



SIR BRANCH 161 NEWS

Celebrating our 27th year! Jan., 2018

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

Larry Mensch, Big Sir

I hope your holiday went well and I wish you all a prosperous new year.

Our branch membership increased by 5 in 2017. Thanks to all of you who brought guests to our luncheon meetings. The number of guests we have at the luncheon meetings is directly related to our increase in membership. So, please keep bringing guests to our luncheons.

Our luncheon cost will be the same as last year. There was no increase by the Discovery Bay Country Club for our luncheons. Our first luncheon is on January 16th, which is the 3rd Tuesday in January. This is due to the Club's annual refurbishing in January.

Speaking of luncheons, if you cannot make a luncheon, notify Bill Konold. We get charged for all the lunches we order. So, you can avoid having to pay for a lunch you didn't get to eat, by letting Bill know by the Friday before the luncheon.



SIR is not only about monthly luncheons. There are a number of other activities in which you can participate to make your SIR membership more productive and enjoyable. Your spouse is also welcome to many of the activities. Check the Activities section of this newsletter.

Larry Mensch

Little Sir, Alan Jarvie

January speakers

Jan and Mike McCleery will be the speakers for our January 16th lunch. They will talk about the status of the "Water Fix" project, and efforts to "Stop the Tunnels" from being built.



January luncheon menu

Chicken Kiev, with wild rice pilaf & broccoli with cheese, Cookies/Brownies, Breadsticks & Butter, Coffee and Tea.

Please note: If you have any special dietary needs, please email or call Bill Konold:

bkonold@comcast.net or tel. 634-2738 by Friday before the meeting to arrange this.

In this issue

- Message from Big Sir; Little Sir report
- Annual dues; Activities;
- December photos
- Membership; Bowling news
- Golf news; Travel; 2018 meetings calendar
- Dinner with the ladies
- Policy and responsibility clauses

Continued on page 2

Next luncheon meeting: January 16, 2018

Continued from page 1

January birthdays

LaVan Bock, Lou Bruton, Alberto Delgado,
Paul Elmer, Tom Elmer, Len Fadda,
Dave Harrison, John Lopp, Art McDonald,
Jerry Nielsen, Russ Reid, Don Shegich,
Jack Thomas, Jerry Wiebe, Carl Wilkinson.

Annual dues

A reminder that annual dues of \$20 are again due in January. Please bring \$20 (cash or check payable to SIR Branch 161) to the next luncheon meeting and give to Jerry Wiebe, our Treasurer.

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.

Christmas Lights Boat Ride - Dick Donald – 513-2849

We just completed the second annual SIR Christmas Lights boat ride. We chartered the Captain Morgan boat "Rosemarie" for the evening of December 13th for a two hour ride through Discovery Bay to view the Christmas lights on many of the homes. Thirty two riders enjoyed an evening of cruising the bays of Discovery Bay, enjoying some fine appetizers catered by the Boardwalk restaurant, and drinking from the bar on board. We are already looking forward to doing this again next year.

Wine Tasting, Dick Donald, 513-2849

Wine tasting will resume for the new year with an event on Thursday, January 25th, hosted by Vince and Bobbi Vargas. If you are interested in attending this very popular activity please contact Dick Donald by Friday, January 12th at the number above, or email DickDonald@Yahoo.com

Beer Tasting, Paul Elmer, 240-0543

There was no beer tasting in December. The last category to be tasted will be that of lite beers, their origin, composition, taste, and other factors. This is scheduled for the January 2018 meeting.

Starting last June we compared IPA's, pale ales, lagers, pilsners, ales, porters, and stouts. With the last category being lites we will have to determine where we want to go with the tasting. Seasonal? Micro-brews? Specialty? Local? Inputs would be appreciated.

If you are interested in participating in this event, contact Paul or John Fry (783-5614).

Pickleball, Bob Lyman, 628-7906

"If you are looking for more fun – come try pickleball".

Come join us and have loads of fun playing pickleball. Pickleball is a cross between tennis and ping pong, played with paddles on a small tennis like court.

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

Beginners are always welcome, and an experienced player will always take time to teach you the game. Just show up, introduce yourself, and we'll get a paddle in your hands. 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.

Christmas Lights Boat Cruise

December 13, 2017 aboard the Captain Morgan boat "Rosemarie"



Photos by Vince Vargas

Christmas Lunch With The Ladies
Entertainment by the Brentwood Celebration Ringers

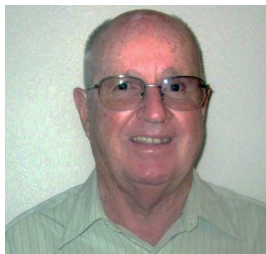


Photos by Vince Vargas

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 enthusiasts. 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.

No new members were inducted at our December 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.

Bowling News, Paul Elmer

After league play yesterday (Dec. 18 th), In the Hunt (Karen Capra, Dennis Pachucki, Mike Quier, Bill Konold) is no longer in the hunt because they have effectively won the first half of the bowling season by winning 2 games over One Short (Bill Bayer, Julie Bayer, Jerry Marshall), and earning the right to play the second half winner (assuming that they do not win the second half) for the privilege of having their names emblazoned on the Elwood Davis-Jim Heck perpetual trophy located at Harvest Park Bowl. The second place team We Be Trying (Mary Pitta-Fry, Jack Bree, Mary Branscum) find themselves 8 1/2 games back



with 8 to play. Bowling will resume on January 8th due to the Christmas and New Years holidays.

Season high scores are for the men: Scratch Series; Bob Damico 716, Scratch Game; Mitch Wisinski 279, Handicap Series; Russ Reid 832, Handicap Game; Ken Fanuchi; 310. For the women; Scratch Series; Vicky Reid 672, Scratch Game; Julie Bayer 237, Handicap Series; Mary Branscum 843, Handicap Game; Wanda Lewis 305. Well done people!!

The next tournament will be held in Stockton at Pacific Bowl on Tuesday January 9th. One day only. See John Fry or Paul Elmer or go online to sirinc.org for entry forms. This is a singles, doubles, all - events tournament. Entries must be received by Jan 5th.

Paul

Golf News, Dale Welin

We have received the 2018 NCGA dues from 30 players, including 5 new players. There are 7 of you that have not renewed as of Friday, Dec. 22. The cutoff is Saturday, December 30. The renewal fee is \$39.00 by Dec. 30 and after that it will be a new application and \$49.00. Please get your check to Dale Welin.

If there are other members in Branch 161 who would like to participate in our golf events, please call Dale Welin (516-9463).

The 2018 list of venues is almost completed. Thank you for your recommendations offered to us in October. We look forward to the first event on Tuesday, March 20, 2018 at Deer Ridge GC.

Happy holidays to all of the NCGA golf members.

Dale Welin



2018 Big Sir Larry Mensch presented the 20-Year membership awards certificate to Lou Bruton.

Need older issues of our newsletter?

Just a reminder that this and prior issues of our newsletter can be viewed/downloaded from our web site at www.sir151.org. Click on **Newsletters** in the menu near the top of the Home page.

Editor's Note

A big thanks to Vince Vargas and Bob Damico the for photographs in this issue.

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.



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

Dinner With The Ladies, Dennis Pachucki

When: Tuesday, January 23, 2018

Where: Black Angus Steakhouse, 2565 Sand Creek Road, Brentwood CA
(at the Streets of Brentwood).

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, lemonade, soda, coffee).

- Top Sirloin with baked potato and green beans:
- Grilled Salmon with wild rice and broccoli
- Grilled Chicken with mashed potatoes and broccoli
- Grilled Prawns with wild rice and broccoli
- Grilled Vegetable Cobb Salad

Cost: \$27.00 per person (includes tax, gratuities will be appreciated by the staff as you feel appropriate).

Deadline: We need your RSVP no later than Thursday, January 16. Please don't wait to pick up a form at our January 16 lunch, and then mail it, we won't get it in time.

Please send your checks to me in advance, made out to Dennis Pachucki, and mail to :

2125 Sand Point Road, Discovery Bay, CA 94505. My cell phone is 408-309-5206.

Black Angus is located in the Streets of Brentwood, just to the right of the main driveway entry.

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

Your Name(s):

Phone number:

Your menu choices:

☐ Top
Sirloin

☐ Rare

☐ Med
Rare

☐ Med

☐ Med
Well

☐ Well

☐ Grilled
Salmon

☐ Grilled
Chicken

☐ Grilled
Prawns

☐ Grilled vegetable
Cobb salad

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, Jerry Wiebe.

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 and email
distribution*



Dennis Pachucki
*Paper copies
and USPS mailing*