



SIR BRANCH 161 NEWS

January, 2014 Volume 14 Issue 1

A Nonprofit Public Benefit Organization for Retired Men Devoted to the Promotion of Independence and Dignity of Retirement

Floyd McBeth, Big Sir

Opening statement

2013, what a great year we had; lots of activities and fun. Heading into the New Year I would like to have us participate in some new activities such as going to baseball games and maybe a trip to the horse races.



I have appointed Mitch Wisinski to be our travel coordinator, replacing Bob Damino. Bob did a great job for a long time and we thank him. Mitch's first job will be to arrange for a trip to a Giants game on July 3, coordinating this with our State SIR.

My goal for 2014 is to get 22 new members in our group. That is about 15% of our current membership and I think we can accomplish this with a little effort. Another goal this year is to improve the notification of when a member is not able to attend a luncheon. This is critical so that we can notify the Country Club how many lunches will be needed. If you don't contact Bill Konold, 634-2738, by the Friday preceding the meeting, we will bill you for the price of the lunch. That is SIR policy and it will be enforced this year.

Next Regular luncheon meeting

Our next regular lunch meeting is on Tuesday, January 14. Mark your calendars and try to attend. All our luncheons this year will be held on the second Tuesday of the month, which should make it easier to remember.

Attendance

Our goal is to have 70% of our members attend the lunches. Last year we had six months that reached that goal. Let's try to beat that number in 2014.

Membership

Everyone must strive to bring new friends into our group so that we can continue to prosper. Your help with this is so important. Remember, you will get a free lunch for every new member you bring in.

Activities

Our SIR lunches are a big part of what we offer to members. However, we also have a multitude of other activities, some that include our wives. I hope many of you participate and have fun this year

Big Picture

Check out our State website to connect with other

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Big SIR Report, continued from page 1.

Sirs in California. There is so much to see and explore on this site. Go to www.sirinc.org and sign in. Have you ever visited our own local website? Visit www.sir161.org to see our branch happenings and pictures. It's pretty amazing.

January Birthday Boys

The following Branch 161 members celebrate their birthday in January:

Andy Anderson, LaVan Bock, Louis Bruton, Bob Burke, Giancarlo Cuciz, Alberto Delgado, Tony D'Onofrio, Paul Elmer, Len Fadda, John Lopp, Phil Paulson, Mike Reich, Russ Reid, Bob Smith, Frank Smith, Ralph Tatum, Jack Thomas, and Jerry Wiebe.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY Boys!!!!

If your name is missing or not correct let Big Sir, Floyd McBeth at 516-9191, know so our records are corrected.

Newsletter

Be sure to share our newsletter with your better half and your friends. The more people that know about our organization, the more potential members we can reach.

Floyd



Steven Gary entertains attendees at the Christmas luncheon with the ladies, while several Sirs get in the holiday spirit. See the Little Sir article for details.

Jim Davis, Little Sir

December 2013 Recap

This month we enjoyed a wonderful Christmas lunch with our wives and friends, and were delighted to have several of our widows with us. We ate roast turkey with mashed potatoes and gravy; green beans with onions, bacon, cranberry sauce and bread sticks; and chocolate ice cream sundae with a maraschino cherry for desert.



Free Lunch Winners

There was no drawing this month. Come in January and you may get lucky.

Entertainment

We all enjoyed a wonderful time of singing by Steven Gary, and lots of audience participation with everyone joining in singing along to several Christmas Carols - including all the fun gestures that go along with "The Twelve Nights of Christmas". Merry Christmas to you all, and a fun filled New Year.

January lunch menu

We'll start the year off with Roast Sirloin & Béarnaise Sauce, steamed new potatoes, and seasonal vegetables.

Please note: Any special dietary needs need to be pre-arranged several days before the meeting. Contact: Bill Konold at 634-2738 to arrange this.

January program

Our first guest speaker for this year will be Martin Engelmann, Deputy Executive Director of Planning for the Contra Costa Transportation Authority. Mr. Engelmann will bring us up to date on the plans to construct a new Highway 239 from Brentwood to Tracy, and its anticipated impact on the area. He will also be able to briefly talk about future plans to extend E-BART to Lone Tree Way in Brentwood.

Little Sir Jim Davis

Membership, Len Fadda

Sponsor a new member
Branch members wishing to sponsor a new member should invite the prospect to a regular luncheon meeting as a guest.



If the guest wishes to become a SIR member, the sponsor should obtain an application form from Membership Chairman Len Fadda. Have the guest complete the form, and return it to Len. The prospective member and their sponsor should attend the next regular luncheon

meeting.

The Executive Board will vote on the membership, and the new member will be inducted immediately prior to the luncheon.

No new members were inducted at our December luncheon.

SIR Membership Requirements

Membership in Sons In Retirement is open to men retired from full time occupation, regardless of age, race, color or religion. See the last page of this newsletter for more information.

Dinner With The Ladies, Micheal White

When: 28th January, 2014.

Where: Tao San Jin Restaurant, 5867-A, Lone Tree Way, Antioch, CA.

Time: Arrive 5:00pm, Dinner served at 6:00pm.

Menu: Flaming Po Po Platter, Chicken Corn Soup, Crispy Chicken with sauce, King Pao San-Yan, Steamed Rice, Sesame Beef, Honey Walnut Prawns, & House Chow Mein.

Cost: \$25.00 per person (includes tax and tip).

Deadline: Need your RSVP no later than 21st January, 2014. There will be envelopes at our General Meeting on 14th January, 2014. If you will please send your checks to me prior it would be helpful. Make your checks out to M. E. White and mail to 2146 Sand Point Road, Discovery Bay, CA 94505. Phone: 634-0415.

Directions: Tao San Jin is located within the Empire Shopping Center. From Discovery Bay take Hwy 4 to Marsh Creek Road. Turn on the Bypass heading North. Leave the Bypass at Lone Tree Way. Go South on Lone Tree Way. Get into the Left lane. Turn Left at the SECOND Stop Light (Shady Willow Lane). Turn Right at the first Right turn. Drive straight to the Stop Sign. Turn Left; Tao San Jin is on your left.



----- Tear out and return with your check -----

Name(s):

Phone:

Dinner With The Ladies, January 28, 2014 at Tao San Jin Restaurant, 5867-A, Lone Tree Way, Antioch, CA.

Bowling News, Paul Elmer

We concluded 2013's scheduled bowling tournaments very admirably for the year, as listed in last month's newsletter. 2014 brings 24 tournaments ranging in location (north) from the SIR annual state tournament in Yuba City in May to Modesto in November (south), and Fremont in September (West) to Reno and Carson City (east). Quite a range of locations. The first tournament of the year will be in Stockton at Pacific Bowl on January 21st. Applications should be available soon.



In the world of local SIR Bowling at Harvest Park Bowl on Monday mornings, we have completed 14 of 35 weeks of bowling, with the first half coming to an end in 2 weeks (at the time of this writing). The Misfits, comprising of Shirley Madsen, Dottie Harris, Pam Jarvie, and Greg Mattus have seemingly pulled away with a 5 game lead with eight to go. Cam's Crew, consisting of Cam Donald, Frank Cramer, John Lopp, and Don Rentzel are 5 games back but determined to make it a contest. Position round may prove to be exciting. Lane conditions seem to be a little different than normal with the result that almost all averages are down, some more than others. Last year we had 4 bowlers at 200 or higher, now we have only one, that being Jose Arroyo at 204.

If there is any interest in joining our league please notify me so that we can fill any existing member vacancies. We would enjoy having new members anytime.

Paul

In Memoriam

We were sad to hear that Adolph Sisneroz passed away at home on Friday, November 22, 2013.

Adolph joined SIR Branch 161 in March of 1994. He was an active and loyal member for 19 years. Please keep Adolph, his Wife Rosie and family in your thoughts and prayers.

SIR Travel Opportunities Reminder

Various bargain-priced trips are available to SIR members through local travel agencies and other SIR branches. Look for the TRAVEL binder located on the entrance table at each monthly meeting. For more information contact Mitch Wisinski at: (408) 515-7655



Branch 161 on the web

www.sir161.org

For more Branch 161 news & photos, and links to state SIR information, visit our web site. The latest issue of SIR Happenings can be downloaded via a link on our web site.

2014 Branch 161 Meetings Calendar

01/14/2014	07/8/2014
02/11/2014	08/12/2014
03/11/2014	09/9/2014
04/8/2014	10/14/2014
05/13/2014 (note 1)	11/11/2014
06/10/2014	12/9/2014 (note 1)

Note 1: Mother's Day and Christmas With The Ladies are not 'required' Branch luncheon meetings.

Errata: The December issue of our newsletter incorrectly listed Eric Jensen beneath the photo of our 2014 Officers & Directors instead of Chuck Niessen.

SIR Activities, Dick Donald

Following are some ongoing SIR activities, including details on current plans. Feel free to call Dick Donald (513-2849) for more information on these and other activities.



Wine Tasting, Dick Donald – 513-2849

Vince and Bobbi Vargas will be hosting the January wine tasting. If you are interested in attending this very popular activity please contact Dick Donald at 513-2849.

Poker, Dick Donald – 513-2849

Now that the holidays are over, I'm looking for potential players for the SIR poker game. If you are interested in a quarter limit dealer choice game (fun poker, not serious money), please contact Dick Donald at 513-2849. We'll get a game going if we can find enough players.

Pickleball, Bob Lyman – 628-7906

On December 14th we had 16 folks representing Sirs from Modesto and Turlock come to play pickleball with our local players. For someone wanting to learn the basics of pickleball, the Town of Discovery Bay has a beginning class scheduled starting in February

and it can be signed up for on their recreation web page.

The regular drop-in play is now Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday at 9:00 am and Wednesday at 3:00 pm. So come join in the fun for a little exercise, competition and socializing. Just bring yourself; we have everything else needed.



The new Pickleball courts in Discovery Bay.

Photography, Frank Headley - 240-6511

Five Branch 161 members attended the first get together of a new Branch 161 Photography Club. Primary objectives include sharing of knowledge and techniques on such things as:

- Hardware, cameras & features, lenses, .
- Photographic skills, types of subjects, composition, flash/lighting.
- Storage media, file formats, software.

Meetings will be supplemented with field trips. Anyone wishing to join, contact Frank Headley at 240-6511.

Golf News, Dale Welin

Happy New Year to the golfers in our SIR Branch 161 NCGA golf club.

If you have not paid your 2014 SIR NCGA dues yet, they are past due at this time. Please forward your dues to Dale Welin.

We are pleased to announce the schedule and venues for our golf tournaments in 2014. We hope you will participate in as many events as you can. Please mark your calendar with the dates below.

Tue., March 25 Elkhorn GC, Stockton



Mon., April 14 Discovery Bay CC Invitational for Sirs
 Tue., May 20 Las Positas GC, Livermore
 Tue., June 17 Dry Creek Ranch GC, Galt
 Tue., July 15 Poppy Ridge GC, Livermore
 Tue., Aug. 19 Callippe Preserve, Pleasanton
 Tue., Sep. 23 Swenson Park, GC, Stockton
 Tue., Oct. 21 Diablo Grande Resort (Legends Course), Patterson - Club Championship venue

If there are Branch 161 Sirs not in our golf club and would like to join and have fun at these golf courses, please call Dale Welin at 925-516-9463.

Dale Welin

Membership Requirements & Principles

Membership is open to men retired from full time occupation, regardless of age, race, color or religion. There are no dues, fees or assessments. Member volunteers and staff administer and govern all branch activities. Voluntary member contributions 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. The only requirements to join SIR are that a man be retired, or semi-retired, and 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 to when we need to hold our meetings on a different Tuesday, so please check the Meetings Calendar elsewhere in this issue).

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, shall be notified by letter or email of the Branch Executive Committee's pending action to terminate their 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

Voluntary contributions defray the administrative costs of running our organization. For those who have not "donated" their contribution, be sure to bring \$20.00 cash or a check (made out to SIR Branch 161) to our next meeting. You can also mail it to our Treasurer, Tony Pacheco.

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. Simple etiquette requires that hats be removed while in the dining room.

If you're unable to attend a meeting

Our Branch is obligated to pay for lunches not served. Please contact Bill Konold by the Friday preceding the meeting if you don't plan to attend.

Bill Konold, 634-2738

Your newsletter team

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