



SIR BRANCH 161 NEWS

Celebrating our 32nd year! August 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

As those of you who attended our July SIR luncheon will remember, we initiated an attendee survey to be completed and deposited after the luncheon. Your Branch Executive Committee (BEC) sees this as a first step in better understanding our members' assessments of our monthly onsite luncheon meetings, and to collect suggestions of how we may improve our meetings to optimize member satisfaction levels and ultimately improve member participation. We intend to continue surveying the group periodically so that we may evaluate our progress in improving our luncheons and identify and track trends and issues that may occur.



The initial survey was designed to evaluate member evaluations of the luncheon venue, food variety, quality, and value, as well as the overall satisfaction with our monthly luncheons. There was also a final open-ended question asking for any additional comments members wanted to make (good or bad) and to gather suggestions on potential improvements. The following is a high-level summary of preliminary results we gathered, by topic, from this initial survey which had a participation rate of 72%, or 61 of the 85 lunch attendees. Rankings were based on a scale of 1 to 5, with 5 being the highest, most favorable rating and 1 being the lowest rating.

1) Venue – This area of the results had the highest average rating from our members, receiving an overall score of 4.5 on the 1–5-point scale. Clearly our members appreciate the surroundings of our lunches

at the Discovery Bay Golf & Country Club.

2) Food Variety – The average score in this area of the survey came in at 3.3 which indicates members desire a broader range of food items and some offered suggestions that would broaden the list of offerings. We have passed these suggestions on to the club food management team, and they are responding.

3) Food Quality – Although the spread of individual responses was across a broad spectrum ranging from 1 to 5, it appears that the average score of 3.4 indicates that many feel there is room for improvement in the lunches being served.

4) Food Value – This area scored the lowest mean score of the five areas, and I suspect the price increase that took effect at the beginning of this year drove this response down to 3.1 from what it might have been last year. But we should keep in mind

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Next meeting

Tuesday, August 8

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this is a result affecting restaurants across the food industry.

5) Overall Satisfaction – The mean score in the overall satisfaction of our membership with our luncheon meetings came in at 3.6. This is an important number that we will continue to watch closely, and our goal will be to get this rating on an upward trend very soon.

I appreciate the input from all the members who responded to our July survey. Please continue to respond to future surveys and we will continue to report the results back to you and our club, as well as act upon your suggestions for changes that will make our monthly meetings more enjoyable to all.

In closing, I would like to congratulate the SIR organization, California's largest social club for active senior men, on the 65th anniversary of its founding in 1958, which occurred on July 23rd.

Little Sir, Jim Wangeman

Thank you to Jim Mattison, for informing our members on what is going on in Discovery Bay and planned projects in the future!

Our speaker for August will be Lynda Longorio, Senior Relationship Banker, She will inform our members on advantages available to seniors, dealing with banks!

**August Luncheon Menu**

Chicken Parmisean W/Vegie Risoto.

August Birthdays

Al Box, Bill Carmichael, Fred duPont,
Paul Erchul, Luis Figueroa, Philip Kepp
Jerry Lucero, Mike McCleery, James Moore
Ward Messersmith, Will Myers, Don Patterson
Ed Ritner, Terry Silva, Richard Warner.

Calling all Branch 161 Sirs!

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Help our Branch by bringing in new members.

First: For each guest You bring to lunch-You get a FREE bottle of wine and His first lunch is Half Price.

And then:

If He becomes a member, You get a FREE Lunch.

**It's a "Win - Win - Win"; The Branch gets a new member,
You get rewarded, and our New Member gets to enjoy
the SIR experience.**

Bowling

Note from our Big Sir Ken Landoline

John Fry's passing is a great loss to our organization, and we are grateful for his dedicated support of our bowling program for the past ten years.

Paul Elmer, long time member/bowler, past Director, and Assistant Bowling Chairman to John Fry, will move into the Bowling Director position on our Branch Executive Committee.

Assisting him will be Ron Wilson, also a long time member/bowler and past Bowling Director.

Please continue to provide these gentlemen with the support and gratitude they deserve.

Bowling News from Paul Elmer

The SIR and Ladies league is on hiatus for the summer, and will resume in September at Bowlero in Brentwood.

Upcoming SIR Tournaments this month are:

Aug 7-9, 2023 – The Reno tournament to be held at the Reno National Bowling Stadium. This is where the pros bowl in competition, as seen on TV. There are usually 80 to 90 SIR bowlers, wives, and friends in competition. Most bowlers look forward to competing there every year as lane conditions are challenging but consistent. Local food and night-life is also looked forward to by all. All bowlers must be members of USBC.

August 23-24, 2023 - Grass Valley

Application forms for these and 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 Paul Elmer at 925-634-5690 or e-mail prelmer@comcast.net



In Memoriam



We are sad to report the passing of John Fry on July 21, 2023, after a brief battle with Pancreatic Cancer.

John was a member of Branch 161 since February of 2009. He was an avid Golfer and Bowler, participating in and often placing in many tournaments.

He joined our Branch Executive Committee as Assistant Bowling Chairman in 2013 and served as our Bowling Director/Chairman for the past ten years. During that time, he managed our Monday Sirs and Ladies Bowling League, our annual SIR Tournament, and was well known, respected, and appreciated by his fellow Sirs, Bowlers and Golfers.

At this time we have no information on a Memorial service for John. When known, we will share that information with you. Meanwhile please keep John, his wife Mary and Family in your thoughts and prayers.

Sympathy cards may be sent to:

Mary Pitta-Fry and Family

2515 Taylor Lane, Byron, Ca 94514

Approved Nominations for 2024 SIR Branch Executive Committee (BEC)

BEC Officers

| | |
|---------------------|----------------|
| Big Sir | Jim Wangeman |
| Little Sir | Steve Bordi |
| Secretary | Bruce Bohnsack |
| Assist Secretary | Saul Gold |
| Treasurer | Jerry Wiebe |
| Assistant Treasurer | Norm Peterson |

Directors

| | |
|------------------------|-----------------|
| Membership | Luis Figueroa |
| Attendance | Phil Newlin |
| Audit & Nominating | Dave Ciruli |
| Bowling | Paul Elmer |
| Golf | Johnny Welton |
| Dinner With The Ladies | Dennis Pachucki |
| Sunshine | Bob Damico |

Annual Eric Jensen Memorial Collector Car Show

The September meeting is also the SIR Eric Jensen Memorial Car Show. So polish that Collector car of yours and bring it to the meeting. Any interesting car, old or new, is welcome.

Got a new Hemi, a cool Corvette, or an old Mercury? Bring it to the September 12 meeting and park with your other SIR car enthusiast members.

Tire kicking is both before and after the meeting, so arrive early and enjoy the machinery.

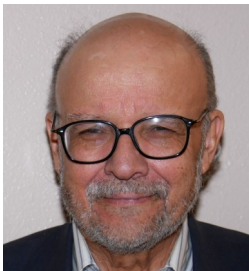
Please contact Bill Konold 925-634-2738 if you have any questions.

Here are a couple of pictures from past shows.



Membership, Luis Figueroa

During the July luncheon we inducted one member, Art McSherry (Will Myers is the sponsor).



After graduating from high school in Long Island, NY Art joined the Navy and trained to be a nuclear plant operator. He served on the USS Snook for 4 years. During that time he married Donna. He has been married for 53 years.



Art McSherry (left) and Will Myers

He used the GI bill to earn BS and MS degrees at the the University of Washington in Metallurgical and Nuclear Engineering. He worked for 7 years at GE Nuclear in San Jose. He then worked for several nuclear power consulting companies and in 1988 helped start Sierra Nuclear in Scotts Valley, CA. The company focused on the design and fabrication of large metal and concrete nuclear fuel storage tanks. Several of the company's Ventilated Storage Casks are in use at U.S. nuclear plants and in Ukraine. The company was sold in 1998 to British Nuclear Fuel Limited. He retired to Discovery Bay in 1998.

He has been a member of the DBCC and the DBYC for over 20 years until they sold their boat several years ago. He has also served on the DBYC Board of Directors as Fleet Captain for two years. His current activities include indoor rowing, nuclear physics, and especially cosmology.

At the July luncheon we had one guest-Mike Kaufman, sponsored by Jim Wangeman.

John Fry, our branch's Bowling Director and Chairman, has passed away.

At the July luncheon a satisfaction survey was distributed, which focused on the Discovery Bay Golf Club luncheons. A summary of the results has been provided in Big Sir Ken Landoline's article. Thank you for your participation.

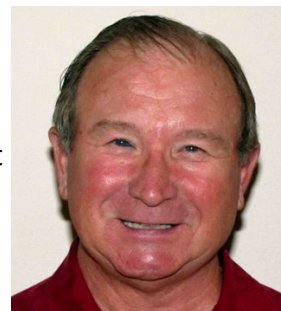
All members are reminded when a guest attends a

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 quickly outline the procedure.

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

SIR Cyclers, Jerry Wiebe (916) 206-9221

The summertime weather has been beautiful this year and provides so many opportunities for a morning or early evening bicycle ride. Riding just a few miles a week helps you to maintain your balance and strengthen your muscles to help keep you in good health.



All levels of bicycling experience are welcome, and electric bike riders are encouraged to join us. We are here to help you brush up on your riding skills if you have not ridden for a while. It only takes a few weeks to wake up those muscles and build some endurance. Just start at a mile a day...then add another, then another. In no time you'll be surprised at how soon you feel stronger. The best part is feeling good... ALL OVER! Contact your physician and discuss the merits of staying healthy on a bicycle.

The more advanced cyclers leave in the morning from Jerry's driveway at 2071 Windward Point in Discovery Bay. When you feel confident for a longer ride, we have as many as three rides a week. Our favorite morning trek is on Friday, pedaling into Brentwood to enjoy a cup of coffee and a lot of gab at a local coffee shop. We are always on the lookout for new members to join us at this fun activity that has a lot of plusses.

Now get that bicycle down you have hanging on the wall of your garage, dust it off, and put some air in the tires. We are waiting for you!

Dinner With The Ladies, Dennis Pachucki



When: Tuesday, August 22, 2023

Where: Skipolinis, 3070 Main Street, Oakley, CA 94561

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

Menu Choices: Dinner includes salad, starters, dessert & non-alcoholic beverage, (iced tea, water, coffee, tax and tip.)

Chicken Piccata

Shrimp Scampi

Lasagna

Blacknd Salmon

Cost: \$33.00 per person (includes tax and tip)

Deadline: We need your RSVP no later than Friday, August 18 – there will be envelopes at our General Meeting on August 08. Please send your checks to me in advance.

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

Skipolinis is located in beautiful downtown Oakley.

----- Please detach and mail with your check -----

Your Name(s):

Phone:

Your Menu choice(s):

Chicken Piccata

Shrimp Scampi

Lasagna

Blacknd Salmon

Al DiGiusto Boat Cruise and Lunch, report by Bob Damico

July 20 was the day, the new Marina Grill in Discovery Bay was the place where 30 Sirs and ladies gathered for lunch for the 29th annual Al DiGiusto Boat Cruise and Lunch. The weather was hot, the food and service were great and a good time was had by all.

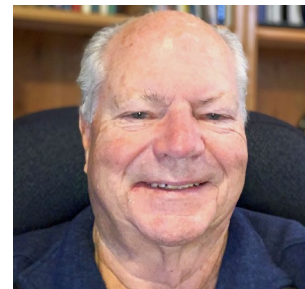
Thanks again to Dennis and Karen for arranging the event in honor of our fallen Sir Al DiGiusto who started the event in 1993.



Golf, Johnny Welton

We had a great day at Manteca Park Golf Course on July 18. Cooler weather and faster play than anyone expected. Great course but the trees did seem to jump in front of the ball. Twenty-three out of twenty-four surveys were returned. Twenty want to return to Manteca Park next year.

We had some players that had exceptional personal scores today. Dan Lippstreu showed some of his PGA skills with a gross 77. But right behind him was Dave Vicencio with a gross 78. Phil Kepp (net 63), Randy Zierau (Net 67), Vince Vargas (net 66) and Dennis Pachucki (net 71) all had great days. Someone that may have had his best day is Gale Nelson (90/67) - Super score for him!



First place with 129 went to Dan Lippstreu, Gale Nelson, Mike Kaufman, and John Sutton. With 133 second place went to Johnny Welton, Ed Fitzpatrick, John Jewel, and David Vicencio (Blind Draw). Lee Donnell, Rancy Zeirau, Dennis Pachucki, and Mike Carmichael took third place with a score of 135. Good scores everyone. Closest to the Pin on #5 in Flight A was Chris Diaz with 11' 10". Second place on that hole went to Dan Lippstreu after a tie breaker with Lee Donnell. The higher handicap was awarded the win. On hole #8 Vicencio (13' 0") won first place with Bill Konold coming in second.

More money was distributed from the Skins game. From Flight A, Lippstreu won \$20 for two skins. Others with one skin were: Mike Quier, Kepp, and Vicencio. In Flight B all won \$10 for one skin: Nelson, Al Goodspeed, Carmichael, Ken Fanucchi, and Jim Spann.

Low Gross Flight A went to Lippstreu (77) and Vicencio (78) came in second. In Flight B Low Gross went to Ken Fanucchi with Al Goodspeed and Tony Rubino tying at 96 with Rubino winning with the highest handicap. In Flight A Low Net went to Kepp with second going to Zierau. Low Net prizes in Flight B went to Vargas and Pachucki.

We already have 25 for Las Positas. There are six of you that should consider registering. It could be our biggest event of the year and helps several of you to qualify for prizes at the Individual Championship at The Reserve, October 24.

2023 Golf Schedule

Additional details will be in the 2023 Handbook

| | |
|---|---------------------------|
| 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 | |

July meeting attendance, Phil Newlin

| Date | JUL 11 |
|------------------------|--------|
| Members, including New | 141 |
| NO CALL - NO SHOW | 8 |
| Notified | 53 |
| Guests | 2 |
| Guest Speakers | 1 |
| Actual Count Total | 83 |

Fellow SIR members, here is a summary of attendance numbers from our July 11th meeting.

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

Wine Tasting, Terry Silva

The July SIR wine tasting event was hosted at Dick and Carolyn Jamison's house in Discovery bay.

Attendees:

Dick and Carolyn Jamison

Terry and Sue Silva

Cam Donald

Will and Rachel Myers

Michael and Pam Quier

Dave and Jinni Ciruli

Ron and Marilyn Crawford

Vince and Bobbie Vargas

Jim Wangeman and his daughter Mary

The Group had a great time and the hosts did a great job.

Next Wine Tasting group will be held at Jim Wangeman's house on Thursday August 24 at 5pm.



Wine Tasting photos



Membership Requirements & Principles

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 at:

2071 Windward Point, Discovery Bay, CA 94505.

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
distribution*



Bob Damico

*Paper copies
and USPS mailing*

View SIR Happenings, the State SIR newsletter: <https://sirinc.org/newsletters/>