



SIR BRANCH 161 NEWS

Celebrating our 33rd year! February 2024

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

Jim Wangeman, Big Sir

My article for our second newsletter of the new year!

We had a great turnout for our first meeting of 2024, (90). Thank you to all Sirs for the great turnout. The food was good and plentiful.



Past Big Sir Dennis Pachucki, invited 3 potential new members as guests who can be inducted at our February meeting.

Thank you Little Sir Steve Bordi for an outstanding speaker (Jon Elam) talking about benefits for Seniors.

Thank you to everyone, for making our first meeting a great success!



Continuing a tradition started by prior Big Sir Dennis Pachucki, Jim Wangeman participated in the passing of the Big Kahuna hat. Photo by Lowell Thomas.

Little Sir, Steve Bordi

At the January Luncheon, Jon Elam, past Brentwood City Manager (circa 1990s-early 2000s), spoke to our group about the benefits of being a volunteer after retirement.

He mentioned various possibilities such as working with the Library, driving for "Meals on Wheels", and joining a group like SIR.



Jon emphasized how volunteering is an important part of making new friends and keeping physically and mentally active. Jon also discussed the importance of city government keeping up with the needs of seniors by providing essential Senior Services. His presentation was well received and he was presented with a Certificate of Appreciation by Big Sir Jim Wangeman and Little Sir Steve Bordi.

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February events & activities

Check the respective articles for more details.

Meetings

General meeting & luncheon - February 13.

BEC Branch Executive Committee meeting - Feb 13.

Activities

Bowling

- Feb 5, 12, 19 and 26, Brentwood Bowlero
- Feb 15 & 16, SIR tournament, Sacramento

Cycling (3 weekly rides)

- Feb 5 & 7 - long ride
- Feb 9 - short ride

Golf

- February 27, 9:00, Shadow Lakes

Dinner With The Ladies - Feb 27, Samurai

Little Sir report continued from page 1



Thanks to Sir Mike Sadler for stepping forward to lead the singing when our primary singer and backup singer were absent.

Our February luncheon speaker will be Rob Brandt from Bill Brandt Ford, discussing the pros and cons of EVs (Electric Vehicles).

February Luncheon Menu

Parmesan Crusted Petrale Sole, Rice Pilaf,
seasonal Veggies.

February Birthdays

Frank Alexander, Steve Avellar, Roy Bristow,
Dave Ciruli, Mike Cullen, Bob Damico,
John Emerson, John Rensen, Tony Rubino,
Jim Venhaus, Johnny Welton

SIR Cyclers, Jerry Wiebe (916) 206-9221

We continue to enjoy our California weather year after year that provides so many opportunities for morning and early evening bicycle riders. Riding just a few miles a week helps you to maintain your balance and strengthens 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 how stronger you feel. The best part is feeling good... ALL OVER!

Contact your physician and discuss the health benefits of bicycling.

Our cyclists often get up in the morning on Lee Donell's driveway on the corner of Windward Point and Clipper Drive. When you feel confident about a longer trip, 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 exercise 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!

January attendance report, Phil Newlin

Fellow SIR members, here is a summary of attendance numbers for our January 23rd luncheon.

Date	JAN 24
Members, including New	135
NO CALL - NO SHOW	7
Notified	43
Guests	3
Guest Speakers	1
Actual Count Total	89

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 + Guest(s) + Guest Speaker(s)

Editor's note

Thanks to Luis Figueroa, Bob Damico and Lowell Thomas for photos in this issue.

January awards

Three January Awards presented by Big SIR Jim Wangeman and Awards Chairman Bob Damico:

Fred Critchfield receives the Twenty Year Membership Award. Fred Joined Brentwood Branch 108 in January 2004, and transferred to Branch 161 in 2019.



Past Big Sir Ken Landoline receives the SIR Distinguished Service Award for his dedicated leadership and diligent service as Big Sir in 2003. Thank You Ken!

Paul Elmer receives the SIR Distinguished Service Award for his many years of service to our Branch Bowling activity.

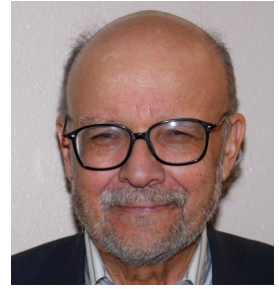
Paul has been a member for 16 years, and has served on our Branch Executive Committee for 14 years; He was our Bowling Director 2012-2019, Bowling Chairman 2012-2014, Assistant Chairman 2010, 2011, and 2015 through 2023.

Paul's dedicated efforts have contributed to making our winter and summer leagues, and our annual SIR Tournament (which is open to Sirs from all branches) successful and fun for all participants. Thank You Paul!



Membership, Luis Figueroa

In 2023 our Branch recruited 12 new members. The branch currently offers eleven activities, eight of which are coed. I expect the branch to continue actively recruiting new members, but challenges will continue given the median age demographic, which rose slightly from 79.8 to 80.4. 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 2023 is that our monthly luncheons continue to draw over 60 % participation rate, and if we include inactive members it exceeds 70%. The branch sponsored 12 guests in 2023. At the January luncheon we had three guests, all recruited by Dennis Pachucki. Their names are: Rick Wilson, Jim Sniadecki, and Joel Riggs.

Last year one branch member recruited the most members and thus Jim Wangeman, our new Big Sir, is our branch's top recruiter, and will receive an additional free meal certificate for his efforts.

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, and don't hesitate to contact me if you need any assistance in any recruiting efforts.

Do you remember 1994?? (thirty years ago), Bob Damico

Bill Clinton was our President.

The Dallas Cowboys won the Super Bowl, defeating the Buffalo Bills.

There was no Baseball World Series due to players strike.

Ernie Els won the Golf US open.

The average national price of gasoline was \$2.18 per gallon.

Come to the next meeting and hear more about what else happened in 1994....

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



OK, IT IS TIME TO GET SERIOUS ABOUT SIR 161 GOLF!!
WE ARE NOW TAKING RESERVATIONS FOR ALL EVENTS.

Twenty five players have joined the NCGA through the SIR Branch 161 Club. It is always nice to see our numbers go up. Anyone who wants to join our club may. We also encourage membership in the SIR Branch 161, our parent organization. A non-member may join us as a guest for a limited number of events in the hope that they will join the SIR organization. All players in our events are required to have a GHIN number. One way to be covered is to join our club ... or any other.

The Winter Four-Man Scramble is on Tuesday, February 27 at Shadow Lakes with tee times starting at 9:00 am. Range balls will be provided. A full 18 holes will be played on the newly re-opened 18-hole course. Team prizes for first, second and third will be awarded. Two Closest to the Pin holes will also be available. A great relaxed format to begin the season. This event will be held with full thanks to Bill Konold's Rough Riders joining us for the event. Register early to be sure you are included.

Contests

Except for the Winter Scramble, the Match Play with Concord SIR, and the Individual Championship, the primary contest for six of the events will be "Two Net Best Ball" in a team competition. \$80 in prize money will be awarded to the first three teams. Two "Closest to the Pin" winners will be awarded \$5. For the first time the "Skins, Gross, and Net" contest will be included in the registration fee. \$5 per player will be distributed through the prize fund for two flights in all three contests. Prizes will be rounded to the nearest dollar as in the past.

Registration

Registration for all events should be made by emailing Johnny Welton at johnnywelton40@gmail.com and can be done today. Don't wait. Payment may come later. Deadline for registration and payment is at noon one week before the event, except the Match Play with Concord SIR on 8/22, deadline is 8/13.

Payment

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.

You can write a check for one event, several events, or the whole season. If you need to cancel before the deadline for the event, you will receive full credit. Please see the Drop Out/Refund Policy for more information.

2024 Golf Schedule—revized

Additional details will be in the 2024 Handbook

Tuesday, February 27 9:00	Shadow Lakes
Tuesday, March 19 9:00	Lone Tree, Antioch
Tuesday, April 16 9:30	Las Positas, Livermore
Tuesday, May 21 11:00	Franklin Canyon, Hercules
Tuesday, June 18 9:00	Elkhorn, Stockton
Tuesday, July 23 8:30	Swensen Park
Thursday, August 22, 8:00	Diablo Creek
Tuesday, September 17 9:00	Manteca Park, Manteca
Tuesday, October 15, 9:30	The Reserve, Stockton

Event coordinators: 3/19 Tom Denning; 4/16 David Vicencio; 8/22 Dan Lippstreu .

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Golf, continued from page 5 ...

Members are encouraged to pay for multiple events at one time. For 2024 members may pay \$540 for all nine events or pay \$480 for eight events if paid before the luncheon on February 13. The fee is \$65 per event if paid otherwise. The Drop Out/Refund policy shall be in effect.

Participation

Please do whatever you can to increase our numbers playing in each event. A core group of 26 players (playing in 5 or more events) gave us 19-29 players per event last year. 42 different players played last year. We must have 24 players at each event this year at the price we are charging. We currently have 28-32 spots at each event. We need everyone to recruit players (SIR members, guests, etc.) that will sign up for every event. The best way to keep the price down is to have more participants. Two courses required a minimum number of players to allow us to schedule an event. All nine courses increased their rates this year. If you have ideas to increase our numbers, please let me know. If you have names that you want us to add to our email distribution, send me their email. We don't want anyone to miss out on the fun!

Bowling news, Ron Wilson

We just completed our winter league first half position round. The team results (first three places) are as follows.

1st Place: Team #1 Fred Critchfield, Ron Wilson, Gail Smith and Keith Jones

2nd Place: Team # 7, Todd Ramsdell, Tom Kirtley, Ken Fanucchi and Mike Carmichael

3rd Place: Team # 4, Terry Kaufman, Rosie Elmer, Paul Elmer and Mitch Wisinski



We also just completed the Napa Tournament and there were 82 bowlers from various branches. The Napa tournament results for our branch members are as follows.

Mitch Wisinski: 1st Place Singles (Div 1) and 1st Place All Events (Div 1)

Tony Guarascio: 3rd Place Singles (Div 2)

Marie Wilson: 1st Place Doubles (Div 2) and 2nd Place All Events (Div 2)

The Napa tournament was a first for most bowlers as Napa is 100% String Setters (new technology). There are some subtle differences in pinfall but overall better than we expected. The United States Bowling Congress (USBC) conducted exhaustive testing over about four months and has declared no significant difference in averages compared to our older mechanical pin setters. We will be seeing more of this new technology at our bowling venues since there is much less maintenance expense for the venue owners.

We also have two vacancies in our winter league and would welcome any new bowlers to fill these vacancies. We bowl Monday mornings from 10:00 to approximately 12:45 at Bowlero in Brentwood. We are a handicap scoring league, so new or low average bowlers do not hurt a team. Our league consists of SIR men and spouses or significant others. It is a very social atmosphere and we have a lot of fun. Our league bowls 34 weeks for the winter season and 17 weeks for the summer season.

Should anyone want to begin bowling with us or bowl the Sacramento tournaments, give me a call (925-354-6647) or see me on the lanes.

Ron Wilson

Dinner With The Ladies, Dennis Pachucki

When: Tuesday, February 27, 2024

Where: Samurai Japanese Restaurant, 5007 Lone Tree Way, Brentwood.

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

Menu Choices: (Dinner includes appetizer, dessert & non-alcoholic beverage):



Entrees:

- Chicken Teriyaki grilled with sweet teriyaki sauce
- New York Steak (Hibachi Grilled)
- Filet Mignon (Hibachi Grilled)
- Hibachi Shrimp grilled with lemon & butter
- Hibachi Salmon grilled with a hint of lemon
- Vegetable Delight (Assorted fresh vegetables grilled in a light sauce)

All entrees include Mushroom Soup, Green Salad with Ginger Dressing, Hibachi Vegetables and choice of steamed, fried or garlic fried rice.

Cost: \$38.00 per person (includes tax and tip)

Deadline: We need your RSVP no later than Friday, February 23 – there will be envelopes at our General Meeting on February 13.

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

Samurai is located at 5007 Lone Tree Way, Brentwood 94531. It is in the shopping center, (Lone Tree Landing), on your right heading from Brentwood to Antioch just before Hillcrest and Walmart.

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

Your Name(s): _____

Phone: _____

Your Menu choice(s):

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chicken Teriyaki | <input type="checkbox"/> New York Steak | <input type="checkbox"/> Filet Mignon |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hibachi Shrimp | <input type="checkbox"/> Hibachi Salmon | <input type="checkbox"/> Vegetable Delight |

And your rice selection(s):

- | | | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Steamed Rice | <input type="checkbox"/> Fried Rice | <input type="checkbox"/> Garlic Fried Rice |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|

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/>

CALLING ALL 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.**