



SIR BRANCH 161 NEWS

Celebrating our 32nd year! January 2023

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

Ken Landoline, Big Sir

I hope your holidays were happy and safe and that they were enjoyed with your loved ones from near and afar. Happy New Year and welcome to SIR year 2023. Our final SIR event was the annual Christmas luncheon with wives and other guests. The event was attended by approximately half of our membership with their guests, and a good time was had by all. We were welcomed upon arrival by the Liberty High School Carolers which put everyone in a joyous holiday mood. The carolers were followed by a delicious holiday turkey dinner, and the event concluded with more than an hour of musical entertainment by well-known Elvis impersonator James Clark. The music, based on tunes of the 50s, 60s, and 70s, brought back memories of our teen years and got several couples up to dance. Thank you to all the Sirs who helped plan and implement this event.



As we kick-off this new year of SIR luncheons, activities, and events I would like to thank Dennis Pachucki as he transitions from being our 2022 Big Sir to his first year as a Past Big Sir. Dennis did a tremendous job in moving our Branch through the COVID epidemic to a more normalized year during which he was able to manage us from monthly Zoom-based meetings to the more normal face-to-face monthly luncheons and reopen several SIR activities that had been curtailed or on hold due to state and local gov-

ernment and/or SIR restrictions. Thank you, Dennis, for your time and talent in returning our branch to the level of normalcy we are now enjoying.

In anticipation of my moving into the position of Big Sir for Branch 161 in 2023 I have attended three SIR Forum Zoom meetings arranged and managed by our SIR State President Rick Kindle to address several areas that we expect to affect SIR operations in the coming years. The topics discussed included the decreasing SIR branch membership levels, building and marketing of the SIR brand, expansion of branch activities, enhancing the SIR guest speaker programs, the potential for branch mentoring, and improving communications at all levels of the SIR organization. While going into detail about these discussions in this article would be difficult, I do plan to discuss these topics individually in our upcoming monthly meetings. For

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Next luncheon meeting

Tuesday, January 24, 2023.

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now, let me just say that the discussions during these meetings reenergized my belief that our organization will succeed and grow in the future, and I believe we are in good hands at the SIR state leadership level. However, our branch must remain involved in ensuring these developing plans and solutions are successful.

In closing, I would like to make you aware of a few items that are important to note in kicking-off the 2023 SIR calendar. First, the price of our Branch 161 monthly luncheons will be increased to \$25.00, up from \$24.00 in 2022. However, annual dues will remain at \$25.00. If you have not paid the dues for 2023, please do so at the January meeting. Also, please note that the first Branch 161 luncheon for this year will be held on Tuesday January 24th. This later start of our lunch meeting schedule is due to the ongoing remodeling of the Discovery Bay Golf Course Club House which is currently underway.

Little Sir, Jim Wangeman

Thank you for the opportunity to be Little Sir for 2023!

Our speaker for the January meeting is Greg Robinson, publisher of the Brentwood Press. His topic will be adventures of a Gold Miner.



I am looking forward to an exciting new year!

January Birthdays

Don Abate, Alberto Delgado, Paul Elmer,
Martin Freitas, David Harrison, John Lopp,
Ken Marsh, Gale Nelson, Jerry Nielsen,
Matias Prado, Russ Reid,
Donald Shegich, Jerry Wiebe

January Luncheon Menu

Chicken Scaloppini w/rice pilaf and green beans
w/red onion.

SIR Cyclers, Jerry Wiebe (916) 206-9221

The Winter mornings are now a bit crisper, damp, and grayer, but we need to look at that scale after all those Christmas goodies and start getting down to working off that morning stiffness and all those calories. C'mon you guys, it's a new year.



With our 9:00 a.m. start, now is a better time for our weekly rides. The SIR Cyclers ride as many as three times a week. Our favorite morning ride is on Friday, riding 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!

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!

Golf News, Johnny Welton



NCGA/GHIN NEWS

A big "Thank You!" to everyone for responding to my late plea for help getting GHIN numbers and NCGA memberships submitted on time. We have 22 SIR Branch 161 Golf Club memberships and GHIN numbers for every player that will join us this year. That is down by six from last year. However, the email list of people who play or are interested in keeping track of golf activities continues to grow (60). Only two members are paying memberships to other clubs, as well as SIR Branch 161 (by choice). We continue to have the option of joining the SIR Branch 161 Golf Club or using a GHIN number obtained from another club. No need to pay twice.

Please post all your scores, even for nine holes. It takes 10 postings to generate a handicap. Your handicap is based on the twenty most recent postings. If you need help or have questions, please give me a call or email.

EVENTS

A 2023 Registration Schedule is available. Please email me if you need one. There are three new events that you may wish to participate in even if you are not a regular player with the golf group:

Tuesday, February 21 9:00am, SIR 161 Winter Four-Man Scramble - Shotgun Start at Shadow Lakes (18 holes with sandwich/chips/drink) [10 miles]. Registration: \$55 Last Day to register: 2/14/23 at Noon.

Monday, March 6 9:00am, SIR 161 Discovery Bay Friendship Tournament Shotgun Start at Discovery Bay CC with lunch [0 miles]. Request a flier that has specific deadline and fees.

Season-Long Leaders Contests provides an opportunity for you to choose your teammate for a two-man team that will have their scores accumulated for up to nine of the eleven scheduled events. Even though you may not play together, for this special contest, your scores will be used in addition to the regular event. The two contests are:

Event Leaders: where both net scores for a team will be used to win points based on that event ranking. Most points win the season. The more you play, the more points you earn!

Best Ball Leaders: Team net best ball total in each eligible event (one player's net score is used for each hole) will be averaged based on the number of events played. Rank order of average will be used to award prize money. The more you play, the lower your average – The more you win!

Sign up now. Fees are \$20 per person. If you don't have a partner and sign up, one will be assigned you.

2023 Golf Schedule

Additional details will be in the 2023 Handbook

Tuesday, February 21 9:00	Shadow Lakes
Monday, March 6 9:00*	SIR 161 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, October 24 9:30*	The Reserve, Stockton

*Event included in SEASON LONG 2 MAN TEAM CONTEST

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Golf, continued from page 3

Registration should be made by emailing Johnny Welton at johnnywelton40@gmail.com and registration for all events can be done today. Make checks out to: "SIR Branch 161" and note the place of the event on the check. Send or give the check to Johnny Welton at 5751 Prestwick Court, Discovery Bay, CA 94505. Checks must be received before the deadline. Credit cards may be used for golf events by making payment at a SIR Branch 161 Luncheon. Early registration and payments for multiple events are encouraged. A financial incentive exists for paying for multiple events at one time.

Guests and occasional SIR member participation is encouraged for all events except the Championship Tournament which has specific guidelines. The registration process and fees are the same as for regular golf participants. For example some of the SIR membership play with other clubs on Tuesdays. This year there is a Thursday event. We would welcome anyone who wants to play ... anytime! If there are special needs, please discuss them directly with Johnny as soon as possible. All efforts will be made to accommodate reasonable requests.

As always, we are hoping to increase our numbers. Our goal for the regular events is 24. We have space for 32. Each of us need to make a real effort to encourage other golfers to join us and join SIR Branch 161.

Plan to join us now. Don't miss out on the fun!

Happy New Year!

Have a good one!

Johnny

Photos from the Christmas luncheon

Photos courtesy Bob Damico and Luis Figueroa



Membership, Luis Figueroa

In December there was no scheduled luncheon and instead the annual Christmas event was held. The entertainment was provided by "Elvis" (James Clark). We did lose two members in December. Eric Stalwell, a member since 2019, has left the area and Gary Felix, a recent member, has dropped. Below I provide some summary membership statistics.



In 2022 our Branch recruited 21 new members and lost 21. The net loss of 21 members was disappointing but, given the unusual environment due to the ongoing COVID pandemic and the vaccine mandates enacted, it was perhaps not unexpected. The branch currently offers eleven activities, eight of which are coed. With the elimination of all COVID restrictions I expect the branch to continue actively recruiting new members.

The median branch member age increased from 79.4 years to 79.8 years. Given the current median age trend it is imperative to continue bringing guests for luncheons and exposing them to the wide range of activities available if they join.

One bright spot in 2022 is that our monthly luncheons have generally drawn over 64 % participation rate, compared to 61% in 2021. The branch sponsored 21 guests in 2022, compared to 13 in 2021 due to severe COVID restrictions.



Last year one branch member recruited 5 new members and thus Terry Brekke is our branch's top recruiter and will receive an additional free meal certificate for his outstanding efforts. He was also recognized in October with a "I Did My Part" award for his efforts. The branch is in appreciation to all members who recruit guests at the monthly luncheons and later sponsor them for membership. The guests are the primary source for candidates in our recruitment efforts. Thanks for doing your part!

Please refer to the Membership section on our branch web site at www.sir161.org to better understand the new member process, and if you have any questions, please feel free to contact me. Prospective members have the option to become inducted at their first luncheon meeting if they have already completely filled out their application and submitted it, or wait until after attending the first luncheon and later submitting the application. In addition when bringing in guests, please notify Phil Newlin or myself in advance of the meeting in order to allow time for the preparation of a guest package. The Branch will continue to give a free bottle of wine to any member who brings in a guest to our luncheons, and a free lunch certificate to the member who sponsors a new member.

I am looking forward to a fruitful year working with you as your membership chairman.

Bowling news, John Fry

The Monday Sirs and Ladies Winter Bowling league just finished week 15. The current standings are as follows:



First place, Team 5, (Never give up), Paul Elmer, Rosie Elmer, Russ Reid, Vicky Reid

Second place, Team 4, Tom Kirtley, Ken Fanucchi, Jerry Dittman, Mike Carmicheal

Third place, Team 6, (Delta Strikers), Diane Leonis, Shirley Jennings, Terry Damico, Bob Damico

Season High Game Scratch Male, John Fry 266, Keith Jones 261, Mitch Wisinski 256

Season High Game Scratch Female, Rosie Elmer 257, Vicky Reid 238, Gail Smith 225

Season High Series Scratch Male, Bob Damico 712, Keith Jones 705, Mitch Wisinski 635

Season High Series Scratch Female, Rosie Elmer 619, Gail Smith 609, Vicky Reid 581

Season High Handicap Game Male, John Fry 302, Russel Reid 287, Mike Carmichael 284

Season High Handicap Game Female, Rosie Elmer 296, Vicky Reid 284, Terry Damico 277

Season High Handicap Series Male, Bob Damico 793, Mike Carmichael, 792, Harold Sagert 748

Season High Handicap Series Female, Terry Damico 766, Rosie Elmer 748, Marie Wilson 741

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)



Welcome to our incoming 2023 Big Sir
Ken Landoline and First Lady Marian.



Thank you to our outgoing 2022 Big Sir
Dennis Pachucki and First Lady Karen.

Photos courtesy Bob Damico

Dinner With The Ladies, Dennis Pachucki

When: January 24 2023

Where: Sports Bar & Steakhouse, 2477 Discovery Bay Blvd, Discovery Bay.

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:

- Traditional slow-roasted Prime Rib (6 oz)
- Orange Bourbon Glazed Salmon (8 oz)
- Braised boneless Short Ribs (1/2 order)

All entrees include mashed potatoes and seasonal vegetables.

Cost: \$40.00 per person (includes tax and tip)

Deadline: We need your RSVP no later than Friday, January 20 – there will be envelopes at our General Meeting on January 24.

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

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

Your Name(s): _____ Phone: _____

Circle Your Menu choice(s) and write 1 or 2 next to your choice:

Prime Rib _____

Orange Bourbon Glazed Salmon _____

Short Ribs _____

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.

Phil Newlin: ward28fred-sirs@yahoo.com

Tel: (408) 505 5359

Your newsletter team



Tom Jones
Editor and email



Bob Damico
Paper copies

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