



SIR BRANCH 161 NEWS

October, 2015 Volume 15 Issue 10

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

Jim Davis, Big Sir

Membership Goal - 2015

At our luncheons this year, we have had a number of guests. Several of our members have been reaching out and inviting new guys to visit us. Good job guys! Most of those guests have become members and are enjoying getting to know new people, being reacquainted with former friends (it's a small world), and becoming involved in our activities.



Our Branch's membership goal for this year is 159 members by year's end - i.e. 2014's membership + 1 is the SIR, Inc. 2015 goal for each Branch. The deadline to meet this goal is effectively 2 month's away, given that December is our annual Christmas Luncheon with the Ladies. (BTW - Be prepared to buy your tickets, which will be available starting with the coming October 13th luncheon. See our little Sir's article in this edition of our newsletter.)

While we are very excited to have had 16 new members join us so far this year, we have experienced an unexpected number of losses in membership: We have been saddened by the loss of several members who passed away this year; three of our men asked to be placed on inactive status, and some have moved out of the area. We are also struggling with our goal to invite 27 guests as prospective new members. At present, we have invited 19 guests. However, November will be the last month in which we can induct new members this year. Guests in November will potentially be inducted in January 2016. So guests we invite on October 13th will be the last po-

tential new members this year.

Where do we stand? As mentioned above, our 2015 year-end membership goal is 159. Right now, we are at 150. We need at least 9 guests in October who will join us as new members in November.

Action Item - watch for friends, neighbors, new acquaintances who are "missing out", and invite them to be your guest at the October luncheon. In anticipation of being overwhelmed with guests, in Bill Konold's absence be sure to let Tom Kirtley know of any guests you plan to bring (925-240-8071) so we have enough food.

Annual Dues

In 2015, 94% of our Branch's members paid the suggested voluntary contribution of \$20 toward the financial support of our Branch and the SIR Inc. organization. A few of our members have even contributed further by telling us to "keep the change" when signing in for lunches. We are very grateful for all of this support. The financial support provided by our members helps to defray SIR Inc. and local Branch

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expenses, and even gives our Branch the ability to periodically provide encouragement to our members or their families during times of extreme personal challenge or loss.

While there is still not an initiation fee for joining SIR, a couple of years ago, the SIR Inc. Board revised the Rule on annual contributions by including the option for the Branches to collect mandatory annual dues. A number of successful SIR Branches have made this change to help ensure their continued ability to meet their financial commitments.

At their September meeting, our Board approved the collection of mandatory dues beginning with 2016. Our Board agreed to keep the amount of the dues at the present amount of \$20.00. Because there is no change in the amount to be paid in support of our annual expenses, implementation of this change will effectively go unnoticed for just about all of our members.

Even now you can join your fellow members who have already paid their annual dues for 2016. You can bring it in cash to the next luncheon, or write a check payable to SIR Branch 161. If you want, you can mail your check to our Treasurer, Glenn MacBride, at 1860 Tangier Terrace, Discovery Bay, CA 94505. Thanks in advance.

October Luncheon

We are back on track, with our October luncheon set for the 2nd Tuesday - bring a guest, and we'll see you on October 13th.

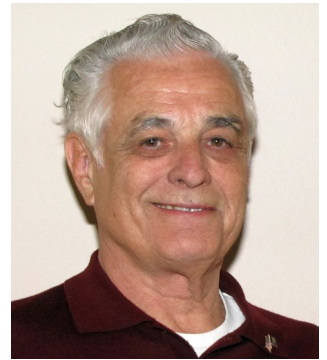
Enjoy a great retirement gentlemen.
Jim Davis, your Big Sir,

**Micheal White, Little Sir****September free lunch winners**

John Emerson
Dick Donald

October Speaker

Our October speaker will be Don Finley, Contra Costa County CSI.

**October luncheon menu**

Beef Bourguignon over Risotio & 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.

October birthdays

Firoz Bharwani, Joey Brignolio, Gary Campbell, Richard Clark, Michael Cline, Dale Davidson, Larry Mensch, Ken Pierce, Marty Price, Al Sauvadon, Gary Tucker, Ron Wilson.

Christmas luncheon tickets

Sirs, the Christmas Lunch with the ladies will take place on December 8, 2015 at noon. Tickets will be available at our next meeting 10/13/15. The price is \$23.00 per person. We will have a great lunch and Christmas songs by the Brentwood Singers. The ladies will also receive a red rose. Those of you who will not be able to make the next meeting can either contact Sir Glen McBride, Treasurer, or wait until the November meeting. **REMEMBER** we have sold out in the past.

Photo, left ... Little Sir, Micheal White, presents a certificate of appreciation to Ed Daley for his Patriots Jets Team presentation at the September Lunch.

Golf News, Dale Welin

The September golf tournament was played at Las Positas Golf Club in Livermore on Tuesday, September 22. We only had 17 members play and 3 guests. Our efforts and plans were to focus on all the par threes, with prize money for closest to the pins (CTP) and also for 2nd closest. We were hoping that we would have more guests and the CTP would have been a way for them to cash in on the prizes. It did not work out that way, as the members won all the CTP prize money. We also had a token prize fund for low net scores for the members.



After a horrible time of getting to Las Positas GC due to traffic, we had some wind and a long golf course facing us.

The CHAMPIONSHIP tournament for our Branch is scheduled for October 20, 2015. The entry details are below.

When: Tuesday, Oct. 20, 2015.

Where: Lone Tree GC, Antioch.

Time: 9:00 am shotgun start.

Cost: \$44.00 covers golf, cart, prize money and trophy cost.

Format: Net scores, count every stroke, no adjusted scores for determining the low net winner.

Cutoff date: Tuesday, October 13, at the regular monthly luncheon.

As a couple of players found out this past month, please email me, call, or see me and ask that your name be added to the player list that I keep. That way, we will know that you want to play. Then send your check payable to Dale Welin.

All players must have played in at least 2 tournaments this year to be eligible for the low net award.

EVERYONE who plays will be eligible for the prize money. We hope that the field will be larger for this last tournament for 2015 and that you will be interested in playing. If you have any questions, please call Dale.

Dale Welin

Day At The Races, Mitch Wisinski

SIR is offering *A Day at the Races* on Friday October 23, 2015 at Golden Gate Fields. Cost is \$33.00 per person, which includes valet parking, entry into Turf Club for a great delicious buffet lunch, and a fun-filled racing program. The first post is at 12 noon (suggest arriving before then). Must provide your own transportation to and from race site. If interested, contact Mitchell Wisinski at 1-408-515-7655 to be put on the list and arrange advance payment.



Located off Interstate 80 along the San Francisco Bay in the City of Albany, eight miles from downtown Oakland and 11 miles from San Francisco. Take 'Gilman Street' or 'Buchanan Street' exits to enter the track.

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

Allan and Pam Jarvie will be hosting the next wine tasting on Thursday, October 22nd. If you are interested in attending this very popular activity please contact Dick Donald at 513-2849, or email DickDonald@Yahoo.com by Friday, October 9th.

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.

Patriot Jets Team

Following the September lunch presentation, approximately 70 Sirs and wives visited the hangar at the Byron Airport for a tour. Their facility is very impressive; The hangar contains 8 fighter jets, a flight worthy Russian MIG 17, a mobile MIG 17 Display unit, a stunt plane, a 4 passenger Bonanza, a Lear Jet lookalike, semi truck/trailer (that acts as their transporter, shop, and Pilot meeting room), computer classroom setup for the PJT Foundation students, lounge area, and more. Very Impressive and spotless!! You're missing out if you haven't seen this "Hidden Jewel" right in our own back yard. Check their website for their upcoming events / opportunities: www.PJTF.org



Bowling News, Paul Elmer

The 2015 - 2016 winter SIR Monday Bowling League started on September 14th with 20 teams. This is one team short of our 21 teams last year, but is better in the respect that, with no vacant teams, we will always be bowling competitively against real people and not fictional handicaps.



We are one week (as of this writing) into the new season with four teams tied for first place. They are: Team 4, Split Happens, (Jean Scurlock, Beth Edwards, Harris Edwards, and Tom Kirtley), Team 8, Ed's Ten Pinner (Terry Damico, Ed Stewart, Elosie Gatson, and Bob Damico), Team 12 (Tracy Moran, Pete Prather, Bill Momaney, Mary Patterson) and Team 15 (Don Rentzel, Jim Davis, and 2 vacancies). Team 2 (last year's winners) are 2 games back but this is REALLY early!

After only one week the individual leaders are for the men: Scratch Series, Jose Arroyo 662, Scratch Game John Fry 257. For the women: Scratch Series Rosie Elmer 567, Scratch Game Eloise Gatson 205.

Only two Sirs went to the tournament in Fremont at Cloverleaf Bowl. They were; Greg Mattus and Curtis Manning; Unfortunately neither one finished in the money. But that leads us into the two upcoming tournaments. The first is at Citrus Heights in Sacramento on Oct. 5th and 7th, and our own Bob Matteucci Memorial Tournament held on Oct. 13th and 15th. This tournament usually has 90 to 110 bowlers come to Harvest Park Bowl from areas like Yuba City, Lake Tahoe, Fremont, and Modesto. If you are able to attend and would like to watch the competition we would enjoy it very much. We can always use a good cheering section.

Question of the month:

Which professional bowler has the most "tournament" 300's? How many?

Paul

SIR Travel Opportunities,

Mitch Wisinski

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.



Check out the **Day At The Races** on page 3, and three **upcoming SIR travel opportunities** on page 7 of this newsletter.

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 September 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.

In Memoriam

Bob Howe, long time member of SIR Branch 161 and the DBSMGC, passed away on Tuesday night, September 22, 2015, at the Westmont Senior Residence in Brentwood. He was a Charter Member of Branch 161, joining in December 1990. Health reasons forced him to go inactive in 2011, and he later resigned in 2014. Bob was 86 years old. A memorial service was scheduled for Monday, September 28th, at 11:00 AM at the Callaghan Mortuary in Livermore. Please keep Bob and his family in your thoughts and prayers.

Sympathy cards may be sent to Bob's son; Warren Howe, 12120 Mines Rd. Livermore, Ca. 94550.

Coy Madsen passed away on Friday September 4, 2015. He was 83 years old. Coy was a Charter Member, joining Branch 161 in November of 1990, went inactive for health reasons in September 2014. He was an active (he was a bowler) and loyal member for 23+ years, and was one of the first 6 to receive the 20-Year Membership Award in April 2013. Coy's Celebration of Life will be held at the Discovery Bay Yacht Club, 5871 Marina Rd., Discovery Bay, on Saturday, October 3, 2015, from 12:00 PM to 4:00PM. At the family's request, in lieu of flowers, please send donations, in Coy's Memory, to your favorite charity.

Please keep Coy, his wife Shirley and family in your thoughts and prayers.

Upcoming SIR Travel Opportunities

Three great Travel Opportunities await you; These are offered by other SIR Branches, but you are welcome to join in:

November 5-23, 2015 Crossroads of Turkey. This land tour of Turkey begins with 3 days in Istanbul and then continues to Asiatic Turkey, with a stop at the WW I battlefield of Gallipoli. Stops will include many ancient Biblical, Roman and Greek sites, as well as fascinating geological features and museums, showing history back to the Hittites. The cost per person is \$3795, either single or double, and includes air fare from SFO, tour transportation, all hotel accommodations, and 35 meals. An optional 5-day pre-trip to Athens is available for \$1295. Offered by Branch 62 Travel. Call Jim Hohenshelt at 408-394-7226 or Roy Jordan at 408-735-8765.

December 26, 2015-January 3, 2016 New Year's Celebration. A New Year's Celebration on a Western Caribbean Cruise. Prepare to enjoy a better than usual way to greet the New Year. The event includes a one-night stay in New Orleans and then boarding the

Norwegian Dawn for seven days of freestyle cruising and visiting the following ports of call: Cozumel (Mexico), Roatan, Bay Islands (Honduras), Harvest Caye (Belize) and Costa Maya (Mexico). Prices range from \$2350 to \$3530 PPDO. Price includes home pickup, roundtrip air fare to New Orleans and all shipboard meals. Offered by Branch 1 Travel. Call Philip Manriquez at 650-871-5009.

January 9-19, 2016 Mexican Riviera Trip This is a round trip cruise from San Francisco. The ports of call will be: Puerto Vallarta, Manzanillo, Mazatlan, Cabo San Lucas. Some of the attractions include: Splendid beaches and lush jungles, early architecture and towns, wildlife, Mexico's largest turtle sanctuary, kayaking, snorkeling or scuba diving, zip-lining and other outdoor adventures such as dolphin encounters and whale watching. Costs range from \$1455 to \$1995 PPDO, depending on cabin selection and includes home pick up to & from the San Francisco Pier and all shipboard meals & entertainment. Offered by Branch 62 Travel. Call Roy Jordan at 408-735-8765 or Jim Hohenshelt at 408-394-7226.

Dinner With The Ladies, Alan Jarvie

When: Tuesday, October 27, 2015.

Where: Cap's Oak Street Bar & Grill, 144 Oak Street, Brentwood CA

Time: Arrival & Cocktails starting at 5:00 pm

Dinner served at: 6:00 pm

Menu Choices Dinner includes salad, dessert & non-alcoholic beverage (iced tea, water, coffee)

- Broiled Salmon with rice pilaf
- Stuffed Pork Chops with garlic mashed potatoes & fresh vegetables
- Tri-tip Steak with garlic mashed potatoes & fresh vegetables
- Lamb Shanks with garlic mashed potatoes & fresh vegetables

Cost: \$28.00 per person (includes tax and tip)

Deadline: We need your RSVP no later than Thursday, October 22 – there will be envelopes at our General Meeting on October 13.

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: Cap's is located at 144 Oak Street (at the corner of 2nd Street) in downtown Brentwood



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

Your Name(s):

Phone:

Your Menu choice(s):

Broiled Salmon _____

Stuffed Pork Chops _____

Lamb Shanks _____

Tri-tip Steak _____

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 October meeting if you don't plan to attend.

Bill Konold, bkonold@comcast.net

Tom Kirtley, 240-8071

Your newsletter team



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Let us know if we can improve this publication.