



SIR BRANCH 161 NEWS

September, 2015 Volume 15 Issue 09

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

Jim Davis, Big Sir

September Meeting

HEADS UP gentlemen! Our September meeting will be on the FIRST Tuesday of September – That's September 1st. Mark your calendars. This will be the last time this year that we will meet on the 1st Tuesday.



2016 Branch Officers

The 12 men who were nominated by our nominating committee were elected by voice vote to be our Branch Officers in 2016. They will be installed at our Lunch Meeting in November. In the meantime, they will be starting to get ready for 2016. I'm sure they would appreciate hearing any thoughts or ideas from you - concerning potential speakers or entertainment, touch base with our 2016 Little Sir, Len Fadda.

Dues or Voluntary Donations

According to SIR Rule 44, Branches cannot assess an initiation fee to join SIR. However, the expenses of each Branch may be defrayed through mandatory "dues" or "voluntary contributions". Before 2013, Branches were only allowed to collect voluntary contributions to cover their expenses. In 2013, the State SIR Board responded to the fact that some 5-10% of the Sirs in many of the Branches were benefiting as members of SIR, but without contributing financially. This is morally inappropriate as well as unfair for the 5-10% to "ride on the backs" of the 90-95% who were contributing each year. As a result, Rule 44 was revised to allow Branches to choose to collect mandatory "annual dues".

Our Branch has always complied with the SIR Rule 44 by having no initiation fee. Each year, we ask our members to make a "Voluntary Donation" of \$20 to cover our branch's financial responsibilities. However, throughout the years, as with many other Branches, some 5-10% of our members have felt no obligation to support our Branch financially. We are grateful that this has had minimal financial impact on our Branch's operations. However, morally every active member should want to support the SIR Branch that they have chosen to join, and in which they are receiving the same benefits as those who do contribute each year (some of our members contribute even more frequently).

At the August Board meeting, our Board considered collecting an annual "mandatory dues" of \$20 instead of continuing with the "voluntary contribution". This is consistent with the findings and decision of the State SIR Board and Rule 44, and also with the practice of other organizations as well. An annual \$20 dues equates to \$1.66 per month, which certainly

Continued on page 2

In this issue

- Message from Big Sir
- Little Sir report; Birthday Boys; Golf news
- Activities
- Bowling news; Bridge; SIR Travel; Calendar
- Membership
- Dinner with the ladies
- Greenhorn Creek golf; Celebration of life
- Policy and responsibility clauses

Continued from page 1

appears to be a very reasonable amount to expect for membership in such a great organization. At the September Board meeting, the Board will be making a final decision about whether or not to start collecting a \$20 mandatory dues effective for the year 2016.

See you at lunch on September 1st - the first Tuesday in September. Bring a guest – recruit a new member, get a free Lunch!

Jim Davis, Your Big Sir,

Patriots Jet Team based at the Byron Airport. A tour of the Patriots Jet facility will happen after the SIR meeting adjourns. Spouses are welcome.

September birthdays

Jim Avila, Wayne Berry, Ed Fitzpatrick, John Fry, Tony Guarascio, John Jewell, Tom Kenny, Ed Konieczny, Bob Lange, Dick Macdonald, Don Roth, Tom State, Brad Vinson, Bruce Watkins.

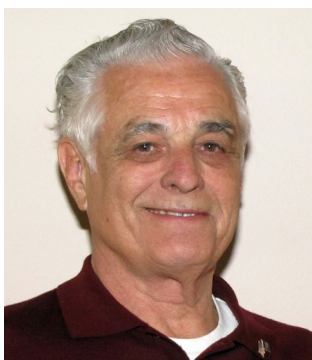
Micheal White, Little Sir

August free lunch winners

LaVan Bock
Steve Greenfield.

August Speaker

Our August speaker was Virgil Koehn, Manager of Water & Waste Water for Discovery Bay.



Golf News, Dale Welin

The SIR golf tournament will be held on Sept. 22, 2015. We are going to try something a little different this month. A couple of you have suggested we have a "guest" day and we will try this in September. We have reserved spots for 28 players in total off the first tee. We will accept reservations for the first 28 players who pay the green fee for you and your guest. If and when we get to 28 players, the field will be closed.



When: Tuesday, Sept. 22, 2015
Where: Las Positas GC, Livermore
Time: 9:00 am from the 1st tee
Cost: \$45 for golf cart and prizes
Format: To be announced

Please let Dale know of your interest and get your name(s) on the player list. Then send your check to Dale ASAP. Remember, the first 28 who sign up AND pay will be in the tournament at Las Positas GC. If you have any questions, call Dale at 516-9463.

We would encourage any member of Branch 161 who would like to play on September 22 with us, please call Dale Welin at 516-9463. Give us a try. We play once a month from March through October.

Dale Welin



September luncheon menu

Chicken Parmesan w/Pasta Alfredo & Vegetables.

Please note: If you have any special dietary needs, please call Tom Kirtley at 240-8071 or email Bill Konold at bkonold@comcast.net by Friday before the meeting to arrange this.

September Speaker

Our September speaker will be David Ringler of the

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

Lynn and Harriet Pierce will be hosting the next wine tasting on Thursday, September 24th. If you are interested in attending this very popular activity please contact Dick Donald at 513-2849, or email DickDonald@Yahoo.com by Friday, September 4th.

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.

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 Cars, Bob Damico

A variety of cars (12) were on display for our viewing pleasure, 1930 vintage to 2015. There was a lot of conversation about the memories of the old and the fascination of the new. Thanks to all the participants for sharing their rides.



More pictures on page 5.

Bowling News, Paul Elmer

As of this date (August 17th) with only one week of competition left before the sweepstakes week and the end of the summer league Keep on Rollin (Ron Wilson, Mitch Wisinskii, Art Lopez, John Fry) being in the lead over 10 Spot (Art Solomon, Lorraine Burt, Mary Branscum, Fred Critchfield) by 3 1/2 games with four to go in the position round has to only tie or win one game to claim the championship. 10 Spot MUST win all four games to claim the same championship. This should be a good match to watch. The winter season starts the Monday after labor day so if you would like to bowl and have not signed up please contact John Fry as soon as possible.



Season high scores are for the men: scratch series - Greg Mattus - 707, scratch game - Bob Damico - 268, handicap series - Don Rentzel - 759, handicap game - Art Solomon - 291. For the women - scratch series - Marie Wilson 593, scratch game - Mary Branscum - 216, Handicap series - Peg Hampton - 732, and handicap game - Beverly Denn - 284.

For the answer to last month's question about Willy B. Goode and his two handed bowling because, he stayed with his right hand; A league vote is not necessary to transfer from two handed to one handed. However, since he now has an average that it not indicative of his ability, a Board of Directors meeting should be held to adjust his average upward.

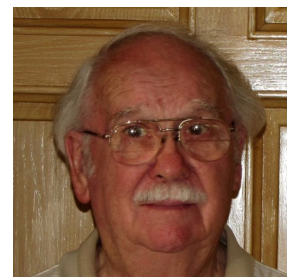
We have 24 Sirs and guests competing in Reno for one of the biggest SIR tournaments of the year. This number is down from last year when we had 30 people competing in a field of about 150 entries. Reno is always fun to bowl because of the challenge of overcoming the intimidation of the Bowling Stadium itself with 80 lanes and 80 ft high ceilings. There is some glare on the lanes due to the lighting being quite bright but high over the lanes. Because of the largeness of the building, it makes the 60 ft long lanes appear to be longer. All of this adds to the challenge to do well. Concentration is the key.

The next tournament is in September on Sunday and/or Monday the 13th and 14th at Cloverleaf Bowl in Fremont. 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.



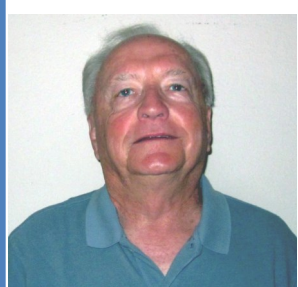
If the guest wishes to become a SIR member, the sponsor should obtain an application form from Membership Chairman Len Fadda. Have the guest complete the form, and return it to Len. The prospective member and their sponsor should attend the next regular luncheon meeting.

The Executive Board will vote on the membership, and the new member will be inducted immediately prior to the luncheon.

One new member was inducted at our August 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.



David Holmes retired in January, 2015 from Executive Management at Ultratech Inc.

Hobbies & interests include astronomy, baseball, coins, cooking, gardening, hiking

and model railroads.

David's sponsor was Alan Jarvie.

Hot Cars

See article on page 3.

2015 Dodge Charger~370HP, 350 C.I., Top Speed 140+ MPH



1930 Ford Model A~201 C.I.~40HP~top speed 65MPH



Dinner With The Ladies, Alan Jarvie

When: September 22, 2015.

Where: Shirasoni Japanese Restaurant, 6367 Lone Tree Way, Brentwood CA.

Time: Arrival & Cocktails starting at 5:00 pm

Dinner served at: 6:00 pm

Menu Choices (Dinner includes appetizer, dessert & non-alcoholic beverage):

- Chicken Teriyaki grilled with sweet teriyaki sauce
- New York Steak (Hibachi Grilled)
- Filet Mignon (Hibachi Grilled)
- Hibachi Shrimp grilled with lemon & butter
- Hibachi Salmon grilled with a hint of lemon
- Vegetable Delight (Assorted fresh vegetables grilled in a light sauce)



All entrees include Mushroom Soup, Green Salad with Ginger Dressing, Hibachi Vegetables and choice of steamed, fried or garlic fried rice.

Cost: \$27.00 per person (includes tax and tip)

Deadline: We need your RSVP no later than Thursday, September 17 – there will be envelopes at our General Meeting on September 1.

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

Directions: Shirasoni is located at 6367 Lone Tree Way, Brentwood.

From Discovery Bay, take Hwy 4 to Marsh Creek, turn left and continue on Marsh Creek to the Bypass and turn right (north). Exit the Bypass at Lone Tree Way; go east (right) on Lone Tree Way and remain in the right lane. After the SECOND stop light (Shady Willow Lane), take the SECOND driveway into the shopping area; you will see Shirasoni ahead and to the left (next to Mancini's Sleepworld).

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

Your Name(s):

Phone:

Your Menu choice(s):

Chicken Teriyaki _____ Filet Mignon _____ Hibachi Shrimp _____
 Hibachi Salmon _____ New York Steak _____ Vegetable Delight _____

And your rice selection(s):

Steamed Rice _____ Fried Rice _____ Garlic Fried Rice _____

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.

Phil Paulson celebration of life

There will be a Celebration of Life for Phil Paulson at the Delta Community Presbyterian Church, 1900 Willow Lake, Discovery Bay on September 19 at 1:00 PM. After the celebration there will be a potluck in the church Fellowship Hall.

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 email Bill Konold or call Tom Kirtley by the Friday preceding the meeting if you don't plan to attend.

Bill Konold, bkonold@comcast.net

Tom Kirtley, 240-8071

Your newsletter team



Tom Jones
Editor



LaVan Bock
*email
distribution*



Dennis Pachucki
*Paper copies
and mailing*

Let us know if we can improve this publication.

**This page left intentionally blank
To facilitate hard copy mailing.**