



# SIR BRANCH 161 NEWS

Celebrating our 35th year!

July 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

The weather is heating up, and so have our golfers and bowlers. According to Johnny Welton and Ron Wilson. Some "hot" scores are being recorded. Congratulations to those who posted these impressive statistics.



Happy 4th of July to all our Sirs and their families, and to the U.S.A. on its 250th birthday. Also I hope you all had a Happy Fathers Day.

Thanks to all of you who are trying to bolster our membership. Indications appear to be showing some early success with our Membership Marketing Program. Also, thanks to those who are considering Leadership Roles in 2027. Keep up the good work - Branch 161 will be better off for it in the long haul.

We'll have Photo Release forms available for signing at the check-in table at our July 7th and August 4th meetings. We need to wind this up so that it doesn't interfere with the inclusion of photos in our monthly newsletters. Our newsletter team puts out a quality product, and we want to keep it first class in all aspects.

I hope we see you on Tuesday July 7th at the luncheon.

Big Sir, Steve Bordi.

## July Luncheon Menu

Smorgasbord Buffet assorted salads, seasonal vegetables, main entrees, roll and butter or garlic bread, coffee and iced tea, and dessert. Cost:

\$35 if paid by cash or check

\$36.50 if paid by credit card

## July events & activities

*Check the respective articles for more details.*

### July Meetings

- BEC meeting - July 7
- General meeting - July 7

### July Activities

#### **Bowling**

- Weekly (Mondays) - Lucky Strike, Brentwood
- July 9 or 10 - Auburn
- July 21 or 22 - Concord

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

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

#### **Golf**

- July 21 - Franklin Canyon
- August 17 - Diablo Creek

#### **Al DiGiusto Boat Cruise and Lunch - July 23**

#### **Wine tasting - July 23**

**Visit us on the web:**

<https://www.sir161.org>

## Little Sir, Dave Ciruli

Happy 250th Birthday Sirs.



Last month we heard from Bryon Gutow, President of the Town of Discovery Bay CSD. It sure wasn't good news that our elected officials have no say in the apartments that are being built.

This month our speaker will be Mary Black from the East Contra County Historical Society. Most of us have probably been out there. I was out there recently, and I was amazed at how many improvements have been made and that there are many more being planned.

If any of you know of a speaker that you think would of interest to our Branch, please get in touch with me.

Last month Club Los Maganos surprised us with a new way of serving our lunch. I had my doubts that it would work, but was pleasantly surprised at their efficiency. We were able to get through lunch in record time and had plenty of time for our committee reports. I would be interested in hearing from you what you thought about being served lunch rather than going through the buffet line. Drop me a line at [Dciruli@gmail.com](mailto:Dciruli@gmail.com).

Have a great 4th of July and I hope to see you at the luncheon.

### July Birthdays:

Bob Bradley, Dick Jamison, Tom Jones, Tom Kirtley, Denny O'Connell, Lowell Onstad and James Taylor.

Dave Ciruli, Little Sir

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### 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)

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## Bowling news, Ron Wilson



The Placerville tournament took place on June 4th. My wife Marie and I were the only bowlers from our branch and our scoring is not noteworthy. The low turnout from our branch was due to surgeries and a conflict with the big SP tournament in Carson City.

Regarding the SP (Southern Pacific) tournament that is held in Carson City each year, the tournament goes on for several weekends and draws near 1000 bowlers. This year one of our own is in First place in the "All Events" scratch event with only 2 weekends to go. This bowler is Danny Roberts who bowled an outstanding 9 games totaling 2,190. This is a 9 game average of 243 per game. His 3 event sets were 761, 655 and 774. These are terrific numbers for an event like this. Danny is also currently sitting in 5th place "Handicap All Events" and 10th place in "Open Singles". As I write this, Danny is holding his breath hoping no one knocks him out of first place.

### On the tournament trail:

Dublin at "Earl Anthony's", we have 11 of our bowlers going to this tournament on Tuesday, June 23rd. This is a very nice show of support from our Branch 161.

Auburn at "Foothill Bowl" tournament takes place on your choice of either July 9th or 10th.

Concord at "Clayton Valley Bowl" takes place on your choice of either July 21st or 22nd.

Reno at "National Bowling Stadium" takes place over your choice of 2 or 3 days (August 10, 11 and 12).



Silver Legacy is offering room rate discounts for this tournament. So far we have 6 from our Branch going to this big one.

As always, if you wish, I will take care of all the entry application paperwork. All you have to do is pay the entry fee by the deadline, show up and have fun.

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## Has your contact info changed?

We've had several recent cases where a member's contact info (phone #, email address, mailing address) has changed, and we were not notified. If any of this info changes for you, please let us know via email ( [sirbranch161@gmail.com](mailto:sirbranch161@gmail.com) ) or via phone call or text (209) 298-5006. Thanks.  
Tom Jones

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## Membership, Luis Figueroa

At the June luncheon we had 1 guest; George Smith, sponsored by George Soles.

We inducted 3 new members: Joe Palestro and Erv Rivers who were sponsored by Bill Konold; and Mark DiCortasso sponsored by Luis Figueroa. Below are their bios and photos for our new members.



Mark DiCortasso has been retired for 10 years. For forty years he ran his family's business installing high end draperies. Mark enjoys walking with his dog, cooking, and reading.

Mark and his wife have no children, but they own two dogs, three cats, and a bird. He is looking forward to engaging with members and building new friendships.

Mark (right) with his sponsor, Luis Figueroa.

Joe Palestro is a native of North Beach in San Francisco. He and his wife Cathy have lived in Brentwood for 14 years. They started Palestro Distribution Centers in 1981 and sold it in 2007, where they served as president and vice president, respectively. Joe is a member and past President of the California Warehouse Association.

When they retired they initially moved to Arizona, but in 2012 they moved back to California. Joe and Cathy have 3 children, 4 grandchildren, and 8 great grandchildren.

Joe enjoys playing golf and antique cars. He has had ten show cars, with six being hot rods. Joe and his wife enjoy boating and they belong to several yacht clubs throughout the region. He and his wife enjoy cruising throughout the world. They both enjoy dining with family and friends.

We will publish Joe's photo, along with his sponsor Bill Konold in the August newsletter since his sponsor was unable to attend the June luncheon.

Erv Rivers had a fulfilling career in the Menlo Park fire service, where he started as a fire inspector and later became Captain. He also responsible for maintaining the operation of breathing equipment. His hobbies include woodworking, golf and gardening.

We will publish Erv's photo, along with his sponsor Bill Konold in the August newsletter since his sponsor was unable to attend the June luncheon.

The current headcount is 116

## Golf News, Johnny Welton



Another beautiful day for golf. It took a bit to get everyone present because of major traffic events, but 46 golfers made it! This was our annual competition with SIR Branch 8 Concord. I was for the first time Branch 161 host for the event. I think we showed them a good time and graciously we tied!

The competition is a two-player scramble. In the past we have had trouble getting 20 to show up. This year we had an additional Individual Net Score event and it paid off when Branch 8 only had 17 players and three of Branch 161 filled in on their team.

We also added a new feature: SIR Branch 161 Course Marshals. Vince Vargas and Jim Spann were quick to volunteer and did a great job. Jim was out there providing water for the players. They both kept all the players moving. We had a shotgun start. One team finished in as little as four hours and twelve minutes. All groups were done in less than four hours fifty minutes. It will take a little more review, but I think the SIR Course Marshal may become a regular thing.

After two years of losing this event, Branch 161 has added a tie in the series (4-2-1). We have found a good group of guys to share a great time! Everyone agreed that the best hole was the 19th!

Branch 161 Players				Holes Won	Branch 8 Players				Holes Won		
1	Geronimo	Manny	Diaz	Chris	1	1	Lyon	Chris	May	Buddy	5
2	Denning	Tom	Taylor	James	6	2	Hoy	Patrick	Jordan	Peter	3
3	Sniadecki	Jim	Konold	William	6	3	Rivers	Erv	Lichtig	Edwin	4
4	Maniz	Rick	Stanley	Joe	5	4	Sand	Carl	Schweitzer	John	4
5	Welton	Johnny	Zierau	Randy	5	5	Faulds	Joseph	Chan	Arthur	5
6	Park	Mike	Kaufman	Mike	5	6	Green	David	Evanoff	Mark	7
7	Fanucchi	Kenneth	Carmichael	Mike	4	7	Stephens	Gerald	Platter	David	6
8	Rubino	Tony	Pachucki	Dennis	9	8	Crowley	Dan	Dennler	Donald	3
9	Nishijima	Isao	Sutton	John	4	9	Bosworth	Frank	Regan	James	4
10	Emerson	John	Jewell	John	4	10	Bell	Garland	Riggs	Joe	6
Total					49						47

Branch 161 Matches Won                    4  
 Branch 8 Matches Won                    4  
 Matches Even                                2

Individual Play	Net Score
1 Richard Martin	72
2 Vince Vargas/Jim Spann	75
3 Ron Bengé	78
4 Sol Robin	80
5 Tony Petralia	99

Our next event is on Tuesday, July 21 at Franklin Canyon in Hercules. We have 23 players at this time. Lots of space for more. Just email me: johnnyelton40@gmail.com.

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## **Golf, continued from page 5 ...**

In August we go to Diablo Creek for a regular competition on Tuesday, August 18. There are 17 registered currently.

A reminder that there are only three more events to qualify for the SIR Branch Individual Championship at The Reserve on October 20. One of the requirements is to have played in five current season events. Check your calendars and plan now. Lots of extras are planned.

Have a good one!  
Johnny Welton  
Golf Director



### **Branch Membership Marketing, Mike Park**

We are now engaging our marketing plan with the Press Calendar inserts, brochure distribution and signage. It would be helpful if anyone has ideas of where they could place our brochures.



As a reminder, we also have the invite business cards for your use. I encourage all of you to focus on one or two friends or acquaintances who you would want as fellow SIR members, and take action to invite them to our next luncheon.

Our new SIR sign was in place at the entrance to Club Los Meganos for no more than 30 minutes, before we had a passer-by request and submit a membership application.

### **A trip down memory lane**



# Annual Al DiGiusto Boat Cruise and Luncheon

We are having our Boat Cruise/Lunch scheduled for Thursday, July 23, 2026 at the Marina Bar and Grill in Discovery Bay (outdoor seating). This is our annual AL DiGiusto Boat Cruise and Lunch, started in 1993 by Fallen SIR Al DiGiusto, and has continued in his memory since 2005.



Boat rides are optional and will be up to boat Captains to arrange with their fellow members. (Dining only, without a Boat Ride, continues to be an acceptable and popular choice).

Cost is \$30 per person (includes non-alcoholic drinks, dessert, tax, and tip): We have four menu choices:

Classic Beef Burger or Chicken Burger, Melted Turkey Club, Philly Cheese Sandwich, and Fish & Chips.

House Wine: \$? glass, Draft Beer \$?

Arrive by 11:30 a.m., lunch will be served at noon.

Call Dennis at 408-309-5206 if you have questions.

Use the form below to submit your menu choices. Sign-up deadline is July 16, 2026

----- Detach and return this stub with your payment by July 16, 2026 -----

Your Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Your Menu choices:

Classic Beef or Chicken Burger \_\_\_\_\_ Melted Turkey Club \_\_\_\_\_

Philly Cheese Sandwich \_\_\_\_\_ Fish & Chips \_\_\_\_\_

Mail this form with your check to:

Dennis Pachucki  
2125 Sand Point Rd.  
Discovery Bay, CA 94505

## Wine Tasting Report, Terry Silva

The SIR wine tasting was held on June 25 at the Silva's home in Discovery Bay.

**Hosts:** Terry and Sue Silva



**Attendees:** Dick and Carolyn Jamison, Randy and Lynda Zierau, John and Teri Davis, Little Sir Dave Ciruli, Michael and Pam Quier, Gary and Linda Tucker, Johnny Welton and Mimi Conley, Vince and Bobi Vargas.

It was a great time and we had some great wine

Next month's event will be on July 23





## 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 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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## Your newsletter team



Tom Jones  
Editor & email copies  
distribution



Bob Damico  
Paper copies  
& USPS mailing

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SIR Branch 161 on the web: <https://www.sir161.org>  
View *The Rooster Crows*, the State SIR newsletter: <https://www.sirinc.org/newsletters/>