



SIR BRANCH 161 NEWS

December, 2015 Volume 15 Issue 12

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

Jim Davis, Big Sir

Farewell

December is already upon us. I would like to thank this year's Board members, committee Chairmen and members, Past Big Sir Senior Advisors, and other members of our Branch who have worked so hard to make our Branch successful. Each of you has done a great job! Many of you have been serving our Branch for a number of years. Without your involvement and leadership, we would not have the great activities and good times together that we all enjoy. A lot of work goes on behind the scenes to make a Branch work ; I am grateful for the efforts of each of you who have worked to make our Branch a good place to develop friendships, have fun, and enjoy retirement.



Moving Forward

Another year in our Branch's history has come and gone. 2015 has been a great year of meeting new friends and enjoying one another's company. Looking forward, next year should be a great year as we celebrate our 25th anniversary.

As you look forward to 2016, watch for opportunities to invite neighbors, friends, and other acquaintances to join us. New members bring new ideas for activities, and bring new vitality and energy with them. The average age of our Branch's members has been hanging around 74 or 75 for the past few years. One way we can increase the health and vitality of our Branch is by inviting younger retired men to join us.

During this past year, we started a new "Member Re-

lations" committee. They are finding all sorts of ways to let retirees, who already live here and who are new arrivals to our community, know about our SIR Branch. Jump in and help us grow.

The State SIR goal for each Branch in 2015 was to increase our membership by one member more than we had in 2014. To try to meet this goal, we set another goal to invite 27 first-time guests to our luncheons this year; You did a great job by inviting a total of 26 guests. Sixteen of these first-time guests joined our Branch - welcome aboard guys!

Unfortunately, we said goodbye to 22 of our friends for a variety of reasons. We will continue to miss every one of them. We missed our goal of 159 members, but we have a new year ahead of us.

Let's get behind our new Big Sir, Micheal White, his Little Sir, Len Fadda and a great group of leaders, and make 2016 the biggest success ever for our Branch. If you have ideas for speakers or entertainment, get in touch with Len Fadda. If you have ideas for activities, talk to Dick Donald. If you have other ideas on how to increase our membership or the health of our Branch,

Continued on page 2

In this issue

- Message from Big Sir
- Little Sir report; Birthday Boys
- Activities; Golf news;
- 2016 meetings calendar
- Bowling news; SIR Travel; Membership
- Policy and responsibility clauses

Continued from page 1

bring your thoughts to Micheal White's attention. If you want to get involved in the leadership of our Branch in the future, see our new Big Sir, Micheal White, or one of the members of his nominating committee. Step up and get involved; Your Branch's future success is in your hands.

December Luncheon

As I write this article, there are still some tickets available for the Christmas luncheon with our ladies on Tuesday December 8th. They are \$23 each, and are available from our Treasurer, Glenn MacBride. (You can't get in without a ticket!) Bring your gal and enjoy a great time together, with good food, great friends, special entertainment, guests, and other surprises.

Thanks for the privilege of serving as your Big Sir.
Jim Davis

Micheal White, Little Sir

November speaker

The speaker at our November meeting was Neal O'Farrell, talking on the subject of senior fraud.



November free lunch winners

Robert Lyman
Dick Jamison

Meal cost for 2016

In the month of November, 2015 I attended a training session for all incoming Big Sirs. One of the topics I addressed was the cost and locations of SIR luncheons.

I was informed, by one and all that we in Discovery Bay have the best location of all SIR branches. We also pay less for lunch than any other branch. Most of the branches meet in halls or large rooms used for other purposes, and are served lunch via a buffet table. We, on the other hand, have our lunch served to us, I believe in a very positive manner, and by a staff

that cares.

Each Sir knows that costs continue to rise at the grocery store. This holds true for the country club as well. For the coming year (2016) the lunch cost will be \$19.00.



Little Sir, Micheal White, presents our November speaker with a certificate of appreciation

December luncheon

Roast turkey breast, Yukon Gold mashed potatoes with gravy, vegetable medley, & cranberry sauce.

Please note: If you have any special dietary needs, please call or email Bill Konold at 634-2738 (bkonold@comcast.net) by Friday before the meeting to arrange this.

December Entertainment

Entertainment at our December luncheon with the ladies will be provided by The Brentwood Singers.

December birthdays

Colin Brodie, Dick Donald, Gary Hess,
Clinton Sparks, Robert White, Craig Wilson.

SIR Activities, Dick Donald

We're always looking for new activities among SIR. If you have a suggestion for an activity not currently supported, let us know and we'll see if we can get a group going. You can contact me at 513-2849 or email DickDonald@Yahoo.com.



Wine Tasting, Dick Donald, 513-2849

Jerry & Sue Wiebe will be hosting the next wine tasting on Thursday, December 10th (note the earlier date because of the holidays). If you are interested in attending this very popular activity please contact Dick Donald at 513-2849, or email DickDonald@Yahoo.com

Pickleball, Bob Lyman, 628-7906

If you are looking for more fun, come try pickleball. Pickleball is a cross between tennis and ping pong, played with paddles on a court very similar to a tennis court. We have drop-in play at Cornell Park on the Discovery Bay public pickleball courts at 505 Discovery Bay Blvd. Play is on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday mornings at 9:00 a.m., and on Wednesday afternoon at 3:00 p.m.

Beginners are always welcome; and an experienced player is designated on Saturdays to work with the new players. Just show up and we'll teach you the game on any of our play days.

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.

Golf News, Dale Welin

A brief message from the golf news...



December each year is the time to renew your NCGA Sir Branch 161 Golf Club dues. For 2016, the deadline for renewing your dues is January 1, 2016. We must get the updated roster into NCGA by January 10, 2016. If you have sent me a check as of November 22. If you want to renew for 2016, it is time to send a check payable to Dale Welin now.

This part of the golf news article is directed to ALL members of Branch 161...

If you are interested in playing golf with us each month March through October, you can sign up now. Please contact Dale Welin at 925-516-9463 and we will be happy sign you up, and will try to answer any questions for you. We would love to have some new members. Any skill level is welcome.

Dale Welin , Golf Chairman for SIR Branch 161

2016 Branch 161 Meetings Calendar

01/12/2016	07/12/2016
02/9/2016	08/9/2016
03/8/2018	09/13/2016
04/12/2016	10/11/2016
05/10/2016 (note 1)	11/8/2016
06/14/2016	12/13/2016 (note 1)
Note 1: Not 'required' Branch luncheon meetings.	

Bowling News, Paul Elmer

Week 11 of 35 has been completed with some changes in team standings. Did I not mention that teams and standings are subject to change? Well, that has occurred this month with the Handicappers (Tracy Moran, Pete Prather, Bill Momaney, and Mary Patterson) losing all four games on November 23rd and Holy Bowlers (Beverly A. Denn, Don Rentzel, Janine M. Gordon, and Drew L. Hanson) winning all four games to lead by two games. There are four other teams only four and five games back so, as you can see, change is bound to happen.



For the men, the season high scores are: Scratch Series - Jose Arroyo - 712, Scratch Game - Dale Davidson 278, Handicap series - Frank Cramer 826, Handicap Game - Ken Fanucchi -299. For the Ladies - High Scratch Series - Rosie Elmer 567, High Scratch Game - Terry Damico - 209, Handicap Series - Janine Gordon - 796, and Handicap Game - Doris Cole - 294.

The last tournament of the year was held on November 17th and 18th at Clayton Bowl in Concord. Branches 161 and 108 had only six people that competed with only one of those cashing. That was Jerry Marshall who finished 6th in Division "A" singles.

The first tournament of the year (2016) will be held in Stockton on January 19th at Pacific Bowl.

Question of the month:

The quiz question from last month was "who scored the lowest on a national TV tour event?" The answer is Tom Dougherty, who managed to squeak out a 100 game in 2011.

The question for December - Who has the most appearances on national TV with NO titles in one season?

Paul

SIR Travel Opportunities, Mitch Wisinski

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.



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 November 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.

Membership Requirements & Principles

Membership is open to men retired from full time occupation, regardless of age, race, color or religion. Member volunteers and staff administer and govern all branch activities. Annual 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. 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 (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 Branch and State organization. For those who have not paid their annual dues, 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, Glenn MacBride.

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 email or call Bill Konold by the Friday preceding the meeting if you don't plan to attend.

Email: bkonold@comcast.net

Tel: 634-2738

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