



SIR BRANCH 161 NEWS

Celebrating our 30th year! November, 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 difficult to believe it's already November and the holidays are approaching. As the pandemic continues to improve, I hope you are able to spend some quality time with friends and family. And you can also spend some quality time with your fellow Sirs!



Our next Luncheon Meeting will be November 9, and Dennis Pachucki will describe more about it in his article. Also, the Branch Executive Committee decided to proceed with our Holiday Luncheon with spouses/partners on December 14. The meal will be special, and there will be entertainment! This will be a ticketed event, so make sure you get signed up early, and details about how to do so can be found elsewhere in this newsletter. Also, take note that the spouses/partners will need to comply with the Covid protocols by showing proof of vaccination and signing a waiver. You can help out by bringing this information to the November 9 Luncheon Meeting, as this will reduce the amount of congestion at the December event.

Finally, I should mention that my schedule coordinator made arrangements that preclude my attendance at the November meeting. I regret not being there, but she has the ultimate authority and I must obey. Little Sir (and 2022 Big Sir) Dennis Pachucki will get a practice run before taking the reins; go easy on him!

Little Sir, Dennis Pachucki

November Lunch Menu

Chicken Marsala, steamed red potatoes, vegetable medley.

November Guest Speaker

Al Sauvadon. Topic will be varied, about SIR and some of his experiences.



*Little Sir Dennis Pachucki with October speaker
Louis Quezada*

November Birthdays

Frank Cramer, Ken Graunstadt,
Chuck Niessen, Ashwani Rana, John Sutton,
Walter Robertson, Andrew Zwemer.

In this issue

- Big Sir message; Little Sir report
- Christmas Luncheon
- Membership report
- SIR Cyclers; Activities
- Golf news
- Bowling report; Podcast Corner
- Policy and responsibility clauses

Christmas Luncheon—Dennis Pachucki

I am pleased to announce that we will be having a Christmas Lunch for our members and their ladies or guests. Our luncheon will be held on Tuesday, December 14. Social hour starts at 11:00am, with lunch following at noon. Crepes and sides will be served, along with dessert. Entertainment is Bill Ramirez and companions, a crowd favorite from a couple of years ago.

Tickets are \$25 each and can be purchased at our November meeting or directly from Jerry Wiebe. Contact Jerry at 916 206-9221 to arrange to drop off your check and pick up your tickets.

Because of Contra Costa County's ongoing Covid restrictions, our guests will need to complete and sign the waiver below and show their proof of Covid vaccination record. Please try to bring a copy of the ladies proof of vaccinations and waiver to the November meeting if possible, otherwise these will need to be presented at the luncheon. This will speed up entry for the luncheon. The waiver below can also be downloaded from our web site (www.sir161.org).

We're looking forward to seeing you all for an enjoyable afternoon.

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

Branch Name and Number: Branch 161, Discovery Bay.

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. 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: _____

Membership, Luis Figueroa

In October we inducted three new members - Phil Kepp, Rich Allen, and Mike Sadler. Phil, Rich, and Mike are sponsored by Dan Lippstreu, Al Sauvadon, and Russ Reid respectively. Photos and brief bios (except Phil Kepp) of the new members along with their sponsors are shown below.



Rich Allen retired in 2002. He and his wife moved to Discovery Bay in 2009 where they now reside in a home overlooking the 10th tee of the Discovery Bay Golf Club. They have been active boaters in the Delta for over 45 years. Prior to his retirement he worked as a design engineer for Intel and later at Soletron where he was a Director and VP. He has also worked at the Department of Commerce .

Rich has been an active member of the Discovery Bay Corvette and Yacht Clubs. His sons also currently reside in Discovery Bay. Rich and his wife continue to be active in their community. He looks forward to being an active SIR member.

Mike Sadler moved to Brentwood 31 years ago from Southern California. He currently lives with his daughter and two grand daughters. He has another son and daughter who live in Livermore and Seattle respectively. Mike has 15 grand children. He has enjoyed fishing in Alaska for the last 20+ years and has fished in many California areas. He enjoys many sports and on occasion a glass of red wine.



Phil Kepp (left) with his sponsor, Dan Lippstreu



Mike Sadler (right) with his sponsor, Russ Reid
At the October luncheon we had one guest-Harold Sagert (sponsored by John Fry).

Remember, any branch member who brings in a guest will receive a free bottle of wine. If the guest decides to become a member, his sponsor will also be rewarded with a free lunch certificate. The member who sponsors the most new members for the year will receive an additional free lunch certificate.

If a guest wants to become a member of our branch please direct him to our website so they can download the latest application form. If you plan to bring a guest to the luncheon you need to contact either Phil Newlin (ward28fred-sirs@yahoo.com) or Luis Figueroa (figueroa50@yahoo.com) so we can plan for the additional meals and also prepare guest packages.

In September Art McDonald has left the branch and is leaving the area.

The branch membership stands at 148.



Rich Allen (left) with his sponsor, Al Sauvadon

SIR Cyclers, Jerry Wiebe (916) 206-9221

SIR Cyclers have changed the Fall and Winter starting time to 9:00 a.m. as the daylight starts getting short and the weather somewhat cooler. They will continue to have their short rides on Thursday and longer rides on Monday, weather permitting.

Every Thursday the Cyclers pedal into Brentwood. This ride includes a coffee stop. Mondays they go for a longer and more challenging ride, often along the Marsh Creek Trail through Brentwood and Oakley. Occasionally they take their bicycles into the Livermore Valley for even more challenging bicycle trails.

All levels of bicycling experience are welcome, including those that may prefer to ride electric bikes. The Cyclers are well suited to help others brush up on their riding skills if you haven't ridden for a while. You've heard it said that it's as easy as riding a bicycle!

The Cyclers assemble and leave from Jerry's driveway at 2071 Windward Point in Discovery Bay. If you would like to join in the fun, contact Jerry with any questions; then get that bicycle down you have hanging on the wall of your garage, dust it off, and come along for some healthy exercise and camaraderie.



Activities, Alan Jarvie (408) 219 8240

As noted in last month's Newsletter, we have put our Wine Tasting program on hiatus through the end of the year. We expect conditions will allow us to resume our monthly tastings in January 2022 - as before, on the 4th Thursday of the each month - and we have hosts lined up through the first four months of the year - Pam and I on January 27, Randy & Lynda Zierau on February 24, Vince & Bobbi Vargas on March 24, and Dick & Cam Donald on April 28.

Also, we need poker players !! We routinely play with 7 at the table (7 being the optimum number for poker), we use a rotating schedule with 9 players with everyone playing 4 times every 5-6 weeks, and also giving us the ability to schedule around players' travel plans, family commitments, etc. However, for a variety of reasons, these nine players will drop to six by the end of October, so if one of us can't play for any reason, we don't have a game. We'd like to add 4-6 players to the group; this is a nickel-dime game completely suitable for rookies, so if you'd like to join in please let me know - 408-219-8240, akjarvie1@gmail.com



20-year awards (presented by Big Sir Rick Harris)



Bob Damico



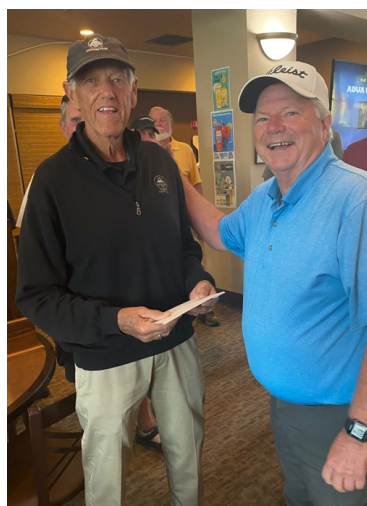
Ed Fitzpatrick

Golf News, Larry Mensch

Our championship tournament was held at Paradise Valley Golf Course in Fairfield. It was an individual low net tournament. Chris Diaz scored a low net of 65 and is our 2021 Champion. Chris is in the red hat receiving the award.



Next season Johnny Welton is taking over the SIR golf for our branch. Thank you very much for volunteering to do that. Johnny (on the right below) is thanking Larry for the work he has done for the last 2 years.



I want to thank all the golfers who participated in our tournaments this year. You are a great group of guys and I appreciate all the support over the past 2 years. Thank you for your card and over the top gift. I truly appreciate all of you. Larry

The results are listed below.

Individual Low NET	Net	\$\$
Chris Diaz	65	\$50
Jim Spann	68	\$40
Ken Fanucchi	68	\$40
Sid Cruser	69	\$30
John Fry	69	\$30
Lee Donnell	74	\$10
Bill Hartman	74	\$10
Mike Carmichael	74	\$10
A Flight Skins	(#)	\$\$
Chris Diaz	2	\$10
Larry Mensch	1	\$5
Johnny Welton	1	\$5
Lowell Onstad	1	\$5
B Flight Skins	(#)	\$\$
Sid Cruser	1	\$14
Ken Fanucchi	1	\$14
Randy Zierau	1	\$14
Vince Varus	1	\$14
Jim Spann	1	\$14

A Flight Low Gross/Low Net

1st Low Gross	Chris Diaz	\$10
1st Low Net	Lee Donnell	\$10
2nd Low Gross	Larry Mensch	\$5
2nd Low Net	Bill Konold	\$5

B Flight Low Gross/Low Net

1st Low Gross	John Fry	\$24
1st Low Net	Ken Fanucchi	\$24
2nd Low Gross	Jim Spann	\$11
2nd Low Net	Sid Cruser	\$11

Bowling news, John Fry

The Monday SIR and Ladies Bowling league is now in the fifth week of league play. We bowl every Monday at Harvest Park Bowl starting at 10:00 AM.

We always have room for new bowlers, no experience necessary.

If you haven't bowled in our league before and are interested in joining the league please let me know. (John Fry 925 783 5614)



The annual SIR State Bowling Tournament is scheduled for November 4 & 5 at McHenry bowl in Modesto, California. The reigning Doubles champions from the 2019 tournament, the last year the tournament was held due to Covid restrictions, are Branch 161 Members Ron Wilson and Keith Jones.

Entry applications are available on the SIR Bowling website <http://www.sirinc3.org/sirBowling/index.html>

Podcast Corner, Phil Newlin

Fellow Sirs, welcome back to this month's edition of Podcast Corner. I hope that you enjoyed and improved your knowledge with the podcasts suggested in previous newsletters. Below is this month's suggested podcast for you and I've included last month's suggestion, in case you missed it.



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 website link for each episode.

If you have a recommended podcast episode or subject category, such as hot rods, golf, or healthcare, that you believe would be of interest to the members, please send it to me for research, or review and inclusion in one of the next newsletters. Send your suggestions to newlinp@sbcglobal.net.

If you are not familiar with podcasts, go to the inaugural edition in the July 2021 newsletter, where you'll find information about podcasts and how to get started.

This month's recommended podcast again comes from 99% Invisible from their Object category describing the history of margarine, going back to Napoleon Bonaparte days when margarine was born out of contest! Listen, learn, and enjoy.

Episode 462, <https://99percentinvisible.org/episode/i-cant-believe-its-pink-margarine/>

Previous month's recommended podcast:

Episode 454, <https://99percentinvisible.org/episode/war-famine-pestilence-and-design/>

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

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. Dues will be \$25 starting 2022.

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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