



# SIR BRANCH 161 NEWS

Celebrating our 29th year! August, 2020

The Mission of SIR is to enrich the Lives of Our Members Through Fun Activities and Events—While Making Friends For Life

## Roy Bristow, Big Sir

### THE VOTES ARE IN !!

It is my pleasure to announce that your SIR Branch 161 membership has overwhelmingly approved the nominations offered by our Nominating Committee.



This 3-person committee is chaired by Vince Vargas, 2011 Past Big Sir, with Dick Donald, the 2006 Past Big Sir, and Micheal White, 2016 Past Big Sir. These individuals share the experience, expertise, and the love for our SIR organization that it takes to assemble a strong group of Officers and Executive Branch members to lead us in 2021.

So it is official! Your list of Officers and Branch Executive Committee members are:

- Big Sir Rick Harris
- Little Sir Dennis Pachucki
- Secretary Ken Landoline
- Assistant Secretary Jim Jenkins
- Treasurer Jerry Wiebe
- Assistant Treasurer Lowell Thomas
- Membership Chair Luis Figueroa
- Attendance Chair Phil Newlin
- Activities Director Alan Jarvie
- Bowling Chair John Fry, Paul Elmer Asst.
- Dinner w/ The Ladies Dennis Pachucki
- Golf Director Larry Mensch
- Sunshine Director Bob Damico

Your vote of “APPROVED” was a great statement of confidence for our incoming officers and a message of gratitude to the Nominating Committee. I congratulate you on your support and enthusiasm as we look forward to 2021.

I’m happy to report that we have several members who have achieved significant milestones. These members are recognized on page 2.

With the current COVID-19 issues we have been unable to meet for monthly luncheons. Consequently, these awards have not yet been presented to them in person. I didn’t want another month to pass without acknowledging them for their recent accomplishment. Please join me in saying congratulations. Give them a call and tell them that you are thinking of them.

Stay safe and healthy,  
Roy Bristow, Your Big Sir

**Next Branch 161 luncheon meeting: TBA**

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**Our Award Recipients—recognized by Big Sir Roy Bristow**

**Senior SIR awards—90 years**

Stan Krotz - February

Dave Goplen - April

Jack Disney - June

**25-year membership awards**

Dick Jamison 6/14/1995

Roger Sweeney 7/10/1995

**20-year membership award**

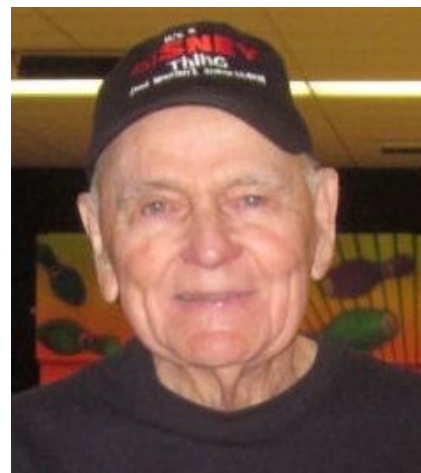
Hal Whitlow 4/11/2000



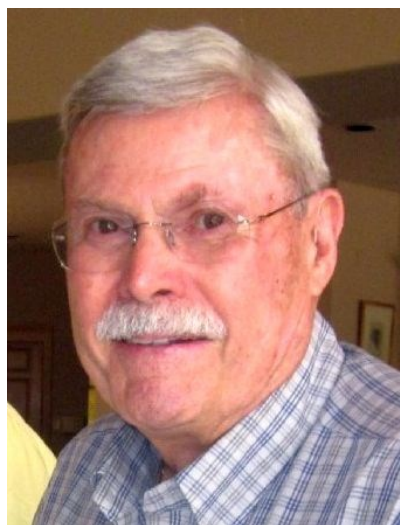
**Stan Krotz**



**Dave Goplen**



**Jack Disney**



**Dick Jamison**



**Roger Seeney**



**Hal Whitlow**

## Little Sir, Rick Harris

### Upcoming Luncheons:

Each month I hope for something better to report on this topic, but unfortunately the can keeps being kicked down the road. We hope for sooner rather than later, but there's really no way to know when we can resume luncheon meetings. The data I've seen indicates that the majority of new COVID cases are happening in the younger population, so congratulations to all the more vulnerable seniors who are protecting themselves and avoiding risky behaviors! Participa-



tion has been good in the activities we've been able to resume, it's nice to see that our Sirs are able to enjoy each other's company while being responsible about it.

Do what you can to keep in touch with each other and, please stay safe and healthy!

### August birthdays

Al Box, William Carmichael, Earl Cole,  
Fred DuPont, Paul Erchul, Luis Figueroa,  
Rick Harris, Mike McCleery, Ward Messersmith,  
Will Myers, Don Patterson, Lynn Pierce,  
Don Ramos, Terry Silva

## SIR Cyclers are back! - Jerry Wiebe

Two weekly rides offer something for everybody. On Thursdays at 8:00am they ride at a moderate rate into Brentwood, stop at a favorite coffee shop on Balfour, exchange a few stories and ideas, then return home around 10:00am. A newly added sanctioned ride is now being offered at 8:00am on Sundays for those with more experience and endurance and is also becom-



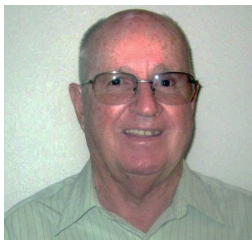
ing quite popular. The group often ride out and back the 30-miles to The Big Break in Oakley, about a 2 ½ to 3-hour ride. No goodies on this ride, just good, hard riding, and plenty of exercise.

We are looking for other Sirs in our branch to join us, especially for the fun and health benefits of the rides in this COVID age. If anyone would like to try out either, or both rides, we leave from Jerry's driveway at 2071 Windward Point in Discovery Bay. Give it a shot...just look at that group in the photo and see how fit and healthy they all look. Could this be you? Call Jerry at 916-206-9221 or talk to any of the SIR Cyclers for any questions you may have.



## Membership, Will Myers

Although we have not had a SIR monthly luncheon since March 10th of this year due the Corona virus, we did have 4 guests that day as well as another sponsored individual who completed our Membership Application in July and who I was able to induct over the telephone.



The 5 new members inducted in July were: Mike McMahon, sponsored by Frank Cramer: Rudy Promani, sponsored by Jerry Wiebe; Angel Aviles, sponsored by Chris Diaz; Terry Brekke, sponsored by Rich Barber; Jesse Rivera who transferred from SIR Branch 108. The photos of these new members and their sponsor are shown here and on page 4.

Mike McMahon and his wife, Connie, have lived in Discovery Bay since 1987. Mike was born in Detroit, Michigan, raised in Hollywood, Florida, enlisted in the Army and discharged as First Lieutenant. After graduating from the University of Florida, he worked as a Manager of Information Systems for companies including IBM, Xerox, Komag and Nellcor. After retiring, Mike created a Yacht Log business and a Dungeness Crab business, and became a minister. He also published the two novels, "Murder on Potato Slough" and "Murder on Frank's Track". He enjoys baseball, boating, fishing and wine tasting.

Rudy Promani and his wife, Lisa, have lived in Discovery Bay for 25 years. They have 3 sons who all live in Los Angeles. Mike retired in 2016 where he was the Purchasing Manager for PG&E his last 10 years with them after being the Environmental Manager of all distribution operations. Mike enjoys boating, fishing, biking, and brewing home-made beer.

Angel Aviles and his wife, Susan, live in Oakley. Angel is a 1st.Class Mechanic with V.T.A. Santa Clara Transportation. Angel enjoys antique cars and golfing.

Terry Brekke and his wife, Rebecca, moved from Waterloo, Iowa to Brentwood in June 2019. He retired in 2008 as Product Support Manager for John Deere Tractor, while his wife, Becky, retired the same year as a middle school teacher. They have 3 children living in California (Lafayette, Oakland, and San Diego). Terry enjoys pool, wine tasting, home brewing, base-

ball, and antique cars.

Jesse Rivera and his wife, Elizabeth, have lived in Brentwood, CA for 45 years. They are both retired educators, and active members of the Golden Hills church. They have two children who live in the area. Jesse enjoys bowling, golfing, writing and reading, as well as solving puzzles.



Unfortunately, we lost John (Jack) Thomas who passed away at the age of 92. This brings our July 2020 SIR branch membership to 174.

### 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.

## Activities, Dick Donald—925-513-2849

As most of you are aware, most activities have been postponed indefinitely because of the shelter-in-place ruling. In particular, this affects wine tasting and the Monday poker game.



The plan now is to wait until the ban is lifted, at which time notices will be sent out via email notifying participants for each activity on resumption plans. Meanwhile, stay healthy!

## Bocce Ball - Alan Jarvie - 408-219-8240

There is interest in resuming activity in bocce ball. Since this is played outdoors where social distancing can be maintained, the game can be played with minimum restrictions due to COVID-19. Approval to resume play in August was made by the SIR Board of Directors at the last Zoom meeting in July, and we are now awaiting approval from the country club to use their courts. Anyone interested in joining when we resume play is invited to call Al at the above number for information.

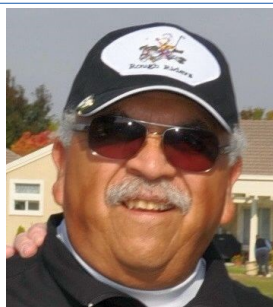
## New Members and their sponsors



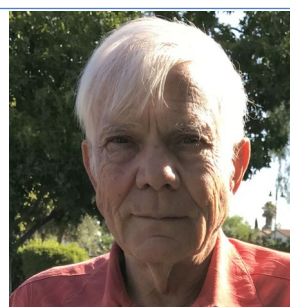
Mike McMahon & sponsor Frank Cramer



Rudy Promani & sponsor Jerry Wiebe



Angel Aviles & sponsor Chris Diaz;



Terry Brekke & sponsor Rich Barber

## In Memoriam



Jack Thomas passed away peacefully at home on June 28, 2020. He was a member of Branch 161 for 26 years and achieved Senior Sir (90 years old) status in 2018.

Information regarding his Memorial will be forthcoming.



Lou Bruton was a 20-year member of Branch 161. In March 2018, Lou and his wife Muriel moved to Paradise, CA. After Muriel's passing in July 2018, and the Paradise "Camp Fire" in November 2018, Lou moved to Chico, CA. Recent health issues led to Lou being in Hospice care in Chico for several weeks prior to his passing on June 29, 2020. Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, Lou's Memorial Service will be held at a later date.



Bert Bertolero, a member of Brentwood Branch 108 for 19 years, passed away June 30, 2020 at the age of 92. Bert had been in poor health, succumbing to heart problems and a stroke. Bert was an avid bowler, bowling in the Monday SIR and Friday Summerset Seniors Leagues at Harvest Park Bowl in Brentwood for many years. Private Military Memorial/ Burial services will be held at the Sacramento Valley National Cemetery in Dixon, CA.

## Golf, Larry Mensch

We played at the Reserve at Spanos Park on July 21, 2020 and it took just 4 hours to complete our round thanks to "ready golf" and probably individual golf cart options.



1st place went to Mensch, Konold, Pachucki and Spann with a score of 119. \$16 per player.

2nd place went to Donnell, Denning, Rentzel and Fanucchi with a score of 132. \$9 per player.

3rd place went to Bristow, Medina, Vargas and they had a blind draw with a score of 13. \$6 per player.

I divided our group into 3 flights based on the handicap spread and awarded 1st and 2nd low gross and net in each flight. Low gross was determined first and then low net second. Then 2nd low gross came next and then 2nd low net came after that. The award is very small but gives us an idea of who is doing well.

<u>A flight</u>	<u>Gross</u>	<u>Net</u>
1st place \$3	Bristow 82	Denning 74
2nd place \$1	Mensch 88	Donnell 78

<u>B flight</u>	<u>Gross</u>	<u>Net</u>
1st place \$3	Zierau 93	Fry 73
2nd place \$1	Quier 76	Delgado 76

Next month, Thursday August 20, we are scheduled to play at Woodbridge in Stockton. However, because of COVID-19 this may not happen. I called them and at this time they are not allowing outside play groups at their course. I am calling them in two weeks to see if that changes. We may have to find another course and I am thinking of Manteca which

we didn't get play earlier this year. I will send out more information in 2 weeks.

## Skins Results

**A group handicap 0-14** Bill Konold \$22.50, Roy Bristow \$20.00

**B group handicap 15-32** Dennis Pachucki \$18.60, Randy Zierau 18.60, John Fry \$6.20, Vince Vargas \$6.20 and Mike Quier \$3.10

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## Tennis, Larry Mensch

We are playing tennis 3 times a week. Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 8:00 am at the Community Center. Most of us bring our own chair and often go for coffee afterwards.

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## Bowling News, John Fry

Last month at this time we were looking forward to a restart of bowling at Harvest Park Bowl. Since our last newsletter things have changed. All SIR Bowling activities have been put on hold.



The Reno Tournament scheduled for August has been canceled, also the Yuba City Tournament scheduled for this month has been canceled.

At this time there is no estimate when things will change. You can check out the latest SIR Bowling news on the SIR State Website.

## 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](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.

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(\*) 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 Bill Konold by the Friday preceding the meeting if you don't plan to attend.

Bill Konold: [bkonold@comcast.net](mailto:bkonold@comcast.net)

Tel: (925) 634-2738

### Your newsletter team



**Tom Jones**  
*Editor and email  
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**Dennis Pachucki**  
*Paper copies  
and USPS mailing*

**View SIR Happenings, the State SIR newsletter: <http://www.sirinc.org/sirhappenings/>**