



SIR BRANCH 161 NEWS

Celebrating our 35th year!

May 2026

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

Our Members come from from Discovery Bay, Brentwood & surrounding Communities

Steve Bordi, Big Sir

May is upon us with "Flowers & Showers". This is the month for our annual "Mothers Day Luncheon with the Ladies". This is an optional ticketed event with no general meeting for Branch 161 Sirs.



Little Sir Dave Ciruli has a wonderful program planned with a delicious sit-down meal (not a buffet). You don't want to miss it - my favorite Chicken Cacciatore. Ladies, get him out of the house and make him treat you to a nice day with some good entertainment. You deserve it on "your day". When you get this Newsletter, act fast and you still might be able to get tickets (\$48 each on May 5th @ noon at Club Los Meganos, Trilogly at The Vineyards). I hope to see you there. If not, I will see you all at our regular June 2nd meeting.

Big Sir, Steve Bordi.

Little Sir, Dave Ciruli

I hope you all enjoyed having Sean McCauley as our Speaker last month. Sean was very appreciative of having a very engaged audience. He was saying during lunch that he hoped that he would get some questions. He sure is engaged in trying to make this part of the county a better place to live.



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May Luncheon Menu

Chicken Cacciatore with salad, sides and dessert.

This is our annual Mothers Day luncheon, and is a ticketed event.

You do not need to notify Phil Newlin if you're not attending this lunch.

May events & activities

Check the respective articles for more details.

May Meetings

BEC meeting - none this month
General meeting - none this month

May Activities

Bowling

- Weekly (Mondays) - Lucky Strike, Brentwood
- May 12 or 13 - Sacramento
- June 4 or 5 - Placerville

Cycling (3 weekly rides)

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

Golf - May 19 - Manteca Park

Dinner with the ladies - none this month

Wine tasting - May 28

Visit us on the web:

<https://www.sir161.org>

Little Sir Report, continued from page 1

This Month we having our traditional Mother’s Day Luncheon on May 5th. We will have a plated meal served by Club Los Meganos. They will be serving chicken cacciatore with salad, sides and dessert.

You can still get tickets from our Treasurer Skip Zehnder: e-mail skipzehnder@gmail.com or phone (502)-528-3512. Since this is a plated meal, we have to be accurate on the number of tickets sold, so get your order in right away.

We will be entertained by the Delta Rhythm-Aires. They are billed as Brentwood’s Home- Town Band. They play Feel Good Music – Rock ‘n’ Roll, Rhythm & Blues and Country. I have heard them play a couple of times and they are really good and do make you feel good.

May Birthdays: Carl Carlson, Lee Donnell, Harris Edwards, Ken Fanucchi, Tom Leeper, Bob Lyman, Norm Petersen, Mike Quier, Mike Sadler, Phil Talley, Mauricio Terrazas, Jim Wangeman, Mitch Wizinski.

Hope to see you at the luncheon.

Little Sir, Dave Ciruli

April Awards



Dave Vicencio

GOOD SAMARITAN AWARD
Presented to:
Dave Vicencio and Andy Zwemer
*For their Concern and Action
while responding to our Chaplain Gary Hess’s
medical issue at our February meeting.*
Thank You Gentlemen !!



Andy Zwemer

At the April General Meeting Big Sir Steve Bordi presented Dave Vicencio and Andy Zwemer with well-deserved Good Samaritan awards. These Sirs observed Sir Gary Hess having a medical issue when leaving the February meeting. They didn’t hesitate to come to Gary’s aid by one driving him back to his Assisted Living home in Brentwood, where they called an ambulance and he was taken to the hospital. Gary was quarantined for 5 days, and thankfully has recovered and is doing well..

Bowling news, Ron Wilson

We just returned from our 3 day Carson City Nevada tournament. I believe all 12 of us had fun excepting the 4 cars in our group who encountered chains or 4 wheel drive required at Baxter (3500 foot elevation) and then were stopped at Donner Summit for 1 hour and 40 minutes in heavy snowfall and very slick roadway. Don Patterson was only about 1 mile in front of us and they were forced by Cal Trans to turn around and go back down the hill. He ended up going all the way back to Sacramento then taking highway 50 which was clear to Lake Tahoe. This made for a long and tiring drive for Don and his passengers. Fortunately those of us behind Don were allowed to continue after the long wait.



As to the tournament we did fairly well in the cashing department as follows:

Mike Sadler: 7th place "Singles" Div. 2, 1st place Div. 2 "Doubles" (with his wife Venita) and 5th place Div. 2 Handicap "All Events".

Venita Sadler: 6th place Womens "All Events".

Carol Maloney (Guest bowling with Don Patterson): 1st place Women's "Singles", and 2nd place Womens "All Events".

Ron Wilson: 6th place "Singles" Div. 2, 2nd place "All Events" Div. 2.

Danny Roberts: 3rd place Scratch "All Events".

Next Tournaments

SIR Annual Members Only Tournament at Sacramento "Country Club Lanes" on your choice of Tuesday May 12th or Wednesday May 13th. Our group so far are all bowling on Wednesday. Placerville at "Red Hawk Casino" on your choice of Thursday June 4th or Friday June 5th. Dublin at "Earl Anthony's" on your choice of Monday June 22nd or Tuesday June 23rd.

League Information

Our 34 week Winter league will end with our Sweeper on Monday May 11th. We will take a two week break (decided by league vote) and begin our 14 week (No Breaks) summer league on Monday June 1st. Our summer league is always smaller in number than our winter league because many of our bowlers have a busy summer schedule. As of now we have 32 bowlers comprising 8 full teams for summer. This is down from 52 this winter.

Important Note: On the first day of summer league (June 1st) please arrive at 9am because we will have our league meeting. Many important items will be reviewed and discussed. If you want input as to how your league operates you need to be at this meeting.

See you on the Lanes

Ron



Carson City 2026

Membership, Luis Figueroa

At the April luncheon we had 4 guests.

Bill Konold sponsored two guests: Joe Palestro, and Erv Rivers.

Phil Kopp sponsored Martin Berry.

Luis Figueroa sponsored Mark DiCortasso.

At the luncheon our Big Sir Steve Bordie emphasized the need for more effective recruiting and Mike Park our Branch Marketing Director distributed to all members the new SIR business cards he designed and had printed.

The current Branch 161 headcount is 115.

Thank you for your continued recruitment efforts and bringing guests to our luncheons.



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

Golf News, Johnny Welton

Rain, rain, go away – come again another day! Well it rained but the pro at Swenson Park was kind enough to let us out of our contract on Monday before the Tuesday event. Everyone was happy not to be playing in the rain, hail, or lightning!



The Swenson Park event may be rescheduled – keep an eye out for an announcement.

We have two events that will come up quickly:

1. Manteca Park on 5/19 has only 26 players. Time to sign up.
2. Elkhorn 2 on 6/16 has a new deadline: June 1.

The course requires this because we will have space for 50 players or more. Sign up now. This is our competition with SIR Branch 8 Concord. Twenty players will compete from our branch, but I have arranged for anyone that wants to play to be able to participate (there may be prizes, too!). Please sign up early and pay. Only 21 are registered at this time.

Hopefully everyone knows that I will not be the Golf Director next year. You should also know that no one has been found to take the job in 2027. Many have been pursued by several SIR leaders. It is a confounding situation. I know you have appreciated how I have conducted the golf program, but it can be done in many ways. The new Golf Director would certainly be encouraged to provide a program that fits his needs and style. That requires a new Golf Director to be installed.

But what if there was a totally different approach? We require membership in the NCGA/GHIN system to use the handicapping system - to be able to compete. We pay extra and in advance to be able to prove prizes for the competition. Minimum posting of scores is required (or penalized) to conduct fair competitions. Cart Instructions, teams, and Scorecards are created to make a fair competition. Prizes are awarded for each event to reward those that are successful in the competition. What if in 2027 we didn't have a golf program led by a Golf Director? What if we didn't have golf events that included competitions?

The Golf Committee could assume the required minimum duties (representation at BEC, communication with golfers, check-in at events, etc.)...

- A schedule of six events would be contracted and scheduled for 2027.
- Prices would be set for each event at the rate contracted/charged with/by the golf course.
- Players would pay the golf course directly upon arrival for each event.
- Players would arrive at the venue one hour before the event and organize themselves into groups based on tee times.
- No prizes would be awarded.
- No NCGA membership requirement, no handicap used, no posting of score requirement, no rules, no competition, etc.

This type of structure has worked well for other organizations including SIR Branch 8 Concord. They hold events in this way 3-4 times per week all year long. It is easier to manage for leaders and cheaper for each member that participates.

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Golf, continued from page 5

SIR like every other membership-based organization exists to serve the membership ... No, actually, it is members serving other members. I attend Wine Tasting, Bowling, Dinner with the Ladies, Golf, and Luncheons. Each activity leader serves me as a member. As Golf Director, I have served the members that choose to participate in the Golf Events. I have also served all the members as an elected BEC member.

For this type of organization to continue to exist, members must step up ... and serve other members. It is how every organization of this type works. We need only one Big SIR but there are many jobs that need to be filled. Each of us should evaluate and plan how they can serve the members of SIR. It is the only way SIR Branch 161 will continue as a living, growing organization. You need to decide how you can serve. There will always be a few that cannot serve but not without sacrifice and support from within the organization. If members are unwilling to serve, there will not be an organization.

I will step down as the Golf Director at the end of this year. However, I will continue to serve other members of the SIR organization in other ways. It is my duty and responsibility. I love the support, friendship, and activity SIR has provided me. The Golf Program will continue to evolve to meet the needs of those who want to participate in golf. Success of both will be based on the contributions in service made by others. No member should feel immune from the responsibility to serve others.

It is not the Golf Program that I am concerned about, but the very existence of the SIR Branch 161 I love.

Johnny Welton
Golf Director

In Memoriam



We're sorry to report the passing of our fellow Sir Don Abate on April 6, 2026.

Don joined our Branch in October of 2022, and served on our Branch Executive Committee (BEC) as Assistant Treasurer this year.

Please keep Don, his wife Carol and their family in your thoughts and prayers.

When known, we will share Don's Memorial Service information with you.

Wine Tasting Report, Terry Silva

Another successful SIR wine event hosted by Dick and Carolyn Jamison in Discovery Bay.



Attendees: Sue and Terry Silva, Johnny Welton and Mimi Conley, Linda Tucker, Will and Raquel Myers, Vince and Bobi Vargas, John and Teri Davis, Dave and Jinni Ciruli.

Dick and Carolyn did a great job of hosting.

Next month's event will be on Thursday May 28th at 5 pm.

Terry Silva, SIR Branch 161 Wine Chairman



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 are 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 will be assessed a fee 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. 2026 dues are \$30, payable at the January meeting, or by mailing a check (payable to SIR Branch 161) to our Treasurer, Skip Zehnder, 2488 Wayfarer Court, Discovery Bay, CA 94505.

Dress code for our meetings is business casual. Also jeans, shorts and T-shirts are allowed. It is suggested that hats be removed while reciting the Pledge Of Allegiance.

If you're unable to attend a meeting please email or call Phil Newlin by the Friday preceding the meeting:
Phil Newlin: ward28fred-sirs@yahoo.com
Tel: (408) 505-5359

No-shows who fail to notify Phil in advance will be assessed a fee of \$20.

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