



SIR BRANCH 161 NEWS

Celebrating our 29th year! *September, 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

My fellow Sir,

Personal contact is a common thread of our very being. It didn't take the COVID-19 to teach us that. We already knew it. But it did show us that even social distancing is a poor substitute for a slap on the back or a touch on the shoulder. Fist bumps and high fives have become our substitute for handshakes and hugs.



And now, the California fires ... adding yet another challenge to this list of issues we are to endure. Many of our families are fighting these in addition to the COVID. Loss of lives and property increase their burden tenfold. As a Sir we must further strengthen our resolve. Now, more than ever, our friends, families, and loved ones need our thoughts, prayers, and words of encouragement. I am confident that we will rise to the occasion.

Last month's newsletter included our Slate of Officers for 2021. I apologize for the errors, omissions, and inconsistencies.

Lowell Onstad was inadvertently omitted from the Director listing. He will, of course, continue as Director over the Audit and Nominating Committees.

Alan Jarvie has agreed to take the Director Position vacated by our incoming Little Sir, Dennis Pachucki. In this new Director of Activities position, Alan will coordinate our activities and oversee the Dinner-With-the-Ladies as Dennis continues to facilitate them.

The following is a corrected Slate of Your Officers for 2021:

- Big Sir - Rick Harris
- Little Sir - Dennis Pachucki
- Secretary - Ken Landoline
- Assistant Secretary - Jim Jenkins
- Treasurer - Jerry Wiebe
- Assistant Treasurer - Lowell Thomas
- Director Audit/Nomination Committees - Lowell Onstad
- Director Membership - Luis Figueroa
- Director Attendance - Phil Newlin
- Director Activities - Alan Jarvie
- Director Bowling - John Fry
- Director Golf - Larry Mensch
- Director Sunshine - Bob Damico

Stay safe and healthy,
Roy Bristow, Your Big Sir

Next Branch 161 luncheon meeting: TBA

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Little Sir, Rick Harris

Upcoming Luncheons:

Well folks, another month goes by and we're still dealing with the virus, with no clear end in sight. I've seen some emails suggesting that "2020" be designated as a new swear word! Your BEC members made a round of phone calls to members this month, and it was clear the outreach was appreciated. I also heard com-



ments that Big Sir Roy's weekly messages are appreciated. Please do what you can individually to keep in touch with your fellow Sirs for the social value, but also in case anyone is in need.

September birthdays

Jeff Asbury, Rich Barber, John Davelaar, Ed Fitzpatrick, John Fry, Tony Guarascio, John Jewell, Tom Kenny, Rene McClain, George Nolta, Brett Swenson, Brad Vinson

SIR Cyclers - Jerry Wiebe

Besides all the COVID-19 stuff, now Mother Nature has joined the "fun" this past month by throwing massive heat waves, lightning storms, and heavy smoke our way that is making bicycling and other outdoor activities un-



healthy sports for the time being. If these conditions persist into our Fall, we will likely be interrupting even more scheduled rides.

I will continue to advise the SIR Cyclers weekly to let them know of any upcoming changes to our scheduled rides.

Meanwhile, stay healthy and active as best your personal conditions will allow, and hope all the challenging conditions improve in the not too distant future.

Editor's Note

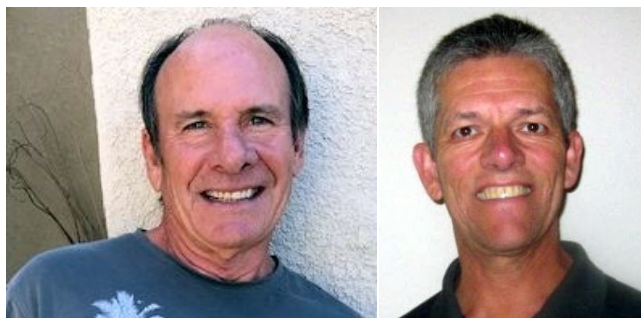
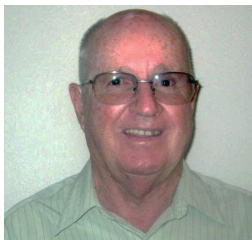
Big Sir Roy's weekly message for August 24th has been combined with his article on the front page of this newsletter.

Membership, Will Myers

It is encouraging to see that although we are not having regular luncheon meetings, members are still sponsoring new members which I induct via telephone.

New member, Sean Murphy, sponsored by Phil Newlin, was inducted into our SIR branch this way. Their photographs are shown below.

Sean Murphy, and his wife, Karen, have owned a home in Discovery Bay since 2000, but moved into it permanently in March. He worked in Air Conditioning for Southland, retiring in June 2013. Sean enjoys biking, boating, brewing, water skiing, motorcycling, and antique cars.



Sean Murphy and sponsor Phil Newlin

For your information, the requirement that a new member had to first attend a regular SIR meeting as a guest before applying for membership no longer exists. If a sponsored individual has determined (from information provided by his sponsor, our Newsletter and other sources) that he would like to join, he can be inducted after his completed Membership Application has been approved by our Branch Executive Committee. Consequently, our New Member Process Regulation (# 20-001) has been written to conform to this change. The Regulation can be accessed via a link on the right side of the Home page of our web site, and a summary can be found under Membership on the web site.

All members should read this to become familiar with our new member sponsoring process.

Another recent change to our new member recruitment procedure (which has approval from SIR State officials) is a result of the Covid-19 pandemic not allowing us to hold regular branch meetings. New

member sponsors can now submit a completed Membership Application to me, and if it is approved by our BEC, I can conduct the induction process via telephone. This thereby allows you to sponsor new members during this virus pandemic period, so I will be looking forward to hearing from those of you who want to sponsor a prospective candidate now, rather than next year when we will be allowed to conduct regular luncheon meetings.

Mike Tomaselli, a SIR Branch 161 member for approximately 17 months, has moved to Arizona. Our SIR

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.

Branch membership remains at 174.

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 July Zoom meeting, 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.

Golf, Larry Mensch

We played the very nice Woodbridge Course in Woodbridge, California during the time when all the forest fires were going on in California. Luckily it was a cooler day, and the smoke was not as bad as the day before.



				Gross	Net	Team Score
Team 1	Mensch (a)			83	71	
Quier (b)	98	79			126	2nd place \$8 each
Wiebe (b)	99	73				
Rentzel (c)	108	75				
Team 2	Denning (a)			82	69	
Emerson (c)	100	72			128	3rd place \$5 each
Pachucki (c)	113	85				
Blind Draw is Lutz (a)						
Team 3	Konold (a)			86	73	
Welton (c)	94	68			122	1st place \$13 each
Fanucchi (c)	101	72				
Blind Draw is Rana (b)						
Team 4	Bristow (a)			81	74	
Zierau (b)	104	79			138	5th place
Robertson (b)	105	80				
Spann (c)	122	88				
Team 5	Harris (a)			90	86	
Douglas (b)	122	97			148	6th place
Fry (b)	103	79				
Vargas (c)	116	80				
Team 6	Lutz (a)			90	74	
Rana (b)	94	75			137	4th place
Carmichael (b)	99	77				
Blind Draw is Spann						

Flighted Gross and Net Winners (1st low gross scores, then 1st low net etc..)

A flight	Gross	Net
1st Place \$2	Bristow 81	Denning 74
2nd Place \$1	Mensch 83	Konold 86

B flight	Gross	Net
1st Place \$2	Rana 94	Wiebe 73
2nd Place \$1	Quier 98	Zierau 79

C Flight	Gross	Net
1st Place \$2	Welton 94	Fanucchi 72
2nd Place \$1	Emerson 100	Rentzel 75

Skins winners: Mensch \$4.10, Denning \$8.25, Konold \$9.60, Bristow \$1.35 in bracket A. Winners in bracket B: Quier \$10.00, Vargas \$13.30, Emerson \$33.30. There is a one hole carryover for the A bracket and the B bracket.

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. The 2020 event was cancelled due to COVID 19 restrictions.

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

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