



# SIR BRANCH 161 NEWS

Celebrating our 34th year! August 2025

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

Dear Branch 161 Sirs,  
Regretfully, my health has prevented me from attending the last four meetings, and it looks like I will miss the August meeting as well.

I do appreciate your concerns, thoughts and prayers. I want to thank Little Sir Steve Bordi especially for taking over for me, and taking charge and leading our Branch into a new direction with our venue change to Trilogy. I have heard many positive comments about our new Lunch venue; It seems that the facility, the food, and the service provided by Club Los Meganos and their staff is appreciated by our Board and you, the membership. Again, my thanks to our Executive Board who researched and orchestrated this change. Also, my thanks to you, the membership, for your continued support, Hope to see you all soon.  
Big Sir Jim



## Little Sir, Steve Bordi July Guest Speaker

We have been blessed with two outstanding and interesting speakers in a row. We are on a roll at our new venue, Club Los Meganos. Ted Clement, representing "Save Mount Diablo", greeted us with a great slide show on the nature and beauty of the Diablo Range landscape. The SMD organization is a public land trust which has acquired many thousands of acres between Danville and Byron for the preservation of the Mountain.  
*continued on page 2 ...*



## August Luncheon Menu

Smorgasbord Buffet - green salad, assorted salads, and seasonal vegetables (we are too far out at press time to be able to name the main entrees). Roll & butter or garlic bread, coffee and iced tea, and a "surprise dessert" (no brownie).

Cost: \$33

## August events & activities

*Check the respective articles for more details.*

### Meetings

BEC meeting - August 5  
General meeting & luncheon - August 5

### Activities

#### **Bowling**

- Weekly (Mondays) - Brentwood Bowlero
- August 11-13 - Reno
- August 27 or 28 - Grass Valley

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

- Mondays & Wednesdays - long ride
- Fridays - short ride

**Golf** - August 21, Diablo Creek

**Dinner with the ladies** - Tuesday, August 26

**Wine tasting** - August 28

**Visit us on the web:**

<https://www.sir161.org>

### ***Little Sir report, continued from page 1 ...***

The organization has fostered the development of a lengthy trail system for the public to enjoy, whether hiking, biking, or on horseback.



*Little Sir Steve Bordi presented  
Ted Clement with a Certificate  
Of Appreciation.*



*Lowell Thomas  
received the 20-year  
membership award*

### **Election of 2026 BEC**

During the July meeting, the 2026 Branch Executive Committee was elected:



*2026 Branch Executive Committee (left to right):*

Bob Damico, **Director**, Sunshine & Awards; Ron Wilson, **Director**, Bowling; Will Myers, **Director**, Nominating Committee & Audit; Steve Bordi, **Big Sir**; Dave Ciruli, **Little Sir**; Saul Gold, **Assistant Secretary**; Skip Zehnder, **Treasurer**; Norm Petersen, **Assistant Treasurer**; Luis Figueroa, **Director**, Membership; Phil Newlin, **Director**, Attendance; Johnny Welton, **Director**, Golf; Dennis Pachucki, **Director**, Dinner With The Ladies.

Absent from the photo: Bruce Bohnsack, **Secretary**.

***Continued on page 3 ...***

## ***Little Sir report, continued from page 2 ...***

### **August Birthdays**

Mike Carmichael, Luis Figueroa, Paul Furiosi, Phil Kepp, Ward Messersmith, Will Myers, Nick Pack, Don Patterson, Ed Ritner, Terry Silva.

### **August Entertainment**

Carlos Suarez and partner on their guitars will sing 8 popular songs. Carlos is from Livermore and plays locally at wineries and lounges . He also does weddings and house parties. Among his favorites are songs by John Denver.

### **Membership, Luis Figueroa**

At the July luncheon we re-inducted Mike Quier as a member. Mike had previously been a member and, after a short absence, we welcome him back to the Branch. Mike's sponsor is Dennis Pachuki.



Mike is a retired electrician who worked at Lawrence Livermore Labs. He has been married for 54 years and has two daughters, along with six grandchildren and five great grandchildren. He is an avid golfer and also enjoys wine tasting.

At the July luncheon we had 5 guests, which is the highest total in the last several years. Keep up your great recruiting efforts!

Michael Park (sponsor: John Sutton)  
John Reichenbach (sponsor: Mike Quier)  
Tony Mannino (sponsor: Frank Cramer)  
Ed Lloyd (sponsor: Jim Spann)  
Dave Gatt (sponsor: Roy Brett)

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.

The current branch membership headcount is 121.

We have developed an updated Marketing brochure to help with recruiting new members to our Branch. The brochure can also be viewed/downloaded at our web site: <https://www.sir161.org> under *Membership*.



## 30th Annual Al DiGiusto Boat Cruise and Lunch

Thursday July 24, 2025 was the day. Discovery Bay's Marina Bar and Grill was the place. Twenty five Sirs, spouses and friends gathered for what was the 30th anniversary of this event.

Our numbers were a bit lower than in the past, and we did have one boat Captained by Ken Fanucchi and his first mate Cleo, and crew John and Maryann Reichenbach. The venue, food and service made for another successful event enjoyed by both Sirs and ladies.

Will & Raquel Myers received a bottle of wine for having attended the most times (20+). Connie Ryan and Maryann Reichenbach won the drawing for gift cards generously provided by the Marina Bar and Grill.



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

A group of SIR cycling enthusiasts meets weekly to ride in local communities, promoting the physical and mental benefits of regular exercise.

They hold three rides a week, typically on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, and welcome riders of all levels, offering support for those looking to rebuild their skills and fitness. Beginners are encouraged to start small and gradually increase their mileage. Participants are advised to consult their doctor before starting.

For details, contact Jerry Wiebe at 916-206-9221 or [papadrone@gmail.com](mailto:papadrone@gmail.com)



### Bowling news, Ron Wilson

We are at mid season with our summer league. We have 5 more league weeks and then our end of season Sweeper on Monday September 8th. We are planning to begin our winter league on Monday September 15th.

On the SIR Tournament trail we took 13 bowlers to Dublin with 5 cashing (Bill Konold, Derek Schutz, Jerry Marshall, Mitch Wisinski and Mary Patterson). We only had 2 bowlers at Auburn with 1 cashing (Danny Roberts).



*Continued on page 5 ...*

## Bowling news *continued from page 4*

I am writing this after just returning from Clayton, where we had a nice participation with 10 bowlers from our branch 161. Results will be in next month's newsletter.



*Clayton Branch 161 Bowlers 2025*

The next tournament is at the "National Bowling Stadium" in Reno on August 11th, 12th and 13th. So far we only have 4 of us going, which is disappointing. The "Stadium" is a great venue, and of course the attractions in Reno are great. Let me know if you want to go.

Following Reno we have the following tournaments:

- Grass Valley at "Prosperity Lanes" on your choice of August 27th or 28th.
- Carson City at "Home Grown Bowl" on your choice of September 8th or 9th.
- Pacheco at "Paddock Lanes" on your choice of September 24th or 25th.
- Brentwood at "Bowlero" on Tuesday October 14th. This is our own Branch 161 annual "Bob Matteucci Memorial Tournament". Last year you folks associated with our Branch 161 were awesome with a turnout of 26 bowlers, making a field of 87 bowlers total. I am hopeful that all of you will again show your support for our event.
- Modesto at "McHenry Bowl" will be our final 2025 SIR Tournament on your choice of November 6th or 7th.

I will be sending via e-mail more detailed information on the upcoming tournaments.

As always, if you want to bowl any of our tournaments, I will handle all the paper work. All you have to do is pay the entry fee, show up, have fun and maybe win a bit of cash.

See you on the lanes.



How much does the pin boy count?

## **Golf News, Johnny Welton**

It is late July, and we can still report mild days for golf at Dublin Ranch. Sixteen players enjoyed a warm, but not hot day on a well-groomed golf course. Over twice that number signed up at some point. Scores were low and play was fast (4.14/5 for pace and nine players reporting 4 hours or less).



Team scores were unusual because of use of four blind draws. Tom Denning, Vince Vargas, and Blind Draw Joe Stanley won first place (108) after a two-hole tie breaker with Joe Stanley, James Taylor, Gayle Nelson, and Jim Spann. Third place was also a tie breaker at 109. The winners were Dan Lippstreu, John Sutton, and Rich Martin.

Dan Lippstreu for the fourth month scored lower than his age! This time Lee Donnell tied him and won low gross with 76. Dan won first place for low net (60). In Flight B Gale Nelson won low gross with a score of 88. Jim Spann and Vince Vargas tied low net with scores of 63. Rick Martin and I won closest to the pin holes.

Jim Spann and I won three skins. Lee Donnell, David Vicencio, and Vince Vargas won two skins. Jim Sniadecki, Tom Denning, Tony Rubino, and John Emerson won one skin.

Dan Lippstreu and David Vicencio will be our team captains for the Annual Match Play at Diablo Creek in August with SIR Branch 8 Concord.

Twenty-one participated in the survey this month. The vote was less than definitive, but the behavior indicates that only 16 would sign up for Dublin Ranch in the future.

Dublin Ranch has been canceled and Franklin Canyon has been contracted to host (32) of us on November 18 at 9:30 am. Those who signed up for Dublin Ranch have been registered for Franklin Canyon. Please register now for any event this year in which you would like to play. I am asking you to register before I leave for my trip August 9, so that I can do the planning before I leave (payment would be helpful now as well). If there must be a cancellation, let me know as soon as possible.

Have a good one!

Johnny Welton  
Golf Director

## **Dinner With The Ladies, Dennis Pachucki**

Tuesday, August 26 at Skipolinis.

Signup form will follow by email on July 30.







SIR Branch 161  
2025 GOLF SCHEDULE

If you want to add someone the SIR 161 Golf distribution email list  
or have a question, please send an email: [johnnywelton40@gmail.com](mailto:johnnywelton40@gmail.com)

1. Tuesday, February 25 9:00 SIR 161 Winter Four-Ball Scramble Due: 2/11/25  
Shadow Lakes, Brentwood {Tee Prize: Range Balls}
2. Tuesday, March 18 9:00 Elkhorn, Stockton [32 miles] Due: 3/11/25
3. Tuesday, April 15 9:00 Swenson Park, Stockton [16 miles] Due: 4/8/25
4. Tuesday, May 20 9:30 Manteca Park, Manteca [33 miles] Due: 5/13/25
5. Tuesday, June 17 9:00 Elkhorn, Stockton [32 miles] Due: 6/10/25
6. Tuesday, July 15 9:30 Dublin Ranch, Dublin [30 miles] Due: 7/8/25
7. Thursday, August 21 8:00 Concord SIR: Match Play Diablo Creek, Concord Tee Prize  
[17 miles] SIR 161 players will receive prizes.  
Shotgun Start hosted by SIR Branch 8 Concord. Limited to 20 players {Tee Prize: Sleeve of Balls}  
Due: 8/12/25
8. Tuesday, September 16 9:30 Blue Rock Springs, Vallejo [36 miles] Due: 9/9/25
9. Tuesday, October 21 9:30 SIR Individual Championship at The Reserve, Stockton  
[30 miles] Flier and guidelines to follow. Due: 10/14/25
- 10. Tuesday, November 18 9:30 SIR 161 Fall Four Ball Shamble, Best Drive**  
**{Play your own ball with 70% handicap}**  
**Franklin Canyon [44 miles] Due: 11/11/25**

## Mystery Sir



Our July mystery Sir was Fred Critchfield.

Can you guess who this month's mystery Sir is? (photo on left).

If you have an 'early' photo of yourself you'd like included, please  
email to: [sir161@comcast.net](mailto:sir161@comcast.net)

## Wine & Spirits Tasting report, Terry Silva

This month's event did not include wine tasting. We tasted whiskey, bourbon, gin and vodka instead. Dave and Jinni Ciruli set this one up and did a great job. It was held at the Sabbatical Distillery, off highway 4 on Victoria Island.



We had a tasting of their spirits. The presentation was done very well. We had a guided tour of their facility & equipment, and a great talk on how they make their great products. A great time was had by all.

The next Wine Tasting is set for August 28 at 5 pm. Location to be determined.





## 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

Luncheon meetings for the remainder of 2025 will be held on the first Tuesday of the month at Club Los Meganos at Trilogy in Brentwood. (There may be 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, Norm Petersen.

**Dress code** for our meetings is business casual. Also jeans, shorts and T shirts allowed. 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.

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## Your newsletter team



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**SIR Branch 161 on the web: <https://www.sir161.org>**

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