



SIR BRANCH 161 NEWS

Celebrating our 31st year! December 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

Hope everyone had your fill of turkey and also all had a great Thanksgiving Day with all the meals and your gatherings. December means we're in the Holiday season, so Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all. Also, happy lighted street parade



down our Discovery Bay streets, 12/3 and lighted boat parade in our bays, 12/10. December also, means a Christmas Lunch with the Ladies and Elvis.

In November we inducted the new 2023 slate of officers, biggest changes being the typical SIR progressions are the new Little Sir Jim Wageman and Big Sir Ken Landoline. Be sure to congratulate all inductees if attending the luncheon on December 13.

Special announcements:

SIR is going back to pre-pandemic meetings and will no longer require proof of vaccinations for all meetings and activities. Meaning all Sirs that did not approve of the SIR COVID protocol in the past, are now invited to return and attend without mandates, but as most everywhere vaccinations are always encouraged.

Starting in January, our lunch price is rising to \$25.

If you still need Christmas lunch tickets, please contact Jerry Weibe, 916-206-9221. Lunch will be at the Discovery Bay Country Club and social hour starts at 11:00 AM. Liberty High School Carolers will be singing Christmas songs in the background softly, while we are socializing; Of course donations will be accepted toward their H.S. program efforts.

So, this will be my last Big Sir Message for our newsletter. I wasn't sure how I was going to survive and lead our branch but, with the help of all the Officers and Directors, it made my job enlightening and much easier than I ever anticipated. I am truly grateful and thankful to all for giving me and having the opportunity to belong to such a great SIR Branch 161 and SIR organization and all their support. I will continue heading up Dinner with the Ladies through 2023 and of course being a Sir, God willing, for a long time.

Now, for a housekeeping item, please remember to always call if you can't attend the luncheon (details on the last page of this newsletter).

Hope to see all continue to enjoy our lunch meetings and activities and to keep bringing guests/new members to our lunches.

Now as I sign off as Big Sir for the last time, I truly enjoyed the experience.

Dennis Pachucki

Christmas luncheon (ticketed)

Tuesday, December 13, 2022.

In this issue

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- Little Sir report; Cycling
- Update your information
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- Policy and responsibility clauses

Little Sir, Ken Landoline

Thank you to our November luncheon meeting guest speaker Ford Roosevelt, grandson of President Franklin Delano Roosevelt and First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt. Ford is currently the Executive Director of the non-profit Potomac Association. Mr. Roosevelt shared with us the story of President Roosevelt's "Floating White House" the USS Potomac, which the former president used between 1936 until his death in 1945. Mr. Ford also shared with us stories of the restoration of the USS Potomac plus anecdotes of life with his grandparents. He also invited our branch members to visit the USS Potomac at Jack London Square for a visit and sailing in the Spring of 2023. We will follow-up on that offer early next year.



Our Christmas luncheon with the ladies, to be held in place of our regular monthly meeting on Tuesday December 13th, will be a very special event for you and your guests. Holiday entertainment will be provided by the Liberty High School Christmas Carolers and Elvis impersonator James Clark performing an Elvis tribute with a touch of the holiday season.

December Birthdays

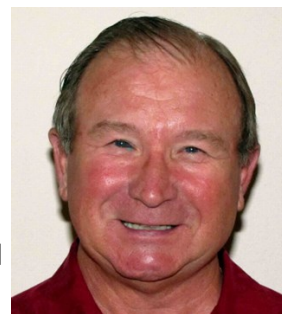
Colin Brodie, Ken Butler, Sid Cruser,
Dick Donald, Gary Hess, Larry Lindsey,
Dan Lippstreu, Howard Patton, Dennis Plantania,
John Reichenbach, Leon Thompson

Christmas Luncheon With The Ladies - Menu

Roast Turkey Breast, Yukon Gold mashed potatoes & gravy, vegetable medley, cranberry sauce, and a special holiday dessert.

SIR Cyclers, Jerry Wiebe (916) 206-9221

The mornings are getting a bit crisper, but with our later start of 9:00 a.m. it is still a good time for our good rides. The SIR Cyclers continue to ride weekly, as many as three times a week. Everyone's favorite morning ride has been changed to a Friday morning ride from Jerry's driveway, on out to Brentwood to enjoy a cup of coffee and a lot of gab at a local coffee shop. We are always on the lookout for members to join us on this fun event that has a lot of plusses.



All levels of bicycling experience are welcome, and those who might ride electric bikes are encouraged to join us. We are also here to help others brush up on their riding skills if they have not ridden for a while. It only takes a few weeks to wake up those muscles to build some endurance. Just start at a mile a day...then add another, then another and so on. In no time you'll be surprised at how soon you are feeling stronger. The best part is feeling good ALL OVER. The Cyclers leave in the morning from Jerry's driveway at 2071 Windward Point in Discovery Bay. Give Jerry a call for questions. Then get that bicycle down you have hanging on the wall of your garage, dust it off, and come along. We are waiting for you!

Please update your information

We will shortly be working on the 2023 Branch 161 Handbook, which includes information about our branch, officers, activities, and a branch roster. If you've recently changed address or contact information (phone, email address, etc), please email me (webmaster@sir161.org) so your updated information can be included in the Handbook.

Thanks,

Tom Jones

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

2022 Season Completed



December is a quiet time for golf. Our thoughts have turned to family and the holidays. Golfers only need to renew their NCGA dues and check the 2023 Golf Schedule (see below) More details will be in the 2023 Branch 161 Handbook But the Golf Committee is hard at work; Six new policies have been adopted and eleven events scheduled for 2023.

Surveys have become an important part of the SIR golf process. During the season players completed a survey at the end of every round. 79% of the surveys were turned-in which is a very high rate of return for any survey. At the end of the season, another survey was offered. 100% of the 26 most active players in SIR golf returned the survey. These surveys have provided valuable information to the Golf Committee.

One of the most critical things about SIR golf is pace of play. Those that played and were surveyed indicated that we did very well. On a five-point scale with five being great our average score was 3.5. Actual finish times ranged from 2 hours 50 minutes to 5 hours 45 minutes. There isn't actual data on the length of each round, but more rounds were at the 4-hour 30 minute goal than were over it. Everyone tried their best to keep it moving and most used the guidelines for picking up, maximum score, etc. The Golf Committee is looking at options for those long, extremely hot days.

SIR Branch 161 2023 GOLF SCHEDULE

Tuesday, Feb 21, 9:00	Shadow Lakes
Monday, March 6, 9:00*	Discovery Bay CC
Tuesday, March 21, 9:30*	The Reserve, Stockton
Tuesday, April 18, 9:00*	Swensen Park, Stockton
Thursday, May 11, 9:30	Diablo Creek
Tuesday, May 16, 9:00*	Lone Tree, Antioch
Tuesday, June 20, 9:00*	Elkhorn, Stockton
Tuesday, July 18, 9:00*	Manteca Park, Manteca
Tuesday, August 15, 9:00*	Las Positas, Livermore
Tuesday, Sept. 19, 9:30*	Franklin Canyon, Hercules
Tuesday, Oct 24, 9:30*	The Reserve, Stockton

*Event included in SEASON LONG 2 MAN TEAM CONTEST – Flier to follow.

Decisions as to whether to use Discovery Bay Golf and Country Club as a major multi-SIR Branch event was easy when 28 indicated they wanted the event even at a higher cost! Likewise, 24 yes and 29 no returns led the Golf Committee to drop the thought of holding an overnight event at Copperopolis as was done in the past. If anyone wants the information to create a small event at Copperopolis just ask and it will be provided. Your input counts!

Eighteen indicated they would register for multiple events at one time if there was an incentive. So, we have created one. It will make the bookkeeping easier for everyone.

You liked forming teams by playing with as many different people as possible. The Match Play event with Concord/Walnut Creek SIR has been scheduled in 2023 at your request. Allowing the person selected for a blind draw to share in the winnings if that team wins will continue. By a 38 to 9 advantage, you want to play an 18-hole scramble at Shadow Lakes. It has been scheduled. Conversely, you indicated only 4 ladies (3 for golf and 4 for lunch) would be interested in playing nine holes at Brentwood Country Club. It was not scheduled.

Continued on page 4 ...

Golf ... Continued from page 3

You liked paying one price for all events. This practice requires a “budgeting” approach to expenses for the entire season. The per event cost is identified to meet all the expenses of the season. What are the expenses you wonder? Basically, each golf course we play sets their rate. Some negotiations go on, but it is out of our control. Sometimes, negotiations lead to a lower price, food, or tee prize. The best deal is cut at the lowest cost for green fees and cart. But that is just part of the expenses for the year. You pay extra to play in the “Optional” Skins, Low Gross, and Low Net contests. The fees charged go entirely for prizes for those that register for those events. Closest to the Pin and Team prizes are included in the event registration fee. Both have set amounts for the awards for every event held except the Club Championship. Each event during the season also contributes to the SIR Branch 161 Championship at the end of the season. Increased cash prizes are awarded for the Championship. The cost of three trophies, engraving, and t-shirt for the “Sandbagger” award are included. This past year, an early survey indicated that you wanted an additional tee prize rather than a refund. Therefore, the SIR logo hat was provided. That probably won’t happen this year unless sponsors are found. There are a few odds and ends of donations and miscellaneous expense that occur during the season or for the Club Championship. At the end of the season, the balance was about the same as it started from the past year.

The reason for writing checks to “SIR Branch 161” is that all checks go through the SIR Branch 161 Treasurer, Jerry Wiebe. I keep track of the cash that is handled, both income and expenses. Jerry reviews both the cash and check transactions throughout the year. It was amazing to me that we matched to the penny.

Green Fee + Cart + Food + Tee Prizes + Team Prizes + Closest to the Pin + Club Championship

Five out of seven of the courses we played last year (and will play this year) raised their rates. With the offering of an incentive for registering for multiple events and the increase in fees, a rate of \$55 has been set for all events in 2023 except for the multi-SIR Branch Friendship Tournament at the Discovery Bay Golf and Country Club on Monday, March 6, 2023. (More on The Friendship Tournament soon.)

It has been a great year for the SIR Golf Club. Next year looks even better. There will be a new optional Season Long Two-Man event. A new four-man scramble. The Friendship Tournament. Nine Tuesday events (and a Monday & Thursday thrown in) with lots of fun!



Dave Vicencio (left), SIR Branch 161 Golf Champion



Tom Denning (left), the 2022 "Sandbagger" golfer

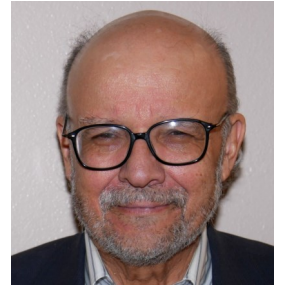
Merry Christmas to all and Happy New Year!
Have a good one!
Johnny

Membership, Luis Figueroa

During the November luncheon we inducted 1 new member: Steve Avellar (Lee Thompson is the sponsor).



Steve Avellar (right) and sponsor Lee Thompson



At the luncheon we had one guest, Jerry Lucero, who was sponsored by Dick Warner.

In November Sam Stephenson, a recent new member, passed away.

All members are reminded when a guest attends a luncheon the sponsor will receive a free bottle of wine. If the guest later decides to become a member, the sponsor will also be awarded a free lunch certificate. If a guest wants to become a member please have the guest contact me at 949-400-4715 via voice or texting and I can outline the procedure.

Thanks to all members for your continued recruitment efforts for and bringing guests to our luncheons!

The branch headcount is currently 152.

2022 Big Sir Dennis Pachucki inducted the 2023 Officers and Directors



Left to right:

Jim Wangeman, Luis Figueroa, Phil Newlin, Johnny Welton, Bob Damico, Larry Mensch, Dennis Pachucki, John Fry, Lowell Thomas, Jerry Wiebe, Ken Landoline.

Our Quasi-Historian, Bob Damico, needs some help.

Bob has all previous copies of our Annual Branch Handbook except for the year 2007. If anyone has a copy of the 2007 Branch 161 Handbook, and are willing to give it up, please bring to a future meeting and Bob will be forever grateful.

Bowling news, John Fry



The Monday Sirs and Ladies Winter Bowling league just finished week 11. The current standings are as follows:

First place, Team 5, (Never give up), Paul Elmer, Rosie Elmer, Russ Reid, Vicky Reid
 Second place, Team 7, Mary Patterson, Frank Cramer, Don Patterson, Mitch Wisinski
 Third place, Team 4, Tom Kirtley, Ken Fanucchi, Jerry Dittman, Mike Carmicheal

Season High Game Scratch Male, Keith Jones 261, Paul Elmer 242, Ron Wilson 237
 Season High Game Scratch Female, Natalie Paris 224, Diane Leonis 213, Marie Wilson 200
 Season High Series Scratch Male, Keith Jones 705, Mitch Wisinski 635, Mike Carmicheal 626
 Season High Series Scratch Females, Rosie Elmer 619, Gail Smith 595, Vicky Reid 581

Season High Handicap Game Male, Russel Reid 287, Mike Sadler sr., 276, Ken Fanucchi 272
 Season High Handicap Game Female, Karen Capra 257, Shirley Jennings 252, Mary Patterson, 245
 Season High Handicap Series Male, Mike Carmichael, 792, Skip Zehnder 728, John Fry 716
 Season High Handicap Series Female, Terry Damico 766, Diane Leonis 726, Alice Disney 723

Application forms for all the SIR Bowling Tournaments are available on the State SIR Bowling website (<http://www.sirinc3.org/sirBowling/index.html>)

If you have questions about SIR Bowling please call or email John Fry (925 783 5614) (jcfry43@yahoo.com)

November Attendance, Phil Newlin

Here is a summary of attendance numbers from our November 8 meeting.

Date	NOV
Members	152
NO CALL - NO SHOW	4
Notified	44
Guests	3
New Members	1
Actual Count Total	108

NO CALL - NO SHOW: This is the number of members subject to lunch charge for not calling and not showing up.

Notified: This is the number of members that notified the attendance chairman of their non-attendance.

Actual Count Total: This is the total members - No Call/No Show - Notified + Guests + New Members.

The other categories are self-explanatory.

Editor's Note, Tom Jones

I would like to thank all our newsletter contributors for their timely articles throughout the year. Also, a big thanks to our photographers, including Bill Konold, Bob Damico, and Luis Figueroa.

Without all these Sirs' efforts, publication of this monthly newsletter would not be possible.

Remember that this and prior issues of our newsletter can also be viewed/downloaded at our web site (<https://www.sir161.org>). Publication on the web site usually occurs concurrent with email distribution; If the latest issue isn't yet listed, wait a little while and try again.

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. It is suggested that hats be removed while reciting the Pledge Of Allegiance.

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/>