



SIR BRANCH 161 NEWS

Celebrating our 35th year!

November 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 Holiday Season is rapidly approaching, along with all the hoopla and excitement that it brings. Don't forget that our November Luncheon will be on the **second** Tuesday of the month, the 10th.

Tickets will be on sale this month at the check-in table for the December 1st Holiday Luncheon with the Ladies (optional). This will again be an elegant meal (seated service) priced @ \$48 Per person. Come and celebrate the season with your friends and give your lady a day off. For entertainment there will be carols sung by the Liberty High School Choir to fit the holiday occasion. A reminder that your annual dues of \$30 for 2027 are now being collected at lunch check-in.

This month, the 2027 Branch 161 Officers and Directors will be installed. Thanks to all of our fellow Sirs who have volunteered their time and expertise for these important leadership positions. Without their help, we would be "helpless".

Dave Ciruli (Big Sir) and Randy Zierau (Little Sir) will be leading the charge to make 2027 an enjoyable and fun year full of good lunches, interesting speakers, and enjoyable participation in activities. I will see you at the November 10th meeting.

Have fun, 'tis the Season.

Big Sir Steve Bordi



November Luncheon Menu

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

Cost: \$35 if paid by cash or check
\$36.50 if paid by credit card

November events & activities

Check the respective articles for more details.

November Meetings

- BEC meeting - November 10
- General meeting - November 10

November Activities

Bowling

- Weekly (Mondays) - Lucky Strike, Brentwood
- November 5th or 6th - Modesto

Cycling (3 weekly rides)

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

Golf

- November 17 - Blue Rock Springs East

Visit us on the web:

<https://www.sir161.org>

Little Sir, Dave Ciruli

I hope you enjoyed the talk last month talk from Adrian Tatarakis and Mike Hayes from Lions in Sight. They both have traveled all over the world on missions to give free eyeglasses to needy people. They also have started holding clinics in Brentwood and Antioch to serve the needy with the help of local optometrists.



This month's luncheon will be on Tuesday November 10th, since our meeting room is a polling place on November 3rd. Our speaker will be Don Paiva from the Patriots Jet Team Foundation.

Our December meeting is our annual Holiday Luncheon with the ladies. The Liberty Holiday Singers will be entertaining us after Luncheon. Be sure to buy your tickets when you sign in on Tuesday, November 10. Tickets are \$48. Our Holiday Luncheon is on December 1st, so you can kick off the holiday season with fellow Sirs.

At this month's meeting we will have the installation on our Officers and Directors for 2027. I would like to thank all the men that stepped forward to make our club successful in 2026 and volunteer for 2027.

I hope to see you on November 10.
Little Sir Dave Ciruli

November Birthdays

Frank Cramer, Tommy Grace, Richard Maniz, Joseph Palestro, John Sutton, Andrew Zwemer

Membership & Marketing - Luis Figueroa, Mike Park

At the June luncheon we had 5 guests: Bill Thomas (Sol Robin, sponsor); Jack Perry (Phil Newlin, sponsor); Chris Brown (Jim Sniadecki, sponsor); Ray Valdez (Johnny Welton, sponsor) and Pete Padilla (Luis Figueroa, sponsor).



No new members were inducted this month.

The current membership headcount is 114.

Great News from the Marketing Team

We have now fulfilled one of the key marketing strategy/tactical plan items for 2026. As a reminder, our strategy was "to increase member retention through knowing and meeting our members' needs while growing their involvement, satisfaction and commitment." The member survey listed adding Bocce Ball as a high priority; Now we have officially launched it. The October newsletter provided the names that were interested. The list has now grown to 18 which includes wives. Our first gathering will be held on October 29 at the Veterans Park in Brentwood. Those present will determine where the Bocce Ball Club will continue to meet, when and how often starting in the spring. We are open to all who want to try this very social sport even if it is your first time.

Wine Tasting, Terry Silva

The October wine tasting was held at the home of Vince and Bobbie Vargas.

Attendees:

Johnny Welton and Mimi, Terry and Sue Silva, Dave and Jinni Ciruli, Will and Raquel Myer, Michael and Pam Quier, Jerry and Sue Wiebe, Dick and Carolyn Jamison, Dennis Pachucki, Linda Tucker.

It was a fun night with nice wine and good conversation.

The next wine event will be in January (date to be determined).

Terry Silva

SIRs Wine Chairman



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



SIR bicyclers on a sunny day at Big Break in Antioch, a 30-mile ride.

L-R: Jack Perry (our newest member, Sean Murphy, Jerry Wiebe, Phil Newlin, Lee Donell, Bruce Bohnsack. Not pictured, Dennis Pachuki and Frank Alexander

Bocce Ball, Mike Park

Great news - a new co-ed activity will be officially launched October 29 - Bocce Ball Club.

We now have 18 players, including wives. Come and enjoy a very social, fun time. More details of where, when and how often are now under discussion.



If interested in Bocce, either as a single or with a partner, please contact Tony Petralia at 408-520-8481 or Mike Park at 925-588-4737.

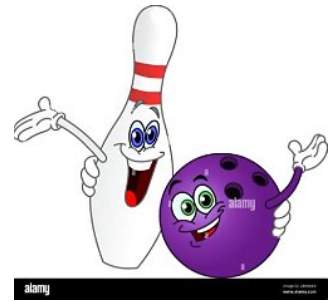
Bowling news, Ron Wilson

Our annual "Bob Matteucci Memorial" tournament is now in the books. Our Branch 161 had a nice turnout with 18 bowlers. The total field was 75 bowlers. This is down from our 85 range over the previous two years. Some believe that rising costs are having a negative impact on bowler turnout. I want to thank our Branch 161 bowlers who participated in this year's tournament! We are one of the more active branches in overall tournament support. It is appreciated!



Those cashing in this tournament are as follows:

Singles Division 1	Mitch Wisinski 3rd place, Danny Roberts 4th place
Singles Division 2	Ron Wilson 1st place, Mike Sadler 5th place, Venita Sadler 6th place
Doubles Division 1	Don Blotzer and Danny Roberts 3rd place
Doubles Division 2	Russ Reid and Vicky Reid 1st place
All Events Division 1	Danny Roberts 2nd place, Vicky Reid 7th place, Mitch Wisinski 9th place
All Events Division 2	Ron Wilson 1st place, Mike Sadler 5th place
All Events Scratch	Danny Roberts 1st place



Upcoming SIR Tournaments:

The next and final tournament for the year will be in Modesto at "McHenry Lanes" on your choice of November 5th or 6th. If you plan to bowl this one please have your entry money to me no later than Monday, October 27th. Entry fee is \$65.00 or \$70.00 if you want Scratch All Events. Make checks payable to "SIR Branch 113 Bowling".

League news: we have completed week 6 of our 35 week winter season. We have 12 teams with one team bowling with 2 vacant's. We would like to fill these two vacancy's. If you would like to join the league please see me or give me a call at 925-354-6647.

See you on the lanes,
Ron Wilson

In Memoriam



We're sad to report the passing of our fellow Sir Jim Wangeman on October 25. "Big Jim" (as he was called by many) joined our Branch August 2, 2003 and served as Little Sir in 2023, Big Sir in 2024, and Big Sir again for part of 2025, until stepping down for health reasons.

Jim was involved in the Bowling industry for a good part of his life, and was instrumental in building and managing Harvest Park Bowl (now Lucky Strike) in Brentwood. He was active, involved, and touched many lives in the communities of Brentwood and Discovery Bay.

Please keep Jim and his family in your thoughts and prayers.

We will share information on Jim's Memorial service as soon as it becomes available.

Golf News, Johnny Welton



Twenty-nine players enjoyed a great course on a perfect day! As usual the greens were very fast but not lush. They had just been scored and hadn't returned to their usual play. It was a challenge, but the play was up to it. Thirteen players posted a net score of 80 or less. Very packed at the top. 28 posted a net score of 93 or less. The day and the play were fit for the SIR Branch 161 2026 Individual Championship.

Tom Denning had the lowest gross score on the day of 81. He was closely followed by Lee Donnell with an 82 ... Lee had the lowest net score of 70. Lee will have his name placed on the perpetual trophy and receive a trophy for the lowest net score. Lee was the top money winner on the day; first place net, closest to the pin on #13, and one skin ($\$50 + \$5 + \$6 = \$61$). Tom was right behind him in second place (71 net on tiebreaker) and two skins ($\$50 + \$12 = \$62$). Tom will receive a trophy for lowest gross score. Well, done gentlemen!

Four tie breakers were used to win the top ten places. All were settled on the 18th hole (the first tiebreaker hole). Third: Mike Kaufman (71 net - \$35); Fourth: Rick Maniz (75 net - \$30); Fifth: Johnny Welton (76 net on tiebreaker - \$25); Sixth: Isao Nishijima (76 - \$20); Seventh: David Vicencio (77 net on tiebreaker - \$15); Eighth: Dennis Pachucki (77 net - \$10); Ninth: James Taylor (78 net - \$5); and Tenth: Ray Valdez (79 net on tiebreaker - \$5).

Johnny Welton, Gale Nelson, and Tom Denning won two skins each @ \$6 each. Six other skins were individually awarded. Dennis Pachucki, Sol Robin, Joe Stanley, Lee Donnell, and David Vicencio. Ray Valdez was closest to the pin on hole #3 (\$5).

The winners of the SIR Branch 161 2026 Individual Championship will be recognized at the SIR luncheon on November 10. Every golfer from the 2026 season should attend and wear their logo shirts. Any choice of color shirt will do. All the other members should see the impact golf has on the total organization. It is a fitting tribute to honor our prize winners in the SIR Branch 161 Individual Championship!

Blue Rock Springs East Course is our last event for 2026. There are 30 registrations. Register as soon as possible. The event will be a "shamble" (the best drive is used for the whole team). Two SIR Course Marshal positions are available.

Have a good one!

Johnny Welton

Golf Director

Cell: 925-876-5844

Email: johnnywelton40@gmail.com

Golf photos



Mike Kaufman, Isao Nisjima,
Phil Kepp, and Dennis Pachucki



Tony Rubino, Johnny Welton,
Randy Zierau, Rick Maniz



Tom Denning, John Emerson,
Sol Robin, and John Sutton



Joe Riggs, Joe Stanley,
and Ken Fanucchi



Chris Diaz, Vince Vargas,
Gale Nelson, and Lee Donnell



James Taylor, Ray Valdez,
and John Jewell



Michael Park, Larry Barron,
Jerry Wiebe, and Joe Petralia



Manny Geronimo, Ron Benge,
and David Vicencio

Photo credits:
Group picture: Ron Benge
Individual pictures: Mike Park

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 (second Tuesday in November) 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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