



# SIR BRANCH 161 NEWS

Celebrating our 30th year! July, 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 has been a long time since our last luncheon meeting, and I am pleased to announce that we will be able to meet Tuesday, July 13. Rather than have a speaker for this first meeting, we plan to recognize those members who reached significant milestones, and honor those who have passed during the pandemic. I hope most of you will be able to join us at the Discovery Bay Country Club! As always, the meeting begins at noon, but you should arrive a little early because of what I have to say next. Cost for this luncheon will be \$20. To attend, there are some requirements you must comply with:



1. You (and any guests) **must complete and sign a waiver (included with this newsletter)**. If you have the ability to do so, please complete, **scan and email to Alan Jarvie (akjarvie1@gmail.com)**. If you don't have the ability to scan and send to Alan, please print and complete it, and bring it to the meeting. Due to involvement in other activities, some of you have already done this, and if so you don't have to repeat it.
2. Upon arrival at the meeting, you (and any guests) **must show proof of vaccination (the card, or a photo of it)**. This is a one-time measure ... we won't retain a copy and will simply record on a list that you have presented it.
3. Attendees at the luncheon should be members in good standing, current on payment of 2021 dues, which became delinquent in April. Please bring your \$20 payment to the meeting if you haven't paid, or if you can't remember if you have!

With compliance to #1 and #2 above, **we will not be required to wear masks at the meeting**. As always, however, if you don't feel well, please play it safe and stay home. Due to the covid protocol, the check-in process will be more complicated than normal. To help the line flow as smoothly as possible, we ask that you **bring a pre-written check or exact change (\$20 or \$40, depending on your dues status) to the meeting**. Checks should be made out to "SIR Branch 161".

This is also a good time to reiterate our attendance policy for luncheon meetings. If you are a member, you are on the list to attend. **IF YOU ARE NOT GOING TO BE ABLE TO ATTEND, YOU ARE REQUIRED TO NOTIFY OUR ATTENDANCE DIRECTOR, Phil Newlin by the Friday preceding the meeting**. We have to provide a headcount to the venue and commit to paying for the meals, so if you do not respect the protocol you will be liable for the cost of the meal.

### Phil Newlin's contact information:

newlinp@sbcglobal.net

Phone: (408) 505-5359

We are looking forward to this first step back to a new normal, and seeing all your smiling faces again!

Your 2021 Big Sir,

Rick Harris

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**SIR EVENT WAIVER AND RELEASE OF  
LIABILITY FOR EXPOSURE TO COVID-19**

**Branch Name:** Discovery Bay

**Branch Number:** 161

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic and the general unavailability of insurance to cover liability related to that matter, the SIR branch listed above ("Branch") is requiring members, visiting SIR members from other branches, guest speakers, guests, and spouses/significant others attending events sponsored by the Branch or by Sons in Retirement, Incorporated ("State Sir") to agree to the following:

1. In attending activities sponsored by the Branch or State SIR, the undersigned agrees to comply with mask, social distancing, and other Covid-19 protocols required by applicable government bodies, the Branch, State SIR, and the applicable venue. Failure to do so will result in the attendee being asked to leave the event.
2. Regardless of adherence to mandated protocols, requirements, recommendations, and vaccinations, the undersigned acknowledges that there is a risk of Covid-19 exposure whenever an individual enters a public space, a building with other people, or a group of other individuals.
3. Knowing the foregoing risk, the undersigned assumes the risk of Covid-19 exposure and accepts sole responsibility for any exposure to Covid-19 and resulting health conditions that may occur due to attendance at a Branch or State SIR event.
4. The undersigned hereby releases and holds harmless the Branch, State SIR, and their respective officers, directors, and members from any and all responsibility for illness, death, or other losses arising from exposure to Covid-19 at a Branch or State SIR event.

**THE UNDERSIGNED HAS READ AND UNDERSTANDS THE ABOVE WAIVER AND RELEASE, UNDERSTANDS THE RISKS POSED BY COVID-19, AND SIGNS THE WAIVER AND RELEASE VOLUNTARILY.**

Attendee's Name (print): \_\_\_\_\_

Attendee's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Once you sign this document, it is valid for all future Branch and or State activities.

## Little Sir, Dennis Pachucki

Lunch is being served and all Sirs are invited to attend our July 13 meeting and partake in the Chicken Cordon Blue, steamed red potatoes, broccoli with cheese lunch. The one caveat as stated in the Big Sir message is you will need to show proof of vaccinations and sign a State SIR mandated waiver. Hope to see you all there..



### July Birthdays

Harlan Averitt, Bob Bradley, Murray Cole, Jerry Dittman, Dick Jamison, Tom Jones, Tom Kirtley, Richard Laforge, Denny O'Connell, Lowell Onstad, Gino Pagano, Rudy Promani, Dan Riordan,

## Podcast Corner by Phil Newlin

Fellow Sirs, if you have an interest in learning about and understanding the world around you, some of its history, about human nature, and other areas of general interest, this Podcast Corner may be of interest to you.



Each month, I'll suggest one or more educational/informational podcast episodes that I have discovered or have been member-recommended. I'll give a brief description and a web link for each episode.

If you have a recommended podcast episode that you believe would be of interest to our members, please send it to me for review and inclusion in one of the next newsletters. Send your suggestions to [newlinp@sbcglobal.net](mailto:newlinp@sbcglobal.net).

If you are not familiar with podcasts, they are an audio show, like a radio show, available on the internet. There are many subjects by many authors available.

Pretty much anybody can create a podcast on any subject, publish it to the world, and they are free. Here are a couple of links describing the basics of podcasts and how to access them. It assumes you have some familiarity with operating your computer or mobile device and how to get apps. If you need help, please contact me at [newlinp@sbcglobal.net](mailto:newlinp@sbcglobal.net) or text/call at 408-505-5359.

<https://theartofsimple.net/listentopodcasts/>

<https://noguiltlife.com/podcast-101-how-to-listen-to-podcasts/>

The first couple that I will recommend, come from a series, 99% Invisible, that covers many different subjects, their meaning, history, and trivia. Categories include History, Infrastructure, Visual, Objects, Cities, Technology, and Architecture. The podcast series can be found at [www.99pi.org](http://www.99pi.org).

### Episode 308, Curb Cuts,

<https://99percentinvisible.org/episode/curb-cuts/> describes how they got started and by whom, and how the movement advanced. An interesting and entertaining story with bits of trivia included. Ever wonder where the football huddle originated?

### Episode 443, Matters of Time,

<https://99percentinvisible.org/episode/matters-of-time/> covers a few different aspects our worldly time system. Check it out to learn what a "knocker-upper" is, and what (geographically) large country has only one time zone and why.

I hope you enjoy this inaugural Podcast Corner and these podcasts and share them with others. I'm looking forward to your recommendations.

### Editor's Note

A big thanks to Phil for suggesting this new addition to our newsletter, and for volunteering to lead it.



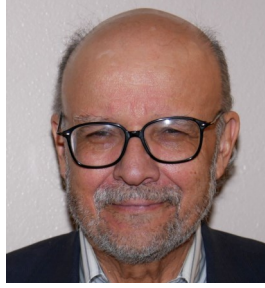
## Membership, Luis Figueroa

The branch inducted Dan Lippstreu (sponsored by Johnny Welton) in May. Dan and Johnny's photo is shown below.

Dan was born in Fairfield California and attended K-12 schools there. After graduating, he attended Chico State for 5 years and received a teaching credential in Physical Education. There he played Golf at Chico state for 4 years where he was honored as an All American. He also taught one semester at Chico Senior High School. From there, he went into the Army reserve and was stationed in Vallejo California. After basic training, he sold real estate.

He then was able to get sponsors & qualify for the PGA Golf Tour and played the Tour in 1969 & 1970. He was able to qualify for the Hawaiian Open, Bing Crosby, Bob Hope, LA Open, Southern California Open, Tucson Open, Bryon Nelson Classic, New Orleans Open, Atlanta Classic, Doral Classic & the Tallahassee Open.

He later landed a job as an assistant & teaching professional at Willow Park Golf Course in Castro Valley, and was there for 1 1/2 years before becoming the Head Golf Professional at Las Positas Golf Course in Livermore, California where he stayed for 35 years before retiring in 2006.



Some highlights while at Las Positas included: named by "Sports Illustrated" in 1982 as the Jr. Golf Promoter of the year for the whole United States & in 1983 he was named the most Outstanding Golf Professional

for the Northern California Professional Golf Association.

He spent 2 years as president, and 4 years as President of the Junior Golf Association of Northern California, which included 17 years of service.

Dan was married in 1966 & had two incredible daughters, while being married for 26 yrs. In 1992 he met his present wife, Luka, and they have been married for 25 plus years.

Dan lived in Pleasanton for 35 years and after retiring he moved to Angels Camp, California. In September of this year he moved to Brentwood, Ca. to be closer to family.

In the loss column we were saddened by the passing of Micheal White. Micheal had been a member of Branch 161 since 1999, and was our Little Sir in 2015 and Big Sir in 2016. In addition, John Hull has recently left our branch.

As the branch reopens we plan to restart the regular in-person membership induction process.

The membership application continues to be the same. Simply transmit a completed application (please make sure it has the required signatures) to me, and I will process the induction package from there, and get approval from the BEC.

As the luncheons resume, photographs of the new member and their sponsor can be taken together prior to the luncheons. However, as an alternative you can also transmit the joint photo to me separately a few days prior to the luncheon to help speed up the process.

Our Branch membership is currently at 164.

### 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.

## Bowling news, John Fry

The Monday Sirs & Ladies bowling league just completed the shortened winter session. The winning Team is the Pandemics; Karen Capra, Dennis Pachucki, John Reichenbach, and Mary Ann Reichenbach.

The Season High Score winners are as follows:

Men's Scratch Series, 717 Paul Elmer.

Men's Scratch Game, 264 Tony Guarascio.

Men's Handicap Series, 885 Roy Bristow.

Men's Handicap Game, 303 Jerry Dittman.

Women's Scratch Series, 645 Rosie Elmer.

Women's Scratch Game, 236 Marie Wilson.

Women's Handicap Series, 791 Terry Damico.

Women's Handicap Game, 311 Mary Ann Reichenbach.



**ATTENTION BOWLERS** we could use a few more bowlers for the Summer League.

The new league starting date is Monday 6/14/2021. Bowling starts at 9:30.

If you are interested, contact John Fry 925-783-5614.

## In Memoriam



We were sad to learn of the sudden passing of our fellow Sir Micheal White on June 18, 2021.

Micheal joined Branch 161 in July 1999 - a near 22-year member. During that time, he was a loyal member, serving on the Executive Board for over twelve years - in several roles:

He was Director of and managed the Dinner with the Ladies program for four years,

He was our Little Sir in 2015 , and our Big Sir in 2016.

He served as Senior Advisor 2017-2021, and was on the Nominating Committee 2018-2021.

Please keep Micheal, Jerrie and their families in your thoughts and prayers.

Micheal will be buried at the San Joaquin National Cemetery in Santa Nella . We will share any Information on a Memorial service when that information becomes available.

## **SIR Cyclers, Jerry Wiebe (916) 206-9221**

The SIR Cyclers continue their scheduled rides every week riding each Thursday into Brentwood for a coffee stop, and riding Sunday for a longer and more challenging ride on the Marsh Creek Trail through Brentwood, Oakley and Antioch. Occasionally they take their bikes into the Livermore Valley where they peddle up Mines Road to the Lake Del Valle entrance, about an 860-foot climb from Robertson Park. It is a test of stamina for we seniors, yet very self-rewarding and inspirationally fun, especially the thrilling ride back down the hill! We look ahead to plan travels to our surrounding areas and more fresh experiences. The Cyclers are a healthy, hardy group who enjoy each other's company while riding together to their destinations.



During the upcoming warm months and longer days, we assemble and leave from Jerry's driveway at 2071 Windward Point at 8:30am.

Several new members have joined us, and we would love to see more of you. If you would like to join in on the fun, contact Jerry with any questions you may have, then get that bicycle you have hanging on the wall of your garage down, and come along for some healthy exercise and camaraderie.

### **Update and more good news for all our SIR Bicyclists:**

A Bike Lane is scheduled to be installed sometime this year on Walnut Blvd. between Marsh Creek and Vasco Road by the County Public Works Dept per East Contra Costa County Bicycle Advisory Committee.

Pedestrian/Bicycle Flashing Lights that were installed for the Marsh Creek Trail Crossings at Delta Rd. and, also, Laurel Rd. in Oakley. They are in an awkward place for use by cyclists but are working.

Mokelumne Aqueduct Trail Bridge - The Bicycle/Pedestrian Bridge over Highway 4 near Lone Tree is funded by Contra Costa Transit Authority and is still scheduled to be completed by the end of this year.

The Marsh Creek Trail bike path extension in Oakley through the former DuPont chemical plant has been built. It is not yet linked up to the Marsh Creek Trail at Big Break due to a piece that has Vineyards on it due to that property's use and is still in negotiation.

## **Activities, Alan Jarvie (408) 219 8240**

We re-started SIR Poker on June 21; this is a weekly, low-stakes, 7-player game, played 6:30-9:30 on Monday evenings, and hosted by the players on a rotating basis. We use a rotating schedule with everyone playing ~4 times every 5-6 weeks, this arrangement works best with a pool of at least 10-12, so there's definitely room to add more players. Let me know if you'd like to join in.



We'd like to get Wine Tasting restarted in July; as before, we plan to hold our monthly tastings on the 4th Thursday of the month, @ 5:00pm. We design the tastings for 12 couples / 24 participants, providing 24 1-ounce tastings per bottle; each couple brings a bottle of wine for tasting, (typically, these are moderately priced wines, recent winners include several varieties of Trader Joe's "2 buck Chuck"), and an appetizer to share. The bottles are covered to protect the wine's "identity", each taster scores each wine, and at the end of the evening the scores are totaled and the wines are uncovered. We need hosts to volunteer for the four tastings planned for this year – July 22, August 26, September 23 and October 28 – we'll skip November & December due to the holidays. Please let me know if you're interested in joining in, and especially if you'd like to host one of the four 2021 tastings.

Please note that our SIR COVID protocol applies to both these activities, all attendees - including spouses and guests - must sign a waiver, and show proof of vaccination (we don't need, and won't retain, a copy of this vaccination record).

## Elkhorn Golf Results - June 15, 2021, Larry Mensch

We had 3 competitions at Elkhorn. I include optional, individual computations so that if your team is not doing well, you may still have an opportunity to win some money in the individual competitions.



The Team Competition was won by the Konold, Rentzel, Pachucki, Onstad team with a team score of 121. They earned \$14 each. The second place team, with of score of 126, was Denning, Sutton, Fanucchi, and Wellton, earning \$9 each. The third place team of Mensch, O'Connell, Douglas and Zierau, with a score of 131, earned \$2 each.

### Optional Low Gross/Low Net Competition by Flight:

#### A Flight - Handicap 0 to 25

Lowell Onstad won 1st place low gross in a card off against Bill Konold. Both shot a gross 88. Next comes the low net player. Both Bill Konold and Tom Denning scored a net 72 and Tom Denning won in that card off. Now back to 2nd place low gross. In his third card off, Bill Konold beat Chris Diaz for 2nd place low gross. And, Chris Diaz took 2nd place low net. \$12 each for 1st place low gross and 1st place low net. \$5 each for 2nd place low gross and 2nd place low net.

Summary:	Low gross	
	1st place Lowell Onstad	\$12
	2nd place Bill Konold	\$5
	Low net	
	1st place Tom Denning	\$12
	2nd place Chris Diaz	\$5

#### B Flight - Handicap 26 to 36

1st place, low gross, went to Dennis Pachucki with a score of 100. 1st place low net went to Don Rentzel, net 74, who won in a card off against Ken Fanucchi. John Fry took 2nd place low gross with a score of 102 and Ken Fanucchi took 2nd place low net with his score of 74.

Summary:	Low gross	
	1st place Dennis Pachucki	\$15
	2nd place John Fry	\$7
	Low net	
	1st place Don Rentzel	\$15
	2nd place Ken Fanucchi	\$7

### Optional Skins Competitions by Flight:

#### A Flight – Handicap 0 to 18 (no pops on par 3's)

There were only 4 players in this group which usually results more skins but each skin has a lesser dollar amount. Rounded out to lesser whole dollar amount.

Summary:	Larry Mensch	3 skins	\$4
	Chris Diaz	3 skins	\$4
	Bill Konold	4 skins	\$6
	Tom Denning	3 skins	\$4

#### B Flight – Handicap 19 to maximum of 36 (only one pop on par 3's)

There were a lot more players in this group and hence less skins but of greater dollar value per skin.

Summary:	Denny O'Connell	1 skin	\$8
	John Fry	1 skin	\$8
	John Douglas	1 skin	\$8
	Jim Spann	2 skins	\$16
	Dennis Pachucki	1 skin	\$8
	Lowell Onstad	1 skin	\$8
	Johnny Welton	1 skin	\$8

Our next competition is at the Reserve in Stockton on July 20th. The cost is \$53 which includes green fees, cart, range balls and prize fund. Please let me know as soon as possible if you intend to play. Optional game fees are not included and you pay for those ahead of time or at the golf course.

### Ever wonder what happened to Sirs who moved out of the area?



Prior Branch 161 Sir Craig Wilson and his wife Mary at their new home in Bend, Oregon. Photo taken by Jerry Wiebe when he and Sue recently visited their good friends the Wilsons.



## 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.

Phil Newlin: [newlinp@sbcglobal.net](mailto:newlinp@sbcglobal.net)

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### Your newsletter team



**Tom Jones**  
*Editor and email  
distribution*



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