



SIR BRANCH 161 NEWS

Celebrating our 31st year! March 2022

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

Dennis Pachucki, Big Sir

Happy St. Patrick's Day to all you Irish and non-Irish Sirs. This month also includes the first day of spring and as the old saying goes "in like a lion out like a lamb". However, this year's weather has been so warm that's not the case. But we can say the Covid-19 has moved from pandemic to endemic phase, charting a more purposeful path as we learn to live with the pathogen. Masks will not be required to be worn indoors at the Country Club; However, if you feel compelled to wear one, no problem. Being I brought up masks, a review of our SIR lunch attire is in order now that we're resuming monthly meetings. Denim is not allowed to be worn at our main dining room lunches and, as a matter of courtesy/etiquette, hats should not be worn during lunch and the meeting, and of course collared shirts to be worn.

Some future events that are reminding us we're getting back to normalcy we can look forward to over the next few months are: Dinners with the Ladies at Sweeney's, Cap's, and Smith's Landing and also wine tasting beginning in April.

Hope to see you all at our March meeting.

Dennis Pachucki, Big Sir.



Next luncheon meeting

Tuesday, March 8, 2022.

Gary Hess Award

On 2/8/2022, Gary Hess, Branch 161 Member since 2/8/1993 (29 years!!), and our Chaplain from 2004 through 2019 was honored with a Certificate of Appreciation for his Exemplary Dedication and Service as our Chaplain for sixteen years.

We always looked forward to Gary's monthly Invocation / spiritual messages, followed by his humorous closing stories; Both were always a highlight of our meetings. Thank you Gary!!



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Little Sir, Ken Landoline

It was great to see many of you at our first 2022 on-site luncheon meeting in February. Let's hope the diminishing COVID case load will enable this year to be a more normal SIR year with regularly scheduled monthly lunches and a full complement of other SIR activities. The meeting enabled us to catch up with January and February birthday recognitions and award presentations, as well as kick-off our 2022 speaker program with a very timely and relevant presentation on the current state and outlook of the East County realty market by Brian Sharp of Sharp Realty.



The upcoming March 8th luncheon speaker will be Chuck Hunter of the East Contra Costa Historical Society who will give us an introduction to the Society, a brief description of its facility, and a synopsis of the restorative projects he has in progress. April's luncheon speaker will be Dina Breitstein, the relatively new Discovery Bay Town Manager, to update us on the operations of the Discovery Bay Community Service District after her first six months on the job.

March Luncheon Menu

Corned Beef and Cabbage, steamed cauliflower and carrots, boiled potatoes, dinner roll and dessert.

March Birthdays

Steve Bordi, Terry Brekke, Ron Crawford,
John Davis, Jake Fair, Dave Goodwin,
Alan Jarvie, Keith Jones, Gary Leonis,
Gary Lewis, Mike Maita, Umberto Marconi,
Floyd McBeth, Sean Murphy, Dennis Pachucki,
Don Sarkozy, Vince Vargas

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.

Wine Tasting, Gary Tucker

Now that indoor mask wearing is no longer required the couples wine tasting will resume on April 28th and continue on the fourth Tuesday each month. Please contact Gary Tucker at (925)634-0930 or email at Mytoothddoc@comcast.net. The first 12 couples who register will receive confirmation and location of the event. The tasting starts at 5P.M. and usually lasts about two hours. Each couple brings a bottle of wine and an appetizer for 24 people to be shared.

Golf News, Johnny Welton

If you want to add someone to the SIR 161 Golf Activity distribution email, please send me an email: johnnywelton40@gmail.com



WE ARE NOW TAKING RESERVATIONS FOR ALL EVENTS.

March 15 at Manteca Park is our first event of the season and registration closed March 1. Tuesday, April 19 we have our second event at Swenson Park - 9:00 am start with a box lunch and drink. Each event (except the Individual Championship) will include Team Play and Closest to the Pin. Team play is based on two best net scores (\$10 First, \$6 Second, and \$4 Third).

Awards for closest to the pin will be \$5 for closest and \$3 for second closest to the hole with two flights. Low Gross, Low Net, and Skins games will be available @ \$5 cash each paid at the event.

All events are \$54 each. Payments for golf shall be paid by check and all checks will be made out to "SIR Branch 161." Golf checks should be given to me or mailed to: Johnny Welton, 5751 Prestwick Court, Discovery Bay, CA 94505. Cell: 925-876-5844. Payments need to be received by the first of the month in which the event is scheduled.

SIR Branch 161 2022 GOLF SCHEDULE

Tuesday, April 19	Swenson Park, Stockton
Tuesday, May 17	Lone Tree, Antioch
Tuesday, June 21	Elkhorn, Stockton
Tuesday, July 19	The Reserve, Stockton
Tuesday, August 16	Las Positas, Livermore
Tuesday, September 20	Rio Vista, Rio Vista
Thursday, October 6	SIR Individual Championship at Diablo Creek, Concord

Our goal is 24 players at each event this year. We currently have 32 spots for each event. We need everyone to recruit players (SIR members, guests, etc.) that will sign up for every event. We don't want anyone to miss out on the fun! More information is provided by email, so if you're not on the email list, send me an email and get all the information.

Have a good one!
Johnny

Podcast Corner by 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 Objects category describing potatoes from Idaho, lakes from Minnesota, and wars over slogans, all because of license plates. Listen, learn, and enjoy.

Episode 434, <https://99percentinvisible.org/episode/artistic-license/>

Previous month's recommended podcast:

Episode 473, <https://99percentinvisible.org/episode/mini-stories-volume-14/>

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

Bowling news, John Fry

The Monday Sirs and Ladies Bowling league is now in week 23 of a 35 week league.

We bowl every Monday at Harvest Park Bowl starting at 10:00 AM.

First place is Team 7, Todd Ramsdell, Tom Kirtley, Don Patterson and Fred Critchfield.

Second place is Team 5, Karen Capra, Dennis Pachucki, Mary Ann Reichenbach, and John Reichenbach.

Third place is Team 9, Skip Zehnder, Maddie Brickwedel, Harold Sagert, and John Fry.

Season high Scores are,

Men's Scratch Series, 719 Mitch Wisinski, 660 Ron Wilson, 609 John Fry.

Men's Scratch Game, 280 Bob Damico, 258 Paul Elmer, 245 Todd Ramsdell.

Men's Handicap Series, 804 Dennis Pachucki, 796 Jerry Dittman, 795 Ken Fanucchi.

Men's Handicap Game, 312 Tony Gaurasico 309 Harold Sagert, 298 Russ Reid.

Women's Scratch Series, 698 Vicky Reid, 622 Marie Wilson, 515 Diane Leonis.

Women's Scratch Game, 247 Rosie Elmer, 237 Natalie Paris, 195 Maddie Brickwedel.

Women's Handicap Series, 807 Tami Fanucchi, 787 Val Heck, 780 Eloise Gatson.

Women's handicap Game, 296 Terry Damico, 295 Alice Disney, 275 Diane Leonis.



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Bowling ... Continued from page 4

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 next SIR Bowling Tournament is being held at Clayton Valley Bowl on either Tuesday March 22 or Wednesday March 23. It is a singles and doubles event plus handicap all events.
The cost including handicap all events is \$49.00 per bowler.

Dinner with the Ladies Dennis Pachucki

When: March 22, 2022

Where: Sweeney's Grill & Bar, 301 Oak Street, Brentwood

Time: Arrival & Cocktails starting at 5:00 pm. Dinner served at 6:00 pm

Menu Choices: Salad, dessert & non-alcoholic beverage (soft-drink, water, coffee) are included.

Entrees:

- Sirloin Steak with mashed potatoes and fresh vegetable
- Grilled Fresh Salmon with rice and fresh vegetable
- Jumbo Fried Prawns with rice and fresh vegetable
- Grilled Chicken Breast with mashed potatoes and fresh vegetable

Cost: \$32.00 per person (includes tax and tip)

Deadline: We need your RSVP no later than Friday, March 17 – there will be envelopes at our General Meeting on March 8. Please send your checks to me in advance.

Please make your checks out to Dennis Pachucki and mail to
2125 Sand Point Road, Discovery Bay, CA 94505.
Cell phone 408-309-5206

Sweeney's is located at 301 Oak Street (at the northwest corner of 1st Street) in downtown Brentwood.

----- Detach and mail with your check -----

Your Name(s) _____ Phone: _____

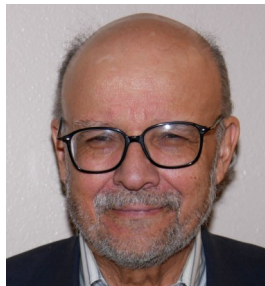
Your Menu choice(s):

Sirloin Steak _____ Grilled Fresh Salmon _____

Jumbo Fried Prawns _____ Grilled Chicken Breast _____

Membership, Luis Figueroa

During February we inducted 3 new members. Skip Zehnder (sponsor is Dave Cirulli), Steve Smith (sponsor is Robb Robertson), and Edward Ritner (sponsor is Tom Jones).



Calvin (Skip) Zehnder has lived in Discovery Bay since early 2021 after moving from Rossmoor in Walnut Creek. Previously he and his wife had lived in Louisville, KY. They have one daughter and two granddaughters.

He has worked in the retail clothing, and also served as a Project Manager for Stored Values System, and Citigroup. He also owned an accounting and bookkeeping business. He is an active Lions Club member, where he was a District Manager in 2018-19. He enjoys bowling, bicycling, reading, and going to the gym.

Steve Smith has lived in Brentwood approximately 1 year, and has been a Contra Costa county resident since 1974. He served in the U.S. Marine Corps and retired from the California State Police in 1971. He has been married to his wife, Joy, for approximately 5 years. He enjoys fishing, working with computers, and playing with music. He is an ardent photographer.

Edward Ritner is married with 5 grand children. He was in the Air Force for 6 years. He retired from McKesson corp in San Francisco and has lived in Summerset for 20 years. He enjoys his motor home and loves traveling.

During the February luncheon we awarded luncheon certificates to sponsors who recruited our newest SIR members. In addition luncheon certificates were awarded to Bill Konold and Phil Talley for recruiting the most new members in 2021.

At the luncheon 4 guests were in attendance. Our guests included John Pesek (Chuck Nielsen, sponsor), Gary Nelson (Phil Kepp, sponsor), Bob Sickenberger (Phil Newlin, sponsor), Don Bonney (Dennis Pa-chucki, sponsor).



Skip Zehnder and his sponsor Dave Cirulli



Steve and his sponsor, Robb Robertson



Sponsor Tom Jones with Edward

In February we lost 3 members. Ron Fritz has left the branch due to family health issues. Ray Hutchings has left the branch due to health reasons. Lastly, Richard Pontes left the branch due to health reasons. The branch headcount is currently 148.

Luis

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 \$25 (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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Tel: (408) 505 5359

Your newsletter team



Tom Jones
Editor and email



Dennis Pachucki
Paper copies

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