So if you have any specialty car, old or new, bring it to the next SIR meeting on August 11th. We will have an area, as before, set aside for us to show our cars. Bring whatever you have, antique, hot rod, street rod, custom, or even new unique vehicle. See you there,
Eric Jensen, Bill Konold

In Memoriam

We're sorry to report that our fellow Sir Darrell Baird passed away on July 18, 2015.

Darrell was a member of Branch 161 for 10 years. Joining originally in 2001, dropping out in 2010, and joining again in 2014

Please keep Darrell, his wife Lourdes and family in your thoughts and prayers.

Bowling News, Paul Elmer

The 2015 SIR tournament season has only seven of eighteen tournaments remaining, ranging from Reno to Modesto to the finale in Concord at Clayton Valley Bowl on November 17th and 18th. Our own Brentwood tournament is in October on the 13th and 15th, which will be here sooner than you think, so start thinking about getting your doubles partners in mind. The Reno tournament coming up in only 3 weeks is certainly one of the biggest and best ones of the year, with Carson City a very close second.



As far as our own Monday SIR League, the competition for first place is becoming increasingly tough as reflected by week nine's results. With only 12 teams in the league for the summer, five are within 2 1/2 games of first place, which is becoming difficult to hang onto. Keep On Rollin' (Ron E Wilson, Mitch Wisinski, Art Lopez and John Fry) are tied with Staying Afloat (Beverly Denn, Will Rivera, Videlle Marshall, and Don Rentzel). The remaining six weeks will be very, very interesting to be sure.

Season high score leaders are being challenged every week. The current leaders are, for the men; High Scratch Series - Greg Mattus 707, High Scratch Game - Ron E Wilson 267, Handicap Series - Don Rentzel 759, and Handicap Game - Art Solomon 291. For the women, Marie Wilson has High Scratch Series with 593, Terry Damico has the High Scratch Game of 213, Peg Hampton has Handicap Series with 732, and Doris Cole has Handicap Game of 272.

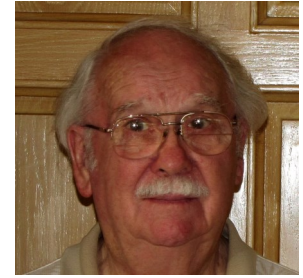
Question of the month: Willy B. Goode joins the Striking for Dough Summer League and decides to start bowling with a two handed style with his right hand being the dominant hand. After 3 weeks he is down 50 pins on average and decides that two handed is not for him and goes back to using just his right hand. Is this legal and can it be done without a league vote? Answer next month.

Paul

Bridge report, Harry Ohlson

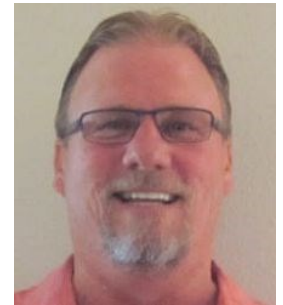
The next Bridge session will be on August 18th at noon in the Discovery Bay Country Club. That is if we enough players.

Please call me for seating 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.	

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.

No new members were inducted at our July 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.

A fond farewell

Ralph Pfirrmann said a fond farewell to many friends and acquaintances among the Branch 161 membership at our July luncheon. Ralph is moving to Campbell, CA to live closer to his family.

Little Sir Mike White commended Ralph for his Service to Branch 161. Ralph joined Branch 161 in June of 1998, has held several Executive Board positions, and was our Big Sir in 2004 and 2005.

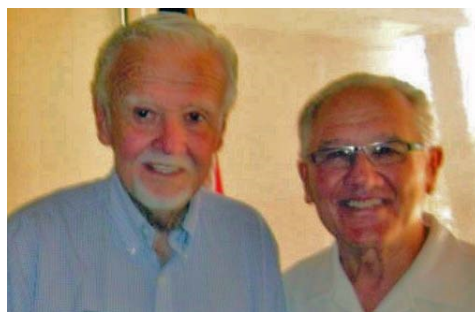


Little Sir Mike White listens as Ralph Pfirrmann gives his farewell speech.

He has been instrumental in many of our Branch 161 successes, one being the Annual Handbook/Roster, and has always been active and available to help whenever needed.

In July 2009, Ralph received the SIR Honorary Life Member Award for his exceptional and extraordinary service to our Branch and SIR Inc. Ralph is a fine gentleman and has been an asset to our organization; We will miss him.

20-year award



Roger Sweeney receives Branch 161 Twenty Year Membership Award from Bob Damico.

22nd Annual Al DiGiusto Memorial Boat Cruise and Luncheon, Bob Damico

Thursday July, 23, 2015, turned out to be a perfect 80-85 degree day for this annual event.

At 11:00 a.m. boats started arriving at the Boardwalk Grill in Discovery Bay. As usual, the tables filled, the drinks began to flow, and laughter and chatter filled the air.

Before lunch we remembered and toasted our fallen Sir Al DiGiusto who started this great event back in 1993. Once again Chris and Erica Cookson (the Boardwalk Grill owners) and their staff provided us with excellent food and service. After our great lunch, it was time for the drawing (two \$25 gift certificates provided by the Boardwalk Grill). The lucky Lady winners were Marty Momaney and Lynda Zierau .

After the lunch, dessert and drawing, folks began to leave. Some left by car for destinations unknown. Others, the thirty revelers who elected to go on a boat cruise, embarked on the four awaiting boats for their sightseeing tour of Discovery Bay.

Our appreciation and a special THANK YOU goes out to our four Boat Captains and their First Mates:

Carl and Connie Carlson (party of 6)

John and Teri Davis (party of 6)

Carlo and Connie Delazzar (party of 12)

Ray and Diane Sevim (party of 6)

Once again, a great time was had by all. Thanks to all of the participants for making this event another success. Watch for the 23rd annual event in July of 2016.



Dinner With The Ladies, Alan Jarvie

When: August 25th, 2015

Where: BJ's Restaurant & Brewhouse (at the Streets of Brentwood),
2365 Sand Creek Road, Brentwood, CA.

Time: Arrival & Cocktails starting at 5:00 pm

Dinner served at: 6:00 pm

Menu Choices (Salad, dessert & non-alcoholic beverage included):

- Top Sirloin
- Baby Back Pork ribs (half rack)
- Atlantic Salmon – flame-broiled or blackened
- Parmesan Crusted Chicken
- Caesar Salad with Cajun shrimp or blackened salmon



All entrees except the Caesar Salad include the choice of two side dishes:

- Baked potato - Seasonal vegetables
- Crispy-thin French fries - Steamed broccoli
- Wedge-cut French fries - Rice pilaf

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

Deadline: We need your RSVP no later than August 20 – there will be envelopes at our General Meeting on August 11. Please send your checks in advance, made out to Alan Jarvie, and mail to 4121 Windward Court, Discovery Bay, CA 94505. My cell phone number is 408-219-8240

BJ's is located at the Streets of Brentwood: From Discovery Bay, take Hwy 4 to Marsh Creek Road, turn left and continue on Marsh Creek Road to the Bypass and turn right (north). Exit the Bypass at Sand Creek Road; go right (east) on Sand Creek Road and move into the left lane. Turn left at the first stop light, then turn left at the stop sign. BJ's will be on your left.

----- Please detach and mail with your check -----

Your Name(s): _____ Phone: _____

Your Menu choice(s):

Top Sirloin: Rare ____ Med Rare ____ Medium ____ Med Well ____ Well ____

Salmon: Flame-broiled ____ Caesar Salad: with Cajun shrimp ____
Blackened ____ with blackened salmon ____

Baby Back Pork Ribs ____ Parmesan Chicken ____

Side dishes: Baked potato ____ Crispy fries ____ Wedge-cut fries ____

Seasonable Vegetables ____ Rice pilaf ____ Steamed broccoli ____

Greenhorn Creek Golf Tournament,

Will Myers

The sign-up for our 8th Annual Discovery Bay SIR Golfing Tournament for members and their mates at the Greenhorn Creek Resort at nearby Angels Camp, scheduled this year for Wednesday, September 30 and Thursday, October 1, 2015, is still open. Please note that this is the only SIR golfing event which involves the ladies, regardless if 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 WorldMark time share villas. These first-class housing villas are four-person (two bedrooms, two baths) units providing access to the facilities spas and pools, tennis courts, pool tables, exercise rooms and other amenities. SIR members have the option of staying at the villas for one night or two nights. The villas have a full kitchen, so members can prepare their own meals, if they so choose. What has been done in the past years is for most everyone to meet and have dinner at the excellent Greenhorn Creek Resort restaurant on both evenings.

The nearby towns of Angels Camp and Murphy provide plenty of entertainment, restaurants, and shopping for the non-golfers to spend time while golfers play. Each day after golfing, hors d'oeuvres will be provided to all by the Greenhorn Creek restaurant staff.

The total cost per golfer (which includes two days of golf, two days of hors d'oeuvres, housing, and golf prize money) is \$183.75 for those staying one night in the villa, while it is \$232.75 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

\$61.75 for those staying one night, while it is \$110.75 for those staying two nights.

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 now and come join us for two days of fun at this beautiful, nearby resort. If you have any questions, see or call Will Myers at 925-516-9448.

Your luncheon responsibility

If you will not be able to attend a Monthly 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.

Photo credits

Thanks to Bob Damico for many of the photos in this issue of our newsletter.

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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