



SIR BRANCH 161 NEWS

Celebrating our 30th year! April, 2021

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

Rick Harris, Big Sir

It's hard to believe that it's been a year since the pandemic shut us down.



As far as the pandemic is concerned, things are continuing to improve overall and in the world of SIR. Many of you are now vaccinated, and in accordance with policy established by State SIR, your Branch Executive Committee has passed resolutions allowing the reinstatement of golf, bicycling, tennis and bocce ball as activities. Our first 2021 golf event was held last week, as you will read about in Larry's newsletter article.

As far as indoor activities, these are still a no-go for now, but the future looks promising. First, State SIR has to authorize them, and then logistics have to be worked out regarding what we can do. Our luncheon meetings at the Discovery Bay Country Club typically have been attended by about 120 members. Currently our county is in "red tier" status, which allows indoor dining at 25% capacity, which means 30 people at the club. The next tier will permit 50%, so you can do the math to predict where we will be. We will continue to monitor and work closely with Club management to get things re-booted as soon as permitted.

Keep in touch as best you can with your fellow Sirs, and enjoy spring!

Your 2021 Big Sir,
Rick Harris

Little Sir, Dennis Pachucki

Not much to say regarding Dinner with the Ladies, guest speakers, and SIR lunches while still on hiatus.



The good news is we are all starting to get our second dose of vaccines. Three of us on 3/19 made the drive to Antioch and had either Pfizer or Moderna with no lingering after effects. Now we'll see if we get to the goal of declaring Covid-19 independent by Independence Day.

I want to thank Bob Damico and Alan Jarvie for making the calls to bring our USPS newsletter mailings down from 27 to 18, saving our branch copying and mailing costs.

April Birthdays

Tom Biggam, Chris Diaz, John Douglas,
Saul Gold, Ray Hutchings, Bill Konold,
Ken Landoline, Don Rentzel, Paul Van Emmerik,
Hal Whitlow, Randy Zierau.

In this issue

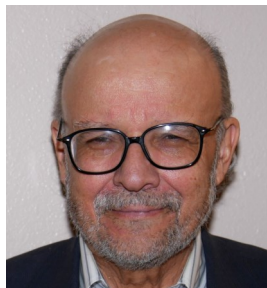
- Big Sir message
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COVID 19 Vaccination

If you need help scheduling a Covid 19 vaccination you can go to the County Health web site www.coronavirus.cchealth.org or call (833) 829-2626.

Membership, Luis Figueroa

We inducted a new member in March. His name is Dennis (Denny) O'Connell, sponsored by Bill Konold. Their photograph is shown below. Dennis' brief bio is also included below. The induction continues to demonstrate the Branch can still sponsor new members despite the Covid-19 pandemic not allowing us to hold regular SIR meetings. Simply transmit a completed membership application to me (please make sure it has the required signatures), and I will process the induction procedure from there and get approval from the BEC. The photographs of sponsor and new member can be transmitted to me separately or jointly if they happen to participate at a SIR sponsored event.



Denny O'Connell & sponsor Bill Konold

Dennis (Denny) O'Connell has lived in Brentwood for 20 years. He is a member of the Rough Riders. After 30 years with PG&E as a Systems Analyst he retired in 2000. His wife Joyce also retired soon after. Denny has 2 grown children and 3 wonderful grandchildren. He enjoys golfing and driving his two Hotrods.

In the loss column, Craig Wilson (Badge #26) has left the area. Craig had been a member of Branch 167 since 2011. In addition, Firoz Bharwani (Badge #059) passed away in March. Firoz had been a Branch 161 member since 2008.

At present, the branch membership stands at 166.

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.

Golf, Larry Mensch

We held our first tournament of the year at Manteca Park Golf Course in Manteca. First place went to the team of Konold, Ramsdell, and Fanucchi. Second place went to Denning, Welton, Welin and Vargas. Third place went to Mensch, Zierau, Emerson, and Spann. First low gross went to Rick Harris and second to Dale Welin in A flight and low net in A flight went to Bill Konold, and second place to Todd Ramsdell. In B flight, low gross went to Warren Emerson followed by Johnny Welton in second place. Low net in B flight went to Dennis Pachucki followed by Ken Fanucchi in second place.



Mike Quier is working on computing the skins game winners. Thank you Mike for doing this. There were 7 winners in the skins game. I am not listing them, except to say that we are going to watch Jim Spann who was the biggest winner with \$19.25.

Next month we are playing at Discovery Bay on Monday, April 19th. The cost is \$60 for non Discovery Bay Golf Club members and \$15 for Discovery Bay Golf Club members. Sign up as soon as you can by letting me know you are planning to play.

Larry Mensch ljmensch@comcast.net

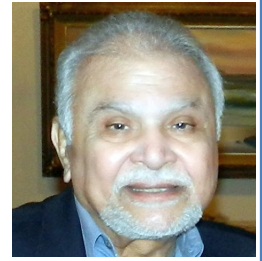
Bowling news, John Fry

Good news SIR bowlers, the Monday SIR bowling league is scheduled to restart on Monday April 5 at 9:30. There will be a short meeting before the league play starts.



In Memoriam

We are sad to report the passing of Firoz Bharwani on March 16, 2021. Firoz was a member of SIR Branch 161 for thirteen years.



At this time, we have no information on a Funeral/Memorial Service. We will share that information if/when it is available.

SIR Cyclers, Jerry Wiebe (916) 206-9221

The SIR Cyclers are back! Actually...they never really left. Several of us chose to ride together, non-sanctioned, but riding responsibly twice each week throughout the pandemic. It served as an outlet that kept us all active and fit, and in touch with each other. We put a lot of miles and stories on our bikes, frequently peddling over thirty miles on our early Sunday morning ride and enjoying a cup of coffee and man-chat on our shorter Thursday morning rides. We have been having fun.



It is time to grow our group, so we are looking for other cyclists to join us as our Branch and the SIR organization have once again sanctioned us to ride. We have missed seeing a lot of familiar faces from before and hope they, and new riders, will be coming out to join us. On Thursdays we take a 12-mile ride into Brentwood and back to enjoy some coffee and time together. We meet at Jerry's conveniently located driveway along our route at 2071 Windward Point in Discovery Bay at 9:00am and usually return around 11:00am.

Feel free to contact Jerry for any questions or uncertainties you may have. We hope to see you soon!



Spring has sprung and the vaccinations are kicking Covid's butt, so get out of the house and join us for some good ol' exercise, fun and socializing. Rudy, Phil, Jerry, Lee, Sean (and not pictured) Ed and Bruce are going to be looking

Activities—Alan Jarvie

Some time in the next week, I'll be emailing a questionnaire to gather information on which activities our members would like to see. Please keep an eye open for the email.

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 mail a check for \$20 (made out to SIR Branch 161) 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 Phil Newlin by the Friday preceding the meeting if you don't plan to attend.

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Your newsletter team



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