



SIR BRANCH 161 NEWS

Celebrating our 29th year! January, 2020

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

Roy Bristow, Big Sir

It is indeed an honor and a privilege to be chosen to serve as your Big Sir for 2020. I promise to be diligent in my position, and work hard to represent our SIR organization.



I want to thank our members for your support during my time as your Little Sir. Our achievements in 2019 would not have been possible without your help and participation. And a very special thank you to Alan Jarvie and to our Board and Officers who helped me prepare for the Big Sir position.

As your Big Sir I plan to work for increased participation at the BEC and Committee level to insure a stronger Succession Program for officers upcoming.

Further, I look forward to finding and establishing a way to expedite the check-in process at our monthly luncheon meetings.

And, I will initiate a "Did You Know?" program that will encourage a stronger social bond between SIR members, in addition to the many activities that we currently enjoy. This program will be a part of the Big Sir monthly newsletter contribution.

Next meeting: January 21, 2020

Note: This is the third Tuesday

Annual Dues

If you haven't yet paid your 2020 annual dues, bring a check for \$20, payable to SIR Branch 161, (or \$20 cash) to the next luncheon meeting.

In closing, I want to thank you in advance for your continued support and loyalty to our Great SIR Organization.

DID YOU KNOW? (See also page 7)



John Hull, a 1-year SIR member introduced by current member, Dave Ciruli. John and wife Claudia live on Starboard Drive in Discovery Bay.

John is a 5th generation Californian from the Sacramento area. A graduate of UC Davis with a degree in Biology, he worked with Sintex of Palo Alto, then on to a pharmaceutical company in Concord, Ca.

John's enthusiasm for Jeeps, classic cars, and hot rods would explain his email address of "johnjeeps7". He still participates in the annual Easter Jeep Safari in Moab, Utah.

Bet you didn't know that John was an Eagle Scout and was awarded the state's highest achievement award for 4H in high school.

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Rick Harris, Little Sir

Greetings fellow Sirs! This is my first newsletter as your new Little Sir, and I'd like to thank outgoing Little Sir Roy Bristow for his help and guidance in preparing for what's to come. His shoes will be hard to fill, but I'll try! I'd like to hear from any of you who have ideas for good speakers!



JANUARY SPEAKER

Our January speaker will be Steve Noble, a resident of Brentwood and fellow member to many of us at Discovery Bay Country Club. Steve is a Bay Area native of Scottish heritage, and is a member of the Caledonian Club of San Francisco.

His presentation is about the Scottish Highlands Gathering and Games, an event held annually, running continuously in the Bay Area for 154 years, and for the past 25 years in Pleasanton. It has the distinction of being the largest gathering of its kind in the entire USA! Steve will share information about the event's history, culture, games and other activities that many will find interesting, whether Scottish or not!

Don't miss this one! Many of us have at least a few drops of Scottish blood, and even for those who don't, you can be Scottish for a day!

DECEMBER ENTERTAINER

December's event was our popular and traditional "Christmas Luncheon with the Ladies". A full house of 160 people attended and enjoyed a wonderful holiday feast of turkey with all the trimmings while being entertained by Discovery Bay's own Bill Ramirez. This served a nice introduction to the holiday season, and a great time was had by all!



Bob White receives the Presidential Award from our 2019 Big Sir Alan Jarvie

January birthdays

Alberto Delgado, Paul Elmer, Tom Elmer,
Len Fadda, David Harrison, John Lopp,
Ken Marsh, Art McDonald, Jerry Nielsen,
Russ Reid, Don Shegich, Frank Smith,
Eric Swallowell, Jack Thomas, Jerry Wiebe

January luncheon menu

Rolls with butter
Chicken Kiev, wild rice pilaf, broccoli w/cheese
Cookies and brownies
Includes iced tea and coffee

Membership, Will Myers

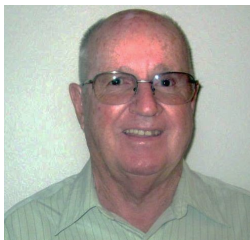
Last year we recruited 25 new members and lost only 15. While this gain of 10 members is most encouraging, we must realize that these 10 were the result of transfers from the disbanded Brentwood SIR Branch 108. Consequently, we must continue to sponsor friends, neighbors and acquaintances.

The median age of our current membership has increased to 77.5 years, so we can expect to see an increase in the loss of members due to health issues. We are also seeing an increase in the number of members moving out of California.

Your Branch Executive Committee has set a minimum meeting attendance goal of 70% for the past 6 years but, for the first time, we failed to meet that goal this past year. Let's try to exceed this goal in 2020. Your meeting and activity attendance is vital to the survival of our Branch.

For those not familiar with the member-sponsoring process, the following information is provided. Branch members wishing to sponsor a new member should invite the prospect to a regular luncheon meeting as his guest. Only an existing member can sponsor a new member.

The guest sponsor should always notify Will Myers, Membership Chairman, at (925-516-9448) and Paul Elmer, Attendance Chairman, at (925-634-5690) that he is bring-



ing in a guest at least 4 days prior to the upcoming meeting. This is because a guest package containing a welcoming letter from our Big Sir, a Membership Application form and a copy of our Branch Newsletter needs to be prepared, as well as knowing how many sit-down meals are to be prepared for the meeting.

If the guest decides to become a SIR member and completes the Membership Application, his sponsor should see that it is delivered to Will Myers at least 5 days before the next meeting. The prospective new member and his sponsor will be asked to attend the next regular meeting (or whichever meeting they both can attend). The Branch Executive Committee (BEC) will vote on the membership and, if approved, the new member will be inducted prior to that meeting luncheon.

A Branch 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 members for the year will receive an additional free lunch certificate.

Rick Crago, a SIR member of our Branch for 7 years, has decided to drop out. His loss brought our end of 2019 year membership to 161.

SIR Membership Requirements

Membership in Sons In Retirement is open to men regardless of age, race, color or religion. See the last page of this newsletter for more information.

More pictures from our Christmas luncheon



Golf News, Larry Mensch

We are starting our golf season on March 17, 2020 at Manteca Park Golf Course. The cost is \$43. This is a guest day, and the only guest day scheduled for 2020. The format is two best ball of the foursome and you would play with your guest and two others. Send your check made out to Larry Mensch.



The second event is a big one. It is the Discovery Bay Invitational on Monday, April 13, 2020 at the Discovery Bay Country Club. It is a 9:00 am shotgun start. Eight other SIR groups have been invited to participate and I have had early sign-ups from some. The application is on pages 8/9/10. There are 3 pages to the attachment. 120 maximum players will be allowed.

Also, this year's golf schedule is on on the right, so you can add the dates to your calendar.

Our 'golf away' event will be at the Saddle Creek Golf Course in Copperopolis on May 6-7, 2020. I currently have 8 bungalows reserved and tee times for 36 players. I have to be able to tell the resort and golf shop

how many bungalows and tee times we will actually need. To do this in a timely manner I will need a \$100 deposit (\$50 singles) by the end of January. The total amount will be due by the end of March. Send your check made out to Larry Mensch.

See the flyer on pages 11/12 of this newsletter.

2020 SIR Golf Schedule

March 17, 2020 c Manteca 35+8 \$43 9:00am

April 13, 2020 Discovery Bay Invitational (Monday) 9:00am shotgun

May 19, 2020 c Lonetree 38+7 \$45 9:30am

June 16, 2020 c Elkhorn 36+8 \$44 9:00am Shotgun

July 21, 2020 c the Reserve 38+7 \$45 9:30am

August 20, 2020 Woodbridge 45+5 \$50 8:30am (Thursday)

September 15, 2020 Dry Creek 34+8 \$42 9:00am

October 22, 2020 c (Thursday) Paradise Valley 45+5 \$50 10:03am

(Year End Championship Tournament)

November 17, 2020 c Brentwood 35+8 \$43 9:00am

2020 Member Handbook

Copies of our 2020 Handbook will be available at the January 21st luncheon meeting. Look for your copy (with your name on the front cover) on the table in the lobby of the Discovery Bay Country Club. If you won't be at the January luncheon, you can pick your Handbook up at the February luncheon.

Editor's Note

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

2020 Branch 161 Meetings Calendar

01/21/2020 (3rd Tuesday)	07/14/2020
02/11/2020	08/11/2020
03/10/2020	09/1/2020 (1st Tuesday)
04/14/2020	10/13/2020
05/12/2020 (Mothers Day)	11/10/2020
06/2/2020 (1st Tuesday)	12/8/2020 (Christmas)

Bowling News, John Fry

Welcome to 2020.

First I would like to recognize Paul Elmer for all his many contributions to the SIR Branch 161 bowling activity. Paul has been the bowling Chairman for 7 years, setting up our Monday SIR league and managing the Branch 161 annual Bowling tournaments, while mentoring me to follow in his footsteps. Thanks Paul for a job well done.



Paul had a fantastic series last week. He bowled a 722 scratch series with a 278 game to start the series. Unfortunately Paul's Team was bowling our team and you can guess the outcome, we lost three of the four games.

With two weeks to go in the first half of our 35 week season, (Team 8, Spare Parts: Edward Fitzpatrick, Frank Cramer, Marie Wilson, and Tony Guarascio) are leading with 41 wins. Second place with 38 wins is (Team 6, Bowling Buddies: Lorraine Burt, Mary Pitta-Fry, Mary Branscum, and Fred Critchfield).

Tied for third place with 33 wins each are (Team 3, Keep it Clean: Paul Elmer, Rosie Elmer, Russ Reid, and

Vicky Reid), also with 33 wins is (Team 2, Splits Happen: Harris Edwards, Tom Kirtley, Jesse Rivera, and Beth Edwards).

This year we have 14 teams and 8 of the teams are within 3 games of each other.

Season high series leaders for the men are Paul Elmer 722, Mitch Wisinski 687, and Ron Wilson 245. Season high scratch game leaders are, Tony Guarascio 279, John Fry 256, and Mike Carmichael Jr. 254. Handicap series leaders are Jerry Dittman 709, Curtis Manning 686, and Jesse Rivera 685. Handicap game leaders are Russ Reid 281, Fred Critchfield 274, and Greg Mattus 267.

Season high scratch series leaders for the women are Rosier Elmer 602, Terry Damico 576, Lorraine Burt 561. Season high scratch game leaders are Vicky Reid 248, Mary Pitta-Fry 209, and Marie Wilson 202. Season high Handicap series leaders are Mary Branscum 717, Videlle Marshall 701, and three bowlers tied for third place with a 647 handicap series, Doris Cole, Diane Leonis, and Eloise Gatson. Three bowlers are tied for the season high handicap game: Linda Jensen 256, Jean Scurlock 256, Mary Patterson 256,

We always have room for more bowlers, no experience needed.

SIR 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 table in the Discovery Bay CC lobby at our monthly luncheons. Some of the available 2020 trips are listed below.

Feb 24 – Mar 1, 2020 Hawaiian (2) Islands – Visit Honolulu & Kona

March 29 - April 5, 2020 Princess Cruise Pacific Northwest Coastal Cruise

April 17-27, 2020 Holland River Cruise

May 7-14, 2020 Holland Tulip Festival Tour

May 9 - 21, 2020. "The Passion Play In Oberammergau"

June 20 - July 5, 2020 Alaska Cruise – Queen Elizabeth

June 26 – July 2, 2020: Spotlight on South Dakota – Fly to Rapid City, SD

June 26 – July 10, 2020: Magical Rhine & Moselle River Cruise

July 11-20, 2020 Canadian Rockies by Train

August 18-31, 2020 Princess Cruise British Isles

Aug 29-Sept 9, 2020 Top of Switzerland with Oberammergau



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

The first wine tasting of the new year will be at 5 PM on Thursday, January 23rd. Vince and Bobbi Vargas will be hosting this month. If you are interested in attending this very popular activity please contact Dick Donald at the number above, or email DickDonald@Yahoo.com.

Bocce Ball – Dick Donald – 513-2849

Bocce ball continues informally at 10 AM Tuesday mornings, whenever the weather is favorable. If you would like to play just show up.

Pickleball - Bob Lyman – 628-7906

A very basic beginner pickleball exposure for both men & women is now being done at 3:30 pm Sunday evenings at the Cornel Park pickleball courts. Come down and check it out. If you've ever played a racquet sport of any kind and have the energy to use those skills again, come check out pickleball. It is a great game with lots of good social interaction. The best courts in Contra Costa County are right here in Discovery Bay. Regular drop-in play times are Tues, Thur & Sat at 9 am. Have any questions, check with SIR players Dennis Pachucki, Phil Talley, Greg Moran, Don Patterson, Terry Silva, Randy Zierau or Bob Lyman.

SIR Cyclers - Jerry Wiebe - 916-206-9221

During the winter the SIR Cyclers ride weekly at 9:00 a.m. on Thursday mornings and they invite their spouses and new SIR riders to join them. They usually start from Jerry's home in Discovery Bay for a

moderate round-trip to a Brentwood coffee-stop. Some weeks they may travel on other routes or nearby towns' bike trails to enjoy a new riding experience. An email message is sent weekly to inform interested riders of the riding plan for that week. If anyone would like to join their rides, contact Jerry Wiebe by phone or email to be added to the weekly email distribution. We look forward to and encourage SIR members to join us on our rides. Contact Jerry if you are interested in joining the Cyclers.



The SIR Cyclers' ride-stop often includes meeting interesting people along the way. Mary and her Easy-Rider Chihuahua was seen showing off her classic Schwinn Sting Ray this day at their favorite stop on a recent ride.

Tennis - Larry Mensch - (951) 514-1448

We still play in the cold weather on Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday in the Town Center at 8:00 am. We are not discouraged by a prior night's rain because we squeegee the courts dry (or at least dry enough to play). It is friendly game, and we rotate players in and out to make up for an odd number of players. Many of us go to Starbucks afterwards which is as enjoyable as the tennis.

Dinner with the Ladies, Dennis Pachucki

When: Tuesday, January 28, 2020

Where: Nines Restaurant 100 Summerset Dr, Brentwood CA, 94513

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).

- Oven Roasted Salmon with rice pilaf & fresh vegetables
- Petite Filet Mignon with Savory Demi-Glace & oven roasted red potatoes & fresh vegetables
- Chicken Breast with Mushrooms in Marsala Wine Sauce, rice pilaf & fresh vegetables
- Vegetarian Meal: Tortellini Pesto Parmesan & fresh vegetables

Cost: \$30.00 per person (includes tax and tip)

Deadline: We need your RSVP no later than Friday, January 24 – there will be envelopes at our General Meeting on January 21.

Please send your checks to me in advance. Please make your checks out to Dennis Pachucki and send to 2125 Sand Point Road Discovery Bay CA 94505 phone 408-309-5206.

Nines Restaurant is located at the Summerset Golf Course, 100 Summerset Dr, Brentwood.

..... Detach and mail with your check

Your Name(s):

Phone:

Your Menu choice(s):

☐

Oven Roasted Salmon

☐

Chicken Breast Marsala

☐

Vegetarian-Tortellini Pesto Parmesan

☐

Petite Filet Mignon

Did You Know?



Earl Cole is a 15-year Sir introduced by past Sir and long-time friend, Hal Crose.

Earl and spouse Joanne live on Emerald Court ... next door to SIR member Jack Disney.

Originally from Kansas City & Iowa, he enjoyed a long career with Westinghouse Corp. in Electrical Supply.

Golfs 2 to 3 times a week and you can always find him Tues. & Thurs. @ DBGC.

Bet you didn't know that Earl always dreamed of being a Farmer and was very active in his high school Agricultural Dept. Loves to read ... prefers fiction.

Discovery Bay Golf Invitational 2020

Monday, April 13, 2020

To: SIR Branches

From: Larry Mensch, 2020 Director of Golf, SIR Branch 161

Re: Discovery Bay Golf Invitational

Hello,

You are invited to participate in the SIR Branch 161 Discovery Bay Annual Golf Invitational at the Discovery Bay Country Club on Monday, April 13, 2020.

I am replacing Dale Welin as the Discovery Bay SIR Golf Director. Dale did it for 15 years and I hope I to as well. I am looking forward to the event and want to encourage as many players as possible to play.

To encourage participation, any Sir can play if they have a GHIN handicap. You don't have to belong to a SIR golf club, but you must be a SIR and have a GHIN number.

FORMAT: Net score, two best ball of the foursome, as it has been in the past.

6-inch bump in the same cut of grass. Not in hazards.

Maximum score on any hole is net double bogey. (Par + pops +2).

You can play in your own group, but the group should really have an A, B, C, D player if at all possible.

You can sign up as an individual, twosome, threesome or foursome. I will add other players as needed.

There will be an additional \$2 individual skins game based on handicap and the number of players that sign up for the tournament. Probably 0-14, 15-32, 33+ with no more than one pop on par 3's playing from the brown tees. Separate skins game if playing from the gold tees. Again, only one pop on par 3's. Gold tees is handicap index plus age equals 100.

For an additional \$2 you can sign up for an optional low gross/low net game. You can't win both and low gross takes president over low net. We will pay about 40% percent of the players that sign up. Separate low gross/low net if playing from gold tees.

Closest to the Pin on Par 3's by handicap.

Maximum number of players is 120 and the first ones who submit money reserve the spots.

Cost for visiting players is \$49 which includes golf with cart, range balls and prize money. Cost varies for Discovery Bay Golf Club Members.

Discovery Bay Golf Invitational

April 13, 2020

Sign-up Sheet For Visiting Players and Non-Discovery Bay Golf Club Membership players

Players Name _____ Date _____

Address _____

Email address _____

Phone number _____

GHIN number _____

If you have players that want play together list them below. If not, leave it blank.

Playing Partners _____ , _____ , _____

Golf, cart, range balls, prize money \$49 _____

Optional Skins game \$2 _____

(can sign-up at course)

Optional Low gross/low net \$2 _____

(can sign-up at course)

Total submitted _____

Send check and form to:

Larry Mensch, 4308 Monterey Ct, Discovery Bay, CA 94505.

ljmensch@comcast.net

951 514-1448

Discovery Bay Golf Invitational

April 13, 2020

If You Have a Discovery Bay Country Club Golf Membership

Discovery Bay Golf Members Players Sign-up Sheet

Players Name _____ Date _____

Address _____

Email address _____

Phone number _____

GHIN number _____

If you have players that want play together list them below. If not, leave it blank.

Playing Partners _____ , _____ , _____

Prize money only \$4 _____

(if on cart plan)

Cart and Prize money \$20 _____

(if not cart plan)

Optional Skins game \$2 _____

(can sign-up at course)

Optional Low gross/low net \$2 _____

(can sign-up at course)

Total submitted _____

Send check to and form to:

Larry Mensch, 4308 Monterey Ct, Discovery Bay, CA 94505

ljmensch@comcast.net

951 514-1448

Saddle Creek Golf Resort at Copperopolis

Two Days, Wednesday May 6th and Thursday May 7th.

Tournament Invitation for Sirs and Guests 2020.

Deposit: \$100 by January 31, 2020.

Make check out to Larry Mensch and mail to:

4308 Monterey Court, Discovery Bay, CA 94505.

Format:

Two separate days of competition that allows those who cannot come for both days to participate.

Day 1:

2 best balls of the foursome. Tee times starting at 11:00 am.

Couples Division both days and Men's Divisions both days.

Foursomes will be balanced by handicap.

\$6 per player for prize money. Pay \$40 % of the field per division.

Individual Skins game \$5 per person. See Mike Quier.

Maximum score on any hole is net double bogey. (i.e. par +pops+2)

When you reach your maximum score, you pick up your ball.

Day 2:

One best ball of the partnership. Shotgun starting at 9:00 am

Couples Division both days and Men's Divisions both days.

Men's Division: Pick your own partner or, will be assigned, but within 10 handicap strokes. May be flighted depending on handicap spread.

\$6 per player for prize money. Pay \$40 % of the field per division/flight.

Individual Skins game \$5 per person. See Mike Quier.

Maximum score on any hole is net double bogey. (i.e. par + pops + 2).

When you reach your maximum score, you pick up your ball.

Handicap:

The handicap used will be as April 20th so we can get it all done.

Cost:

Golf day 1 \$72 (May change slightly)

Prize money day 1 \$6.

Optional Skins Day \$5. Optional Dinner day 1 \$29.95 Inclusive (May change slightly)

Optional Dinner, day 1: \$29.95 Inclusive (may change slightly).

Continued

Saddle Creek Golf Resort at Copperopolis, *continued*

Cost (*continued*):

Golf day 2 \$72 (May change slightly)

Prize money day 2 \$ 6

Optional Skins day 2 \$5

Optional Appetizers day 2 \$12.50 (May change slightly)

Optional Dinner day 2 \$29.95 Inclusive (May change slightly)

Lodging:

Bungalow per night \$259.84 (May change slightly)

Arrival Day 1:

Check-In: Check-in First with Roy Bristow on the patio.

Cocktails and dinner: No host cocktails starts at 6:00 and dinner is a 6:30.

Thursday Evening Entertainment: Left, Right, Center Cost is \$3.

Several golfers are driving back and forth each day. The drive takes about 1 hour and 15 minutes.

Savana Rule:

If you lose your ball in the high grass, play it as a lateral hazard with one stroke penalty.

Men will play from gold/red combo tees.

Women will play from the red tees.

Putting:

Putt everything out unless you have reached your net double bogey.

Scorecards:

Your group will have two score cards. Keep an accurate score on each score card for all players as you go from hole to hole. At the end of play make sure to check score cards. Sign and attest both score cards. If there is a discrepancy the highest recorded score will be used.

Turn **both** score cards into Larry Mensch, Don Ramos or Mike Quier.

Pace of Play:

Please play Ready Golf which means you can hit your ball even if you are the farthest from the hole.

Branch 161 Activities and Events

Bowling (*): John Fry

Sirs & Ladies Bowling league happens every Monday @ 9:30 am at Harvest Park Bowl. Our league consists of four-person teams, with approximately 20 teams, and consists of two seasons – a Winter session of 36 weeks and a Summer session of 16 weeks; both are sanctioned with the USBC. We bowl every Monday except for Holidays, and we always have room for more bowlers, seasoned bowlers as well as newcomers. During the year various SIR Branches sponsor Bowling Tournaments throughout Northern California; Check the state SIR website (<http://www.sirinc3.org/sirBowling/index.html>) for dates and details.

Golf: Larry Mensch

Golf is usually on the third Tuesday of each month from March through October, at various local courses. Also, there are a number of state-wide SIR-sponsored events during the year; Information can be found on the state SIR website, <https://www.sirinc2.org/golf2018/>.

Away Golf Tournament (*): Larry Mensch

We also have a Branch 161 Away Golf Tournament each year. It is a men's and couples, tournament held last year at the Saddle Creek Golf Resort in Copperopolis, as it is again this year, May 6th and May 7th, 2020.

Pickle Ball (*): Bob Lyman

If you have ever played a racquet sport of any kind, and have the energy to use those skills again, come check out pickleball. It's a great game for both men and women, lots of good social interaction and the fastest growing sport in the country, with the best courts in Contra Costa County right here in Discovery Bay. Play is at the Cornell Park pickleball courts. Check the monthly Activities|Pickleball article for drop-in play days/times and learning day(s).

Wine tasting (*): Dick Donald

Monthly on the 4th Thursday, at different hosts each month. Each couple brings a bottle of wine and an appetizer to share. The bottle is covered so that the label is not visible and is poured in 1 ounce 'tastes', which is graded on a scale of 1 to 5 by each participant. At the end of the evening the bottles are uncovered and the scores are totaled to determine how each wine is rated.

Bike Riding (*): Jerry Wiebe

9:00 a.m. Thursday mornings, meeting at Jerry's address, 2071 Windward Point, Discovery Bay, for a weekly 13 mile ride into Brentwood, sometimes further on other routes, and when possible, a mid way coffee shop stop for a leisurely bit of group chit-chatting.

Tennis (*): Larry Mensch

Tennis is a new activity that was added in 2019. It is a mixed co-ed group, similar to the pickle ball group. We play Monday, Wednesday and Saturday at the Discovery Bay Community Center starting at 8:00 am. Players rotate in so that everyone plays. It is an easy-going tennis group that usually ends up at Starbucks afterwards. Sometimes, we'll go out for breakfast or lunch, especially if the weather is not good.

Continued ...

Branch 161 Activities and Events (*continued*)

Dinner with the Ladies (*): Dennis Pachucki

SIR Dinner with the Ladies is a well attended event. We have 8 annual events at various local restaurants. Dinners are typically the last Tuesday of the month, 5:00 PM socialization and 6:00 PM dinner. All Sirs and ladies and their guests are welcome. Look for dates and locations in our Monthly newsletter.

Poker: Dick Donald

SIR Poker is a weekly, low-stakes poker game. It's played every Monday evening at 6:30 through 9:30. Games are quarter-limit dealer-choice and the dealer antes a quarter for everyone. A schedule is made with a different host and six additional players each week. Everyone plays about seven times over two and a half months.

Annual Al DiGiusto Boat Cruise and Luncheon (*): Bob Damico

In 1993, Al DiGiusto conceived the idea to plan a SIR event that would introduce some of our non-boating members and their wives to the world of boating in the Delta. Sirs with boats invited members and their wives to ride with them on a cruise to one of many Delta waterfront restaurants for lunch. Al coordinated this successful event until his passing in 2005, and the event continues in his honor. This year's boat cruise and luncheon will be Thursday July 23, 2020, and starts at the Boardwalk Grill in Discovery Bay. There will be sign-up sheets at the June meeting.

Eric Jensen Memorial Collector Car Show: Bill Konold

Our September meeting is also the SIR Collector Car Show. So polish that Collector Car of yours and bring it to the meeting. Any interesting car, old or new, is welcome. Got a new Hemi, a cool Corvette, or an old Mercury? Bring it to the September meeting and park with other SIR car enthusiast members. Tire kicking is both before and after the meeting, so arrive a little early, stay a little late, and enjoy the machinery.

Sporting Events (*):

The state SIR organization puts together special "SIR Days" for a variety of sporting events, such as A's & Giants games, Golden Gate Fields horse racing, Sacramento River Cats, AAA baseball, etc. Information on these events can be found on the state SIR website (http://www.sirinc.org/siractivities/SIR_sports.htm), and flyers are routinely included in our monthly newsletter.

Bocce Ball (*): Dick Donald

We are re-starting our weekly game, and we will once again use the Discovery Bay Country Club facilities.

Beer Tasting: Temporarily on hiatus.

(*) denotes a co-ed and/or couples activity. Details & schedules of individual activities can be found in our Branch 161 monthly newsletter. Contact information for coordinators can be found in the current Branch 161 Handbook.

Membership Requirements & Principles

(revised 2019)

Membership is open to men, regardless of age, race, color, or religion. Member volunteers and staff administer and govern all branch activities. Nominal membership dues help 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. Prospective members must be 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 newsletter).

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 or call Paul Elmer by the Friday preceding the meeting if you don't plan to attend.

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