



# SIR BRANCH 161 NEWS

Celebrating our 26th year! Dec., 2017

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

## Len Fadda, Big Sir

You the membership have made this a special year for SIR Branch #161. Great membership growth coupled with many new guests visiting our luncheon meetings.



Thank you for making my year as Big Sir enjoyable, and thanks to the hard work of our Board of Directors. Kudos to all!

We lost some very dear friends during the year and we will miss them dearly. Many of us have expressed our feelings and a commitment to the families through difficult times.

I would like to wish each of you a joyous holiday season and a New Year filled with good health, travel and happiness.

Big Sir Len Fadda

### In this issue

- Message from Big Sir; Little Sir report
- Activities
- Membership
- 20-year award; Travel;
- 2018 meetings calendar; Bowling news
- Golf Champion trophy; Update your contact information
- In Memoriam
- 2018 Golf Tournament Away
- Dinner with the ladies survey
- Policy and responsibility clauses

## Little Sir, Larry Mensch

### December luncheon

The Holiday Lunch with the Ladies on December 12th will feature the Celebration Ringers. The cost is \$25.00 per person and you must buy your tickets beforehand. You can buy your tickets from Bill Momaney. Please contact him at (925) 513-4685. His address is 690 Central Park Place, Brentwood, CA 94513.



Larry

### December luncheon menu

Roast Turkey Breast, Yukon Mashed Potatoes and Gravy, Vegetable Medley, Cranberry Sauce and a Special Dessert

### December birthdays

Colin Brodie, Dick Donald, Gary Hess,  
Greg Moran, John Reichenbach, Robert Sanocki  
Robert White, Craig Wilson.

**Next regular luncheon meeting:** January 16, 2018

Note that this is the third Tuesday of the month.

## 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.



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

### Wine Tasting, Dick Donald, 513-2849

There will be no wine tasting in December, but the event will resume in January. If you are interested in attending this very popular activity please contact Dick Donald at the number above, or email DickDonald@Yahoo.com

### Beer Tasting, Paul Elmer, 240-0543

After the November SIR meeting we had four beers for taste, smoothness, and drinkability consideration in the comparison of Porter and Stout. Almost all beers in the 1800's were Porters, particularly in Europe. In about 1840 some breweries changed the ratio of mixture of the malts resulting in porters with more strength. These became Stouts. The more strength the beer has the more stout the taste. The four beers that were considered were; Guinness Draught, Guinness Stout, Lagunitas Stout, and DeShutes Black Butte Porter. The winner was Guinness Draught with Deshutes Porter a very close 2nd, 156 to 153.

Beer tasting will resume after the January SIR meeting. If you are interested in participating in this event, contact Paul Elmer or John Fry (783-5614).

### Christmas Lights Boat Ride - Dick Donald – 513-2849

Once again we are going to charter the Capt. Morgan boat, "Rosemarie", for an evening ride around the local bays to observe the Christmas lights. The event will be on Wednesday, December 13th, at 5:30 PM. We will have an appetizer tray provided by the Boardwalk restaurant and drinks will be available for

purchase aboard. The event this year is sold out but we plan to do this again next year.

### Bike Riding – Jerry Wiebe – 916-206-9221

We are planning bike riding as a new activity for our members. Jerry Wiebe is organizing this and is currently looking for other Sirs to join him. If you are interested, contact Jerry and let him know what level activity you would like to participate in, and where and how often you would like to ride.

### Pickleball, Bob Lyman, 628-7906

*"If you are looking for more fun – try pickleball"*

Come join us and have loads of fun playing pickleball. Pickleball is a cross between tennis & pingpong, played with paddles on a court very similar to a tennis court.

We have drop in play at Cornell Park on the Discovery Bay public pickleball courts at 505 Discovery Bay Blvd. Play is on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday mornings at 9:00 a.m.

Beginners are always welcome and an experienced player will work with new players. Just show up and we'll teach you the game on any of our days of play.

If you (or maybe you and your wife) would like a private introduction to the game, call me and I'll see that it happens.

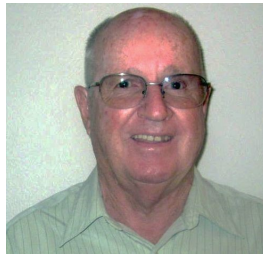


Little Sir Larry Mensch presents a certificate of appreciation to Bill Scanlan, our November speaker.

## Membership, Will Myers

To continue enjoying the activities and camaraderie of our fellow Sir Branch members, it is essential that we continue to bring in new members to counter the loss due to various reasons. Only through aggressive recruiting by members can our membership maintain an acceptable level. Many Sir Branches have ceased to exist due to a lack of a sufficient number of new members to replace those lost. Invite fellow golfing, bowling, fishing, boating or similar activity friends, neighbors, church and other social association members or sport car enthusiast. A larger membership assures the continued existence of such activities as golf and bowling, as well as the start of new ones. More activities attract more men to join and participate.

**A member who brings in a guest will receive a bottle of wine.** If the guest decides to become a member, his sponsor will be rewarded with a free lunch certificate. The member who sponsors the most new members for the year will receive an additional free lunch certificate.

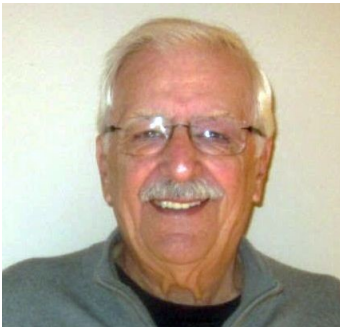


Branch members wishing to sponsor a new member should invite the prospect to a regular luncheon meeting as his guest. The guest will receive a package containing a welcoming letter from our Big Sir, a Membership Application Form and a copy of our Branch Newsletter. If the guest decides to become a SIR member, he should complete the Membership Application and send it to Membership Chairman, Will Myers (see top of Membership Application for mailing address). The prospective member and his sponsor will be asked to attend the next regular luncheon. The Branch Executive Board will vote on the membership and if approved, the new member will be inducted prior to that luncheon.

One new member was inducted at our November 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.



### Don Shegich

Don retired after 25 years with Mars Inc. He has lived in the Brentwood area for 8 years. Don and his wife Pat have 2 granddaughters and 3 great grandsons.

Hobbies include reading, watching sports on TV, and lunch with friends.

Don was our Branch 161 Big Sir in 2004. He was sponsored by Bob Damico.





*Big Sir Len Fadda presents LaVan Bock with the 20-year award.*

## 2018 Branch 161 Meetings Calendar

01/16/2018	07/10/2018
02/13/2018	08/14/2018
03/13/2018	09/11/2018
04/10/2018	10/9/2018
05/8/2018	11/13/2018
06/5/2018	12/11/2018

### Travel, Dennis Pachucki

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 Dennis Pachucki at (408) 309-5206.



### Branch 161 on the web

[www.sir161.org](http://www.sir161.org)

For more Branch 161 news & photos, and links to state SIR information, visit our web site. Current and prior issues of this newsletter and the latest issue of SIR Happenings can be downloaded via links on our web site. If you need help with the web site, contact Tom Jones at (209) 298-5006 or email: [webmaster@sir161.org](mailto:webmaster@sir161.org)

### Bowling News, Paul Elmer

In November's Bowling News Team 15, In the Hunt, (Karen Capra, Dennis Pachucki, Mike Quier, Bill Konold) was in 1st place by 4 games over team 16, Pin Pals (Lorraine Burt, Wanda Lewis, Fred Critchfield, Art Solomon). The lead has now been cut to 2 games with 3 other teams still in contention for the first half championship ending in Mid January 2018. The lead can be a contentious one and can change by 4 games in one week, which actually keeps many teams in contention. Come on guys and gals keep the pressure on!!!

Season high scores are for the women: Scratch Se-



ries; Vicky Reid 672, Scratch Game; Julie Bayer 237, Handicap Series; Eloise Gatson 814, Handicap Game; Pam Jarvie 295. For the men Scratch Series; Bob Damico 716, Scratch Game; Mitch Wisinski 279, Handicap Series; Russ Reid 822, Handicap Game; Fred Critchfield 302.

We had only 4 people show up for the tournament at Clayton Valley Bowl on the 14th and 15th and no one placed for awards. The lane conditions were a little difficult and seemed to change somewhat during the competition. This, of course, is normal and we have to be able to read the lanes and adapt to the changes. The last tournament of the year is in Fremont on December 3rd.

Paul



Dale Welin presents 2017 Champion Randy Zierau with the 2017 Golf Championship trophy.

### Please update your contact information

We will shortly be preparing our 2018 Branch 161 Handbook. If you have changed your street address, phone number(s), or email address in the last year, please let Tom Jones know at (209) 298-5006 or email: [webmaster@sir161.org](mailto:webmaster@sir161.org)

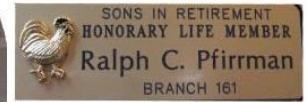
Updates that don't make it before we commit to the printer will be included in the 2019 Handbook.

### Editor's note

Special thanks to Bob Damico for various photographs in this newsletter.

### In Memory of Ralph Pfirman

August 17, 1934 - November 9, 2017



We were sad to hear of the loss of our fellow Sir and friend, Ralph Pfirman. Ralph, a former member of Branch 161, passed away on November 9, 2017 in San Jose, CA.

Ralph joined our Branch in June of 1998, and held several positions on the Branch Executive Committee. He was our Big Sir in 2005 (and part of 2004), and continued to serve as an advisor until his transfer to the San Jose Branch in August of 2015. Ralph was instrumental in starting our annual handbook in 2006, and was a key contributor to many of our Branch successes. He was awarded Honorary Life Membership in July of 2009.

There will be a Masonic Memorial Service for Ralph on December 10, 2017 at 1:00 p.m., at the San Jose Masonic Center, 2500 Masonic Drive, San Jose, CA 95125. As part of their planning, the family has requested that we provide an approximate number of attendees. Please notify Bob Damico (email [deltacruz@comcast.net](mailto:deltacruz@comcast.net) or phone 925-872-4920) if you plan on attending.

Meanwhile, please keep Ralph and his family in your thoughts and prayers.

## SIR Golf Tournament Away

**Where:** Saddle Creek at Copperopolis

**When:** May 2-3, 2018

### Golf on 5/2 (Wednesday)

Tee times starting at 11:00 am      \$67  
 Prize money per player              \$5  
 Closest to the pin on all par 3's  
 Dinner at 6:30                          \$29.95 inclusive  
 Evening activity: Pass The Buck or Mexican Train.

### Golf on 5/3 (Thursday)

Shotgun at 9:00 am                      \$67  
 Prize money per player              \$5  
 Putting contest  
 Closest to the pin on all par 3's  
 Appetizers at 2:00 pm                  \$12.50

### Rooming Arrangements

Bungalows      \$237.44 per night

Two kings, Four Twins, or other. Can sleep as many as you want at the same cost per night.

### \$100 deposit required by mid January.

Sign up and send your deposit to Larry Mensch: 4308 Monterey Court, Discovery Bay, CA 94505.

### Format:

Partners best ball (couples division and men's division); You can pick your partner.

Eclectic, best ball of the two players. You can improve your score on the second day for any hole. Prizes will be given for the 1st day, and then total after the second day.

### Cost: One couple both playing golf sharing Bungalow with another couple two nights:

Bungalow (Sharing with _____ )	\$237.44
Green fees      4 x \$67	\$268.00
Dinners          4 x \$29.95	\$119.80
Appetizers      2 x \$12.50 (second day)	\$25.00
Entry Fees      4 x \$5	\$20.00
Total	\$670.24

### Cost: One couple, only one golfer sharing Bungalow with another couple two nights:

Bungalow (Sharing with _____ )	\$237.44
Green fees      2 x \$67	\$134.00
Dinners          4 x \$29.95	\$119.80
Appetizers      2 x \$12.50 (second day)	\$25.00
Entry Fees      2 x \$5	\$10.00
Total	\$512.24

*Continued on page 7...*

**Cost: Single golfer sharing Bungalow with 3 other golfers:**

The Bungalow cost is \$237.44 no matter how many stay in it per night, consequently the cost is shared by how many people are staying in a bungalow.

Bungalow	\$237.44 x 2 nights divided by 4	\$118.72
	Sharing with	
	1. _____	
	2. _____	
	3. _____	
Green fees	2 x \$67	\$134.00
Dinners	2 x \$29.95	\$59.90
Appetizers	1 x \$12.50	\$12.50
Entry Fees	2 x \$5	\$10.00
	Total	\$335.12

**Other Activities during the day for non-golfers:**

There is a lot to see and do in this area. There are services that will drive you around in a group. Web-site that would be very helpful in planning is gocalaveras.com. A brochure is probably available from that web site.

There are also a lot of wine tasting places in this area. Plan ahead for a tour of the area and you will have a great time.

**Also, nearby to consider are the following:****Copperopolis Town Square Shopping Area****Town of Murphys:**

Day Spa

Fitness center

Mercer Caverns for walking tours

Main Street wineries

**Angels Camp:**

Historic Area

**Arnold:**

Big Trees State Park

Arnold Rim Trail for hiking

Disc Golf at White Pines Lake

**San Andreas:**

Museum

Pickle Patch restaurant

**Casinos:**

Black Oak in Tuolumne

Jackson Rancheria in Jackson

## Dinner with the Ladies: 2017 Restaurants Survey

We'd like your thoughts on the eight restaurants we dined at in 2017. *For each DWTL that you attended*, on a scale of 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent), please indicate your opinion of the quality of the meal, the service, and value for the price, and also whether or not you think we should have future dinners at this restaurant. We'd also appreciate any additional comments you have, and your suggestions on locations for future dinners.

Please sign, so that we can get back to you with any questions, and either a) mail to Dennis Pachucki at 1757 Dolphin Place, b) give it to Dennis or Karen Capra at Monday bowling, or c) bring it to the January meeting.

Thanks for your help

Restaurant	Date	Price	Meal Quality	Service	Value	Future DWTL?
Black Angus	Jan 24	\$ 25	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	Yes No
Sports Bar & Grill	Feb 28	\$ 28	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	Yes No
Texas Roadhouse	Mar 28	\$ 23	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	Yes No
Sweeney's	Apr 25	\$ 25	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	Yes No
Tao San Jin	Jun 27	\$ 27	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	Yes No
Shirasoni	Aug 23	\$ 28	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	Yes No
Olive Garden	Sep 26	\$ 27	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	Yes No
Cap's	Oct 24	\$ 28	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	Yes No

Comments & Suggestions:

Your Name:



## Membership Requirements & Principles

Membership is open to men retired from full time occupation, regardless of age, race, color or religion. Member volunteers and staff administer and govern all branch activities. Nominal annual dues 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 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

**Annual dues** defray the administrative costs of running our organization. For those who have yet to pay their dues, be sure to bring \$20 cash or check (made out to SIR Branch 161) to the next meeting. Or you can mail it to our Treasurer, Bill Momaney.

**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 by the Friday preceding the meeting if you don't plan to attend.

Bill Konold, bkonold@comcast.net

Tel: 634-2738

### Your newsletter team

*Let us know if we can improve this publication.*



**Tom Jones**  
*Editor*



**Dennis Pachucki**  
*Paper copies  
and mailing*