



# SIR BRANCH 161 NEWS

Celebrating our 32nd year! *Dec 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

By the time you read this newsletter Thanksgiving will be behind us and we will be racing toward Christmas, New Year's Day, and the beginning of the SIR Branch 161 2024 year. I sincerely hope you all enjoyed a restful Thanksgiving holiday with your family and friends and that you are planning to attend our holiday luncheon with the ladies on Tuesday, December 12th. That event will begin with a social hour at 11 am and lunch will be served at noon. We have scheduled valet parking at the club to begin at approximately 10:30 that morning to assist everyone in getting to the clubhouse rain or shine. Entertainment will include the music and singing of our own Roy Bristow and the Liberty High School holiday carolers. If you have not yet purchased your tickets for the event, please contact our treasurer Jerry Wiebe at (916) 206-9221.



As is usual at our November luncheon we installed a new slate of SIR officers and directors for 2024. This included Jim Wangeman as Big Sir and Steve Bordi as Little Sir. There are several returning officers from 2023, but a few new names on the slate include Norm Peterson as assistant treasurer, Dave Ciruli heading up the audit and nominations committee, and Ron Wilson our new bowling director. Please join me in congratulating and welcoming the new slate that will lead Branch 161 through 2024.

Since this is my final monthly newsletter article contribution as Big Sir, I would like to take this opportunity

to thank everyone who helped me make it through the year. It was a fun and interesting experience for me. The broad participation of the entire branch membership in the luncheons and our many other activities leave me feeling proud of our growth and progress as a branch. I would like to offer a special thank you to the members of our current Branch Executive Committee (BEC), the talented and knowledgeable individuals who supported me throughout the year. Without this group of experienced and dedicated men our branch would not be as successful as it has been for more than thirty years.

I wish all of you a joyous and healthy holiday season!

Your 2023 Big Sir,  
Ken Landoline

### Upcoming meetings

#### Christmas lunch with the ladies (ticketed):

Tuesday, December 12

#### Next regular meeting:

Tuesday, January 23 (fourth Tuesday)

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### Little Sir, Jim Wangeman

Our November speaker was Rodney Mueller, Acting General Manager of the DBCC, Director of the golf course. As we arrive for the Christmas Lunch with the Ladies, we'll have the Liberty High School Carolers performing . After lunch our own Roy Bristow will entertain us.



Frank Cramer receives the 30 year membership award



Rodney Mueller

### December Birthdays

Colin Brodie, Ken Butler, Sid Cruser, Gary Hess, Larry Lindsey, Dan Lippstreu, Howard Patton, Dennis Platania, John Reichenbach, Joseph Stanley, Leon Thompson

### December Luncheon Menu

Stuffed Chicken with Broccoli and Rum cake for dessert



### In Memoriam

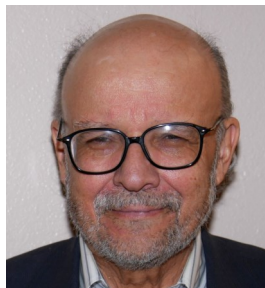


We were saddened to hear of the passing of Floyd McBeth on November 17, after a lengthy battle with Lung Cancer. Floyd was an active and loyal member of SIR Branch 161 since April of 2001. He served on our Branch Executive Committee (BEC) as Director in 2006, Little Sir in 2013 and Big Sir in 2014.

We will let you know when information is available about his Memorial service. Please keep Floyd, his wife Aprill, and their family in your thoughts and prayers.

## Membership, Luis Figueroa

During the October luncheon we had no guests and did not induct any new members which is not our usual situation. Recently, we were informed that Floyd McBeth, long time member of the branch and former Big SIR, has passed away.



This year has been challenging for our branch in terms of recruiting and retaining members. At the beginning of 2023 the branch membership count was 150 and currently we are at 136. Over the last 6 months the branch has been falling behind recruiting guests to our luncheons and, as you are aware, they are the lifeblood for maintaining a stable membership, given the median age for the branch is approximately 80.

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. Have a safe holiday season and let me know how I can help in your recruiting efforts.

The branch headcount is currently 136.

## SIR Cyclers, Jerry Wiebe (916) 206-9221

The weather has been beautiful this year, providing 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 Lee Bonel's driveway at 2076 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 in 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!

Jerry

## November meeting attendance, Phil Newlin

Fellow SIR members, here is a summary of attendance numbers from our November meeting.

Date	NOV 14	
Members, including New	137	<b>NO CALL - NO SHOW</b> This is the number of members subject to lunch charge for not calling and not showing up
NO CALL - NO SHOW	3	<b>Notified</b> This is the number of members that notified the attendance chairman of their non-attendance
Notified	44	<b>Actual Count Total</b> This is the total members - No Call/No Show - Notified + Guests + Guest Speakers
Guests	0	The other categories are self-explanatory.
Guest Speakers	1	
Actual Count Total	91	

## Branch 161 Handbook

The 2024 Branch 161 Handbook will be produced in December, and we plan to distribute to our members via email around the beginning of the year.

## Bowling News, Bob Damico

We have some changes in our Branch Bowling Leadership for 2024.

First: Sadly, as most of you know, in July this year we lost John Fry who was a cornerstone of our Bowling Program. John and Paul Elmer (another cornerstone) rotated/shared the Branch Bowling Directorship/Chairmanship for eleven years. Together they made our yearly winter and summer leagues as well as our annual Bob Matteucci Memorial Tournament (which is open to Sirs from all Branches) successful. Thank you and RIP John.



Second: Paul Elmer, who has done an excellent job as Bowling Director/Chairman of our Bowling Program for the past 14 years, is stepping down. Thank you Paul for your hard work and dedication in support of our Bowling program for all these years

Third: Ron Wilson will step up as our Bowling Director /Chairman for 2024. Ron held this position back in the early 2000s, is an avid bowler, and (like Paul Elmer and John Fry) is dedicated to the sport and our Branch Bowling Program. Keith Jones, also an avid bowler, will assume the duties of Assistant Bowling Chairman helping Ron in managing our Branch Bowling Program. Welcome and thank you Ron and Keith.

As of November 20, 2023, our Monday "Sirs and Ladies" Winter Bowling League completed its eleventh week of the thirty-five week season. We currently have 8 four-person teams consisting of 32 bowlers. We want more bowlers! Looking back in our branch bowling history, in 2013 (just ten years ago), we had 23 teams (92 bowlers). As you can see, our numbers have dropped significantly. We want more bowlers!

Sirs, their wives/significant others, and wives of Fallen Sirs are welcome to join the league. The league is a handicap league so you do not have to be an experienced bowler. We bowl on Monday mornings at 10:00 at the newly remodeled Bowlero Bowling Center in Brentwood. We bowl three games and usually finish by 12:30-1:00 p.m. Come join us, contact Ron Wilson at 925-354-6647 or e-mail ronmarie93@sbcglobal.net.

And.....

The first SIR Bowling Tournament (Singles and Doubles) for 2024 will be in Napa on your choice of January 16 or 17. This will be a unique experience due to Napa Bowl now having converted to USBC Certified "String Pin Setters". This new technology will be a new experience for all bowlers. Should you want to read about this new technology go to Bowl.com and scroll down to Equipment Specifications. Please contact Ron Wilson (925-354-6647) if you want to bowl in this tournament.



John Fry



Paul Elmer



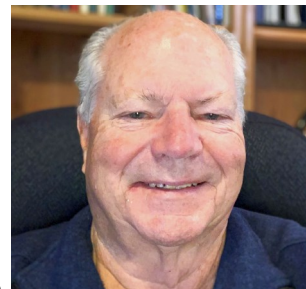
Ron Wilson



Keith Jones

## Golf, Johnny Welton

NCGA membership structure and fees for 2024 are changing. Basically there will be no first year additional fee. The fee for all players will be \$46. All players and guests are required to have NCGA membership and GHIN numbers to play in SIR Branch 161 events. You need only join the NCGA once. If you are current with another club, that will do. If you want to receive your NCGA membership through the SIR Branch 161 club, your membership is due now for 2024. Make your \$46 check to SIR Branch 161. You may mail your check to me (5751 Prestwick Court, Discovery Bay, CA 94505) or bring it to the luncheon. After January 16 there is an additional club fee of \$10 for continuing members.



The 2024 Schedule is included. You won't want to miss out on any event! If you want to be on the SIR 161 Golf distribution email list or have a question, please send an email: johnnywelton40@gmail.com

Here are a few photos to continue the celebration from our last SIR Branch 161 luncheon.

Have a Merry Christmas! Johnny



### 2024 Golf Schedule

**Tuesday, February 27 9:00** SIR 161 Winter Four-Man Scramble - Shotgun Start at Shadow Lakes

**Tuesday, March 19 9:00** Lone Tree, Antioch [12 miles]

**Tuesday, April 16 9:30** Las Positas, Livermore [27 miles]

**Tuesday, May 21 9:00** Swensen Park, Stockton [16 miles] (Not Confirmed)

**Tuesday, June 18 9:00** Elkhorn, Stockton [32 miles]

**Tuesday, July 16 9:30** Franklin Canyon, Hercules, [35 miles]

**Thursday, August 22 8:00** Concord SIR: Match Play Diablo Creek Tee Prize [17 miles]

Shotgun Start hosted by SIR Branch 8 Concord  
SIR 161 players will receive prizes for each hole won.

**Tuesday, September 17 9:00** Manteca Park, Manteca [33 miles]

**Tuesday, October 15 9:30** SIR Individual Championship at The Reserve, Stockton [30 miles] Flier and guidelines to follow.

### Golf Awards 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:

1202 Alderman Ln, Brentwood, CA 94513.

**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/>**