



# SIR BRANCH 161 NEWS

January, 2015 Volume 15 Issue 01

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

## Jim Davis, Big Sir

### Opening statement

Happy New Year!

I want to thank Sir Floyd McBeth for his diligence and efforts as Big Sir during 2014, and also the men who served with him and worked to keep our Branch going.

Several of those men are continuing on as leaders of our Branch and several other men are joining them as new members of the Branch Executive Committee.

I am sorry to have to report that our Secretary elect, Vic Vasquez, has notified me that he will not be able fulfill those responsibilities. Therefore, with the assistance of our Nominating Committee, I have appointed Sir Larry Mensch to be our Secretary for 2015.

I look forward to working together with these men as we serve you for the success of our SIR Branch 161.

Over the past few years, I have thoroughly enjoyed meeting a number of very interesting men here in our Branch of Sons In Retirement. As we meet and get to know new men, it always amazes me how often we share common interests and experiences; and how much fun it is when we meet men with unusual experiences and new ideas. It has been a delight to be involved in various Branch activities, serve on the Board, or just visit with many of you - with your different experiences, backgrounds, and places of origin.

I'm sure each of you regularly enjoys similar opportunities to get to know many of our members. Come to think of it, I would summarize the overall purpose of the SIR organization as providing an environment



where retired men like us can be involved both in activities and in one another's lives in ways that benefit each of us.

### Annual Donation

Our Branch of SIR is one of well over a hundred Branches throughout northern California. SIR is a nonprofit organization, which does have some expenses. These expenses are paid by the voluntary donations of each individual Sir (you and me). Now is the time to make our \$20 donations for 2015. Please remember to bring your money or a \$20 check, payable to SIR Branch 161, to our January 13th luncheon.

### Branch Activities

As 2015 starts out, we have a number of activities and events that continue on from past years. Watch and listen for announcements. If you are not involved, sign up and join in - have fun, meet new people, get involved. Also, I'm sure that many of you have additional hobbies, activities, and interests that you would like to be able to share with others. If you do, please grab hold of our Activities Director, Sir Dick Donald, and share your ideas with him. It can start with you. If you have ideas for, or want to be involved

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in, a travel event, touch base with our Travel Coordinator, Sir Mitch Wisinski. Mitch will be watching for fun outings that our members can participate in.

### **2015 Meetings**

During 2015, we will be meeting on the 2nd Tuesday each month, except April and September, when we will meet on the 1st Tuesday (i.e. April 7th & September 1st). Please note the list of actual meeting dates in this and each of our monthly newsletters. If you will not be able to make it to a luncheon, please call our Attendance Chairman as soon as you know that you will not be there.

Please note that we will be charging \$19.00 for lunch at our 10 regular luncheons in 2015 (in May and December, our ladies join us and we sell a limited number of tickets). The reason for this increase to \$19.00 is 2-fold; First, as reported in the December Newsletter, the contracted price per person has increased from \$17.00 to \$18.50; Second, after careful consideration, we determined that it will be far more convenient and expeditious for everybody if we pay whole dollars rather than deal with loose change at the check-in table.

Our Little Sir, Micheal White is lining up speakers for the year. If you have ideas for topics or specific speakers, or perhaps entertainment for May or December, Micheal is the "go to" person. The Little Sir tries to work as far ahead as possible on this, so get your ideas to him soon. Your input will help Micheal make our luncheons successful.

### **Invite/Recruit**

Keep your antennae up for opportunities to invite other men to join us. Bring a guest! Bring him back the next time as a new member, you'll get a free lunch and we'll all have someone new we can get to know - and who can get to know many of us.

Looking forward to a great year!

Jim Davis

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### **Micheal White, Little Sir**

#### **January Guest Speaker**

Sgt. Robert Roberts of the Contra Costa County Sheriff's Office will be the guest speaker at our January luncheon. His presentation will cover a broad spectrum of topics.



#### **January luncheon menu**

Roast Sirloin w/Sauce Béarnaise, Steamed potatoes & vegetables.

**Please note:** If you have any special dietary needs, please call Bill Konold at 634-2738 by Friday before the meeting to arrange this.

#### **January Birthdays**

*Happy Birthday to:*

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

#### **December Luncheon**



The December luncheon with the ladies was a great success. The "Sparks Sisters" performed to much enjoyment of all present.

Micheal White

## 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, Alan Jarvie

**When:** January 27, 2015.

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

**Time:** Arrival and cocktails starting at 5:00pm, Dinner served at 6:00pm.

**Menu:** Flaming Po Po Platter, Chicken Corn Soup, Sesame Beef, Crispy Chicken with two sauces, Honey Walnut Prawns, Barbeque Pork Chow Mein, Kung Pao Chicken, Steamed Rice.

**Cost:** \$27.00 per person (includes tax and tip).

**Deadline:** Need your RSVP no later than January 20th, 2015. There will be envelopes at our General Meeting on January 13, 2015.

If you will please send your checks to me in advance, that will be helpful.

Please make your checks out to Alan Jarvie and mail to:

4121 Windward Court, Discovery Bay, CA 94505.

Cell phone 408-219-8240.

**Directions:** Tao San Jin is located in the Empire Shopping Center. From Discovery Bay, take Hwy 4 to Marsh Creek, turn left and continue on Marsh Creek to the Bypass and turn right (north). Exit the Bypass at Lone Tree Way; go east (right) on Lone Tree Way and move into the left lane. Turn left at the SECOND stop light (Shady Willow Lane). Take the first right, go straight to the first Stop Sign and turn left, Tao San Jin will be on your left.

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

Name(s):

Phone:

Dinner With The Ladies, January 27, 2015 at Tao San Jin Restaurant, 5867-A Lone Tree Way, Antioch, CA.

### Bowling News, Paul Elmer

The Concord tournament was held on Nov 18th and 19th at Clayton Valley Bowl in Concord and, even though we only had six people participating, three of them cashed. They were Greg Mattus, 3rd in A division singles, 4th in A division doubles with Jose Arroyo, and 4th in A division All Events. Art Lopez came in 7th in A Division Singles. Well done guys!!



Our next tournaments in January are at Pacific Bowl in Stockton on January 21st and at Napa Bowl in Sonoma on January 27th and 29th. Both tournaments are singles, doubles, and all events. Please contact John Fry for entry forms or go online to [www.sirinc.org](http://www.sirinc.org)

As far as the current season goes, the first half will end on December 29th. The first half winner will face the second half winner for the league championship in April. As it stands now, Brentwood Café, led by Tami Fanucchi, Ken Fanucchi, Kaaren Capra, and Dennis Pachucki are in 1st place, closely followed by the Sharpshooters, led by Margee Arroyo, Anne Wangeman, Glenn MacBride, and Jose Arroyo.

Season high scores for this great league are:

For men, scratch series is Greg Mattus with 744, scratch game is Curtis Manning with 279, Handicap series is 756 by Vic Vasquez and handicap game goes to Jim George with 315.

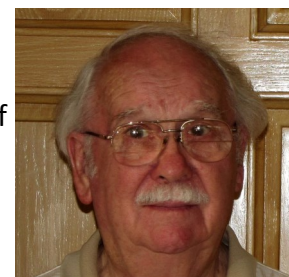
For the women, Marie Wilson has scratch series with 627, Rosie Elmer has the high scratch game of 226, Roberta Bodine has high handicap series of 753 and Janine Gordon has high handicap game with 276.

We hope that you all had a great Christmas and New Year's celebration. This new year is promising to bring stiffer competition and high scores. Can't wait.

Paul

### Bridge report, Harry Ohlson

Next session on January 20th at noon in the Discovery Bay Country Club. If you wish to join us, please call me for seating (925) 513-3048.



### SIR Travel Opportunities

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.



### 2015 Branch 161 Meetings Calendar

01/13/2015	07/14/2015
02/10/2015	08/11/2015
03/10/2015	09/1/2015
04/7/2015	10/13/2015
05/12/2015 (note 1)	11/10/2015
06/9/2015	12/8/2015 (note 1)
<b>Note 1:</b> Not 'required' Branch luncheon meetings.	

## SIR Activities, Dick Donald

Following are some ongoing SIR activities, including details on current plans.

### Wine Tasting, Dick Donald, 513-2849

Vince and Bobbi Vargas will be hosting the January wine tasting on Thursday, January 29th. If you are interested in attending this very popular activity please contact Dick Donald at 513-2849, or email DickDonald@Yahoo.com by Friday, January 9th.



### Pickleball, Bob Lyman, 628-7906

Pickleball play in Discovery Bay continues to increase and you can participate by just coming to the drop-in times. Drop-in play times are 9:00 am Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday and 3:00 pm Wednesday. Beginners are welcome for free instruction at 10:00 am every Saturday (with good weather!!!) Just bring yourself; we have everything else needed. The game is easy for beginners to learn but can develop into a quick, fast-paced, competitive game for experienced

players.

### Poker, Colin Brodie, 634-8564

Colin Brodie is looking for poker players interested in a game each month. We're currently planning a game in January. If you would like to play in a fun, low-stakes game with fellow Sirs, please contact Colin or Dick Donald (513-2849).

### Photography, Frank Headley, 240-6511

The photography group meets periodically to share photographic knowledge and tips, ranging from scene composition to image storage and cataloging, to post-processing using software tools.

We also hold occasional field trips to photograph interesting scenes, activities, or objects.

To join our group, call Frank Headley at 240-6511. No special knowledge or equipment needed.

### New activities

If you'd like to participate in a new activity or start one of your own, call Dick Donald at 513-2849.

## Golf News, Dale Welin

If there are members in SIR Branch 161 who would like to participate with us during the year playing golf, we would encourage you to contact Dale Welin, 516-9463.

We have one tournament a month from March through October. In order to play with us, you have to join our



NCGA SIR golf club and we can provide that information to you.

We currently have 24 players signed up for 2015 and for the returning players who have not paid their dues yet, please do so now. Lastly, the 2015 schedule has been completed. If you have any questions, please call Dale Welin at 516-9463.

Happy New Year to all Sirs.

Dale Welin, Golf Tournament Chairman.

## Your luncheon responsibility

If you will not be able to attend the January luncheon, it is important that you call Bill Konold at 634-2738 as soon as you know that you will not be at the luncheon. We assume that you will be there, and we order a lunch for you, unless we hear from you that you will not be there.



## Branch 161 on the web

[www.sir161.org](http://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.

## 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

Let us know if we can improve this publication.



**Tom Jones**  
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**Dennis Pachucki**  
*Paper copies  
and mailing*

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