



# SIR BRANCH 161 NEWS

Celebrating our 33rd year! March 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

Thank you for such a good turnout of our members (95) for the February Luncheon! The food was very good, Parmesan encrusted petrale sole and rice pilaf with seasonal veggies. Here we are already well into 2024 with two successful SIR lunches and an equal number of interesting speakers behind us. Our next meeting will be on March 12th.



Thank you to Rob Brandt for a very interesting program on the future of electric cars.

The Country Club has promised me that we will not have any outside noise at the next meeting!

One other thing I did want to mention, is that the process of members notifying our Attendance Director by the Friday before our monthly meetings to indicate that they will not be attending a luncheon is not being adequately followed by all members. Please remember if you do not inform us that you will not be attending a luncheon, a meal is ordered and paid for on your behalf. If you do not show up, we still pay for your meal.

I would very much like to see every member at the March Lunch, please let our Attendance Director Phil Newlin know if you cannot make it by the Friday before, if for any reason you will not be attending. Phil can be reached at (408) 505-5359 or (ward28fred-sirs@yahoo.com). Otherwise, I look forward to seeing you on March 12th. Jim Wangeman, Big Sir

Please see Webmaster heads up on page 8.

## Little Sir, Steve Bordi

Our February guest speaker was Rob Brandt, owner of the Bill Brandt Ford Dealership in Brentwood. Established in 1972, at 52 years it is oldest running Ford Agency in all of Contra Costa County. Rob went over the pros and cons of owning an all electric ,hybrid or ICE vehicle (gas). He also talked about the different types of Lithium batteries, the expense of the batteries and home charging stations. At the end of his presentation both



*Continued on page 2 ...*

## March events & activities

*Check the respective articles for more details.*

### Meetings

**General meeting & luncheon - March 12.**

**BEC Branch Executive Committee meeting - March 12.**

### Activities

#### **Bowling**

- March 4, 11, 18 and 25— Brentwood Bowlero
- March 6 & 7 - SIR tournament, Citrus Heights

#### **Cycling** (3 weekly rides)

- March 4 & 6 - long ride
- March 8 - short ride

#### **Golf**

Tuesday, March 19, 9:00—Lone Tree, Antioch

**Dinner With The Ladies** - March 26, Zephyr

**Wine tasting** March 22

### Little Sir report continued from page 1

he and his Internet Car Sales Manager, Alejandro Lopez showed the Sirs an all electric car and truck parked in front of the country club. Everyone was most interested and there were many questions.



*Rob Brandt (center) receives a certificate of appreciation from Little Sir Steve and Big Sir Jim*

Our March luncheon speaker will be Jessica Enos. In 2023 she was name President of Harvest Time, which represents over 60 U-Pick farms and fruit stands in the greater Brentwood area. Thus, Brentwood has been coined the U-Pick Capital of the United States, and Harvest Time has been actively promoting agricultural tourism to this area. Jessica will give attendees the lowdown on what is currently happening with Harvest Time.

#### March Luncheon Menu

Corned beef & cabbage, cauliflower, carrots & red potatoes, roll and brownie /cookie

#### March Birthdays

Steve Bordi, Terry Brekke, Ron Crawford, John Davis, Jake Fair, Dave Goodwin, Keith Jones, Ron Keefer, Gary Leonis, Mike Maita, Umberto Marconi, Dennis Pachucki, Joe Riggs, Jim Sniadecki, Don Sarkozy, Mike Stoiber, Vince Vargas, Dave Vicencio

### 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!

### February attendance report, Phil Newlin

Fellow SIR members, here is a summary of attendance numbers for our February 13th luncheon.

Date	FEB 13
Members, including New	135
NO CALL - NO SHOW	7
Notified	37
Guests	3
Guest Speakers	1
Actual Count Total	95

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)

The other categories are self-explanatory.

## Membership, Luis Figueroa

At the February luncheon we inducted three members, all sponsored by Dennis Pachucki. Their names are: Rick Martin, Joel Riggs, and Jim Sniadecki. Their photos and brief bios are below.



*Rick Martin (right) and Dennis Pachucki*

Rick Martin was born in Anaconda Montana, a town of about 8,000 people, in the late 40's. He is the middle child of a family of 7. He finished college with a BS in Engineering at Montana Tech in Butte Montana, and spent his career in cement manufacturing, retiring in 2012. He's been married to his wife Dee since 1991, who he met in Kansas. He and his wife have lived in Brentwood since 2022. They have one son who now works for the Army Corps of Engineers.

Rick and his wife attend St. Ann's Catholic church in Byron. He enjoys golf with the Rough Riders group, a small (sometimes) taste of wine, and he is always willing to help neighbors. He believes SIR will enhance his life and he hopes to actively engage with members over the coming months.

Joe Riggs retired from AT&T Communications as a Senior Product Director after 41+ years, where he managed a large organization which encompassed product/program managers, marketing, sales, development and operational teams. Joe has been married close to 37 years and he and his wife have two step- children and 6 grandchildren ranging from 16 - 25 years of age. Joe has been a Scoutmaster for Oakley Troop 298.

He enjoys golfing, bowling and RV camping with my Airstream. I am very excited in joining and being a part of such a strong organization.



*Joe Riggs (right) and Dennis Pachucki*



Jim Sniadecki is single and dating a beautiful woman (Leslie). He has no children and has been living in Discovery Bay for 10 years. He was born in South Bend, Indiana and was drafted by the SF 49ers in 1969 from Indiana State University where he played five years with the team. He also played two years with the WFL.

After he retired from football he owned a restaurant for 10 years, and entered the commercial security business with ADT. He retired from ADT in 2019. He currently enjoys traveling, playing golf, bowling, and wine tasting.

*Jim Sniadecki (right) and Dennis Pachucki*

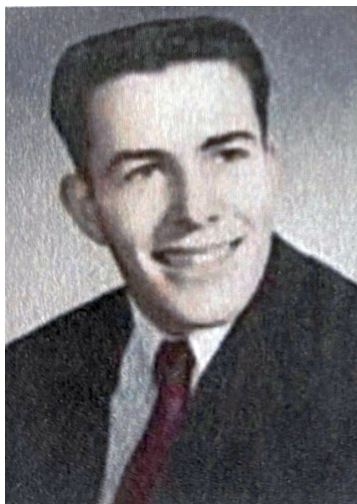
At the February luncheon we had 1 guest, George Soles, who was sponsored by Luis Figueroa.

**... Continued on page 4**

### **... Membership, continued from page 3**

Please refer to the Membership section on our branch web site at [www.sir161.org](http://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.

### **Mystery Sir**



We thought it might be fun for you to guess who this SIR Branch 161 member is. Tune in next month to see if you were correct.

We'll run this feature as an experiment to see if folks enjoy it. If you have an 'early' photo of yourself you'd like included, please email to:

[webmaster@sir161.org](mailto:webmaster@sir161.org)

### **Wine Tasting, Terry Silva**

Attendees at our February 22 wine tasting were: Terry and Sue Silva, Dick and Carolyn Jamison, Will and Raquel Myers, Michael and Pam Quier, Bob and Jan Rix, Cam Donald, Dave and Jinni Ciruli, Gary and Linda Tucker, Jim and Karen Spann.

Vince and Bobbie Vargas were the hosts and did a great job. Everyone Had a great time.

Please note, we need a host for March and April. Please see me if you are able to host.

Terry Silva, SIR Wine Tasting Chairman



***...More photos on page 5.***

### Photos from the February 22 wine tasting



## 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

### Guidelines for Play 2024



1. The goal is to see the group finish in a reasonable time. (Goal: 4 ½ hours). We did very well last year, being close to this goal, but we had one or two groups with five or more hour rounds at each event. Most rounds were under 4 ½ hours. Each year significant energy goes into trying to encourage ready golf and a quick pace of play (See #12-14 below). This year the Golf Committee has considered imposing a one stroke penalty to a team that has taken more than five hours to play their round of golf. A survey last year indicated 60% of our players believe that a one stroke penalty should be imposed for slow play. We all know who the few players that are too deliberate, take more than two practice swings, don't line up their put before it is time to hit or walk around the pin when it is time to hit. Don't be the one standing around. Please encourage your cart partner to speed up play! The Golf Committee has decided to monitor the pace of play for the start of the season before imposing a one stroke penalty. Please do your part.

2. Except for the Scramble at Shadow Lakes, the Match Play with Diablo Creek with the Concord SIR, and Individual Championship to end the season, the primary contest is the net two best balls of the foursome. The Individual Championship at the end of the year is net individual score and gross individual score.

3. Except for the Match Play with Concord SIR, all events will have two closest to the pin holes. A \$5 prize will be awarded for each closest to the pin holes.

4. For 2024 the previous optional skins, gross, and net game have been included in the regular registration. Prizes will be based on \$5 per player in a pool for all three contests. There will be two groups (flights) for each individual contest based on the handicap of the players signed up for a particular outing. Players must putt out or have reached your maximum score (see below). No sign-in sheets will be used. Flights will be formed after the sign-in process has been completed. It is intended that flights will have the same number of players which will result in prizes that are awarded are the same amounts between the flights. Net/Gross payouts will be the same for both flights. Skins payout per skin will be the same for both flights. Prizes will be rounded down to the dollar.

### 5. Championship Tournament Guidelines

- The SIR Branch 161 Golf Championship Tournament shall be designed as a competition for SIR Branch 161 members. Guests and others may play golf with the eligible competitors, but they will not win prizes or receive any tee prizes.
- To be eligible for the Championship competition and prizes, a member of the SIR Branch 161 must have played in five current year events.

### 2024 Golf Schedule—revised

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 6***

- The name of the low net winner will be placed on the perpetual trophy for the SIR Branch 161 Golf Championship Tournament. The winner may retain the perpetual trophy for eight months and then return the trophy to the Director of Golf.
- The low net winner will also receive an individual trophy.
- The low gross winner (who is not the low net winner) will receive an individual trophy.
- The player to win the most money during the golf season will receive recognition as the “Sand Bagger” for the year and receive a trophy as the “High Money Winner” and a t-shirt.

6. There will no longer be a Season Long Leaders Contest.

7. Scoring maximum will be double bogey plus pops. Once you have reached your maximum allowable score under this format, you should pick up your ball and put your maximum score down on the score card. This does two things: Speeds up play and allows you to have a “blow up” hole and still have a chance at winning something. Examples: On a par 4 where you get two pops, your maximum score would be double bogey (6) plus 2 pops for a total of 8. On a par 3 where you don’t get any pops, your maximum score would be 5.

8. Scores used in the competition need to be putted out with the exception stated in above. To keep the competition as fair as possible, if you do not complete a hole your score needs to be double bogey plus pops.

9. Each team must keep two scorecards. At the end of each hole, make sure you write down the correct gross score for each player. Check with the other person keeping score. It is a good idea to compare the score cards at the end of each set of 3 holes to make sure they are correct. It will also save time at the end of the round when you again compare scorecards. Both scorekeepers must sign both cards. Turn in both scorecards. If the scorecards don’t match the highest score for the hole will be used for the individual. You may want to keep a “team” score, but the official team score will be calculated after it is reviewed by the golf committee. Do not put “circles” or other marks on the scorecard. Cards must be legible. Neatness counts!

10. Please put your name on the survey at the end of the round. The team should turn the surveys in with the scorecards. Your opinion counts. It is important that everyone is heard.

11. Always play ready golf. Do not wait for your turn. If you are ready - Hit the ball, especially if you are on the green waiting for someone else to hit up. It can save a lot of time if you putt when ready and not wait for everyone’s ball to be on the green or wait to follow a distance protocol. You are not being impolite; you are speeding up the pace of play. If you are not hitting, someone is waiting on you.

12. At some courses we play the rough is high and it is difficult to find the ball. While a player is looking for their ball, the others in the group should hit their ball before helping look for any lost ball. If after 3 minutes the player cannot find the ball, our club has adopted the following procedure: Drop a ball in the nearest section of fairway where you think the ball was lost, no closer to the hole with a 2-shot penalty (rather than the player returning to where the ball was originally struck to hit another ball).

13. You get a 6-inch bump with your club in the same cut of grass outside of hazards. This means you do not get to lift your ball and place on a tuft of grass. Six inches is about the width of a scorecard and not 2 feet to get around a tree or other obstacle.

14. In a sand bunker you have an additional option as of January 2020: You may drop the ball outside and behind the bunker in line with the pin with a 2-shot penalty. ***... Continued on page 8***

***Golf continued from page 7***

15. This policy relates to when a player has registered for an event and must withdraw for any reason.

- Credit from cancellation of a registration, as determined by this policy shall be applied to the next SIR golf event. Refunds will not be made unless there is a credit due at the end of the season.
- If the player withdraws from an event before the deadline to register, their registration fee shall be applied in full to the next SIR golf event.
- If the player withdraws from an event after the registration has closed, the following shall apply:
  - If the player finds a replacement player, their registration fee shall be applied in full to the next SIR golf event.
  - If the club is charged for the player in absence, the player's full fee will be charged to that event.
  - If the club is not charged a green/cart/food fee for the player in absence, \$15 shall be applied to the prize fund and the balance of the player's fee will be applied to the next SIR golf event.

16. There have been situations and personal issues that have made it impossible for a player to comfortably complete 18 holes. The heat might be a factor, or a swing might create an injury, or walking/climbing back and forth to the cart/ball might leave you needing a break or to stop. No one should suffer or be at risk during a SIR golf event.

We are reminding members to be mindful of their bodies and respond on the golf course. Sometimes you may want a break for a few holes and continue. Other times you may need air conditioning and water inside. You need to do what you need to do to take care of yourself. Your partners will help if you let them know you are in distress. The Pro Shop or 911 are available in emergencies. No judgement. Just support and kindness when obvious needs are attended.

The goal is to have fun! Guests are welcome to play in any of our events. They must have a GHIN number to compete in any of the contests except for the scramble event.

Have a good one!

Johnny

**Heads up - Webmaster note**

In the next couple of weeks, we will be migrating our web site to a new web server running a new operating system. As a result, our web site and mailing system will be unavailable for a short while as the migration occurs, and as we restore our site and check things out. If you find the web site unavailable, check back later. If you need to contact me, please use this email address: [sir161@comcast.net](mailto:sir161@comcast.net) or call/text my cell phone: (209) 298-5006.

Having been involved with numerous server and software changes, upgrades and migrations over the years, I've found that you can't accurately predict how long we'll be off the air. Although we have a good tech support team, things can and do go wrong; It could be hours or a few days for us to be back online

Apologies in advance for any inconvenience.

Tom Jones



## Bowling news, Ron Wilson

We still have three bowler vacancies that we would very much like to fill. SIR members and wives or significant others are eligible to bowl. We bowl four-person teams every Monday morning beginning at 10:00 am until approximately 12:45 pm. The "Bowlero Bowling Center" is located at 5000 Balfour Rd., Brentwood.



We are a handicap scoring league and new or low average bowlers do not hurt a team. We encourage any skill level to join in our fun activity.

After week 22 of our 34 week winter league season here are the individual leaderboard statistics.

Men, ( High Average Keith Jones with a very nice 225), (High Scratch Game Mike Sadler 268), (High Scratch Series Keith Jones 761).

Women, (High Average Gail Smith 180), (High Scratch Game Rosie Elmer 258), (High Scratch Series Gail Smith 638).

The next tournament is on March 6 at Fireside Lanes in Sacramento, followed by Clayton Valley Bowl in Clayton on March 19 & 20. Then we have our first big one at Gold Dust West in Carson City. It looks like we will have eight bowlers and very possibly twelve from our branch at Carson City. This event will likely draw 150 bowlers. Look me up if you want to bowl any of these events.

I attended the State Organization Zoom meeting and comments were made by the State Activities Leader about conversations regarding the possibility of combining a golf and bowling tournament at a location like Carson City or Reno. This would be a trial situation to determine if there would be enough benefit to expand the idea. One benefit could be getting better room rates due to higher volume. It could also be possible to arrange scheduling so those who bowl and play golf could attend both events. This idea is only in the conversation phase at this time, and nothing would become reality until 2025. If anyone has any comments or ideas about this issue please get them to me.

Ron Wilson

## Dinner With The Ladies, Dennis Pachucki

**When:** Tuesday, March 26, 2024

**Where:** Zephyr Grill & Bar, 613 1st St. #100 Brentwood, CA 94513.

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

**Starter:** Caesar Salad: romaine | house-made Caesar dressing | parmesan | croutons

**Entrees:** (Water, soft drinks, coffee, tea included)

- Chicken Marsala: pan-seared | cream | mushroom marsala wine sauce
- Grilled King Salmon: lemon butter
- Braised Short Rib: wine & mushroom reduction.

**Dessert:** Carrot Cake: spiced cake | carrots | walnuts | raisins | cream cheese filling | caramel sauce | whipped cream

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

**Deadline:** We need your RSVP no later than Friday, March 22 – there will be envelopes at our General Meeting on March 12.

**Maximum Capacity is 60 so 1st come 1st served.**

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: \_\_\_\_\_

**Your Menu choice(s):**

Chicken marsala

Grilled King Salmon

Braised short rib



## 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 & email copies*



**Bob Damico**  
*Paper copies*

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