



SIR BRANCH 161 NEWS

Celebrating our 29th year! *June, 2020*

The Mission of SIR is to enrich the Lives of Our Members Through Fun Activities and Events—While Making Friends For Life

Roy Bristow, Big Sir

BEC Succession Program

As we all continue to fight together thru this COVID-19 it becomes increasingly important to find our way back to “Our Normal”.

Even this June Newsletter gives us an opportunity to revisit our way of member communication before the pandemic interruption. As we track our comeback of this SIR organization we have a chance to return and be more effective than ever before. This can all come about with the introduction and support of an “Associate Program”.

Here is the outline: The primary purpose of the “Associate Program” is to prepare a member to become an effective Branch Officer or Board Member, though he would not be required to accept an Officer position if nominated. The “Associate” would work as an assistant to a particular officer or an Executive Board Member in their area of responsibility.

It is our hope and intention that the “Associate” position will offer our members an opportunity to understand the ongoing leadership and management practices of our SIR Branch. Further, I believe our “Associates” will be better qualified to fill a managing position and therefore be more likely to accept a nomination if and when offered. This program will, undoubtedly, greatly enhance our Branch 161 Succession Program.

Please review the “Associate “ positions on this and page 2 of this newsletter, and let me know which are-



as of interest best suit you. We are anxious to have you explore the possibility of being a part of our management team and help make SIR Branch 161 stronger than ever.

Thank you,
Roy Bristow, Your Big Sir

Associate positions and responsibilities

ASSOCIATE to the LITTLE Sir

Responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- Attend monthly Branch Executive Committee (BEC) meetings.
- Learn to navigate the Branch and State websites while completing on-line training for the Little Sir position.
- Assist the Little Sir in scheduling Guest Speakers for the SIR monthly luncheons.
- Understand the scope of the Luncheon Agenda and assist in preparing it each month.
- Assist the Little Sir in set-up of Guest Speaker equipment.
- Assist in composing the Little Sir portion of the Monthly Newsletter.

In this issue

- Big Sir message; BEC Succession program
- Little Sir report; Activities; Meetings calendar
- Membership update; Golf news
- Bowling news; In memoriam
- Branch 161 Activities & Events summary
- Policy and responsibility clauses

Next meeting: TBA

ASSOCIATE to the SECRETARY**Responsibilities include, but are not limited to:**

- Attend monthly Branch Executive Committee (BEC) meetings.
- Learn to navigate the Branch and State websites while completing on-line training for the Secretary position.
- Assist in recording the BEC meeting minutes.
- Review the "First Draft" of the monthly BEC minutes with Secretary.
- Assist the Secretary in management of the Schedule of Branch Operations.
- Assist in keeping BEC meeting attendance records
- Help collect lunch tickets at monthly luncheon meetings.

ASSOCIATE to the TREASURER**Responsibilities include, but are not limited to:**

- Attend monthly Branch Executive Committee (BEC) meetings.
- Learn to navigate the Branch and State websites while completing on-line training for the TREASURER.
- Assist Treasurer in selling luncheon tickets & event tickets at monthly luncheons.
- Monthly review of budget management.
- Understand the ongoing maintenance of all monies held in Branch bank account.
- Observe and review the assurance of accurate accounting of Branch receipts and disbursements.

ASSOCIATE to the MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN**Responsibilities include, but are not limited to:**

- Attend monthly Branch Executive Committee (BEC) meetings.
- Learn to navigate the Branch and State websites while completing on-line training for the Membership Chairman.
- Assist in receipt and processing Applications for Membership from potential SIR members.
- Help prepare new member packets and badges for distribution at new member orientation and facilitate introductions at the General Meeting.
- Assist in maintaining an accurate database of all members.
- Assist in composing the Membership portion of the Monthly Newsletter.

ASSOCIATE to the ATTENDANCE CHAIRMAN**Responsibilities include, but are not limited to:**

- Attend monthly Branch Executive Committee

(BEC) meetings .

- Learn to navigate the Branch and State websites while completing any on-line training for the Attendance Chairman.
- Assist this Director in identifying an accurate count for each SIR luncheon.
- Help in the distribution of SIR member badges at the monthly luncheons and retrieval of badges at completion of luncheons.
- Review and help maintain an absentee spreadsheet listing of members not attending luncheons.

ASSOCIATE to the ACTIVITIES COORDINATOR**Responsibilities include, but are not limited to:**

- Attend monthly Branch Executive Committee (BEC) meetings .
- Learn to navigate the Branch and State websites while completing any on-line training for the Activities Coordinator.
- Assist this Director in maintaining a strong communication with all Activity Chairmen.
- Help prepare monthly activities reports for BEC meetings .
- Assist this Director in composing his portion of the Monthly Newsletter.

ASSOCIATE to the BRANCH TRAVEL COORDINATOR**Responsibilities include, but are not limited to:**

- Attend monthly Branch Executive Committee (BEC) meetings.
- Learn to navigate the Branch and State websites while completing any on-line training pertaining to the Travel Chairman.
- Assist this Director as the Point person for SIR sponsored trips and maintain excellent relationships with SIR-qualified travel providers.
- Help this Director schedule and facilitate Dinner-With-The Ladies Events.
- Play an active role as a Greeter during monthly luncheons.
- Assist this Director in composing his portions of the Monthly Newsletter.

Little Sir, Rick Harris

UPCOMING LUNCHEONS:

As our COVID-19 saga continues, your SIR Board has been continuing to monitor developments, and unfortunately our June 2 luncheon meeting must be canceled. I am sure none of you are surprised to learn this. Right now, we are calling the July meeting tentative, which of course will depend on several factors needing to change in a good direction.



In the meantime, please stay safe and healthy!

June birthdays

Ed Coats, Jack Disney, John Hull,
Jim Jenkins, Richard Lutz, Daniel Meckfessel,
Karl Mygrant, Philip Newlin, Doug Pagano,
Milt Piver, Todd Ramsdell, Bob Rix,
Walter Shipilov, Tom Snyder, Lowell Thomas,
Dennis Ward, Dale Welin, Micheal White

SIR Activities, Dick Donald

As most of you are aware, all activities have been postponed indefinitely because of the shelter-in-place ruling. In particular, this affects wine tasting and the Monday poker game. The plan now is to wait until the ban is lifted, at which time notices will be sent out via email notifying participants for each activity on resumption plans. Meanwhile, stay healthy!



SIR Cyclers - Jerry Wiebe - 916-206-9221

Our SIR sanctioned rides continue to be on hold until the SIR Branches are granted permission from the SIR State Board to lift restrictions. Every 30 days the State board will review all SIR activities to determine the risk of liability for the State as well as the branches and the participating individuals. Since there is no given date to resume SIR activities, any estimates now of when SIR branch activities might get the go-ahead is only a guess.

In the meantime, keeping ourselves healthy is important and I urge everyone to participate the best they can in low-risk, but active exercise routines.

2020 Branch 161 Meetings Calendar

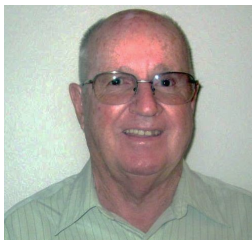
(* Cancelled due to COVID 19 restrictions)

01/21/2020 (3rd Tues)	07/14/2020
02/11/2020	08/11/2020
03/10/2020	09/1/2020 (1st Tues)
*04/14/2020	10/13/2020
*05/12/2020	11/10/2020
*06/2/2020 (1st Tues)	12/8/2020 (Christmas)

Membership, Will Myers

Due to no SIR meeting in April and May, there were no new members inducted, but there were 5 guests at our March meeting who potentially will join when our meetings resume again. Hopefully that will be in the near future, but in the meantime take the necessary steps to avoid our current virus crisis.

Unfortunately, we lost member Richard Wisdom who passed away. Richard was a SIR member for over 14 years. Before he retired, he was a photojournalist for the San Jose Mercury News and the Discovery Bay Press. We used his photographic talents and contacts in 2008 and 2018 to provide a picture of one of our SIR meetings in the Discovery Bay Press paper to promote member recruitment. We will miss him and his always smiling face. This brings our current SIR Branch 161 membership to 170.



Bowling News, John Fry

Here is an update from Rob Menconi at Harvest Park Bowl:
 “Hello everyone, Sherry and I hope everyone is doing well and staying safe.



We wanted to let you all know that the prize funds are ready for pick-up at the bowl. We are asking people to come by between the following times/days: Monday - Friday between 11-4pm. Our bar entrance will be open during this time, as we have started doing takeout for the snack bar and bar. Simply ask for myself or Sherry and we can get the money for you.

Thank You and look forward to seeing everyone soon.”

We are still planning on starting the Monday SIR bowling league in September, if everything goes well with the Covid 19 situation.

SIR Membership Requirements

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

In Memoriam



We are sad to report the passing of Drew Hanson. Drew was born in Salt Lake City, UT on November 17, 1932 and passed

away on April 16, 2020 - a victim of COVID -19.

He was a member of SIR Branch 108 for 18 years, and was an avid bowler.

After Pandemic restrictions are lifted, Memorial Services will be held in Brentwood and Salt Lake City where his burial will take place.

Please keep Drew and his family in your thoughts and prayers. You may read his obituary below;

https://www.thepress.net/obituaries/drew-l-hanson-nov-17-1932-april-16-2020/article_b078b4f2-8b35-11ea-9ae0-33adb5e8bb6c.html

Golf News, Larry Mensch

We have tentatively scheduled golf at Elkhorn on June 16 starting at 9:00 am and Lone Tree starting at 10:30 am. More information to come after the June 2nd Branch Executive Committee Meeting.



Branch 161 Activities and Events

Bowling (*): John Fry

Sirs & Ladies Bowling league happens every Monday @ 9:30 am at Harvest Park Bowl. Our league consists of four-person teams, with approximately 20 teams, and consists of two seasons – a Winter session of 36 weeks and a Summer session of 16 weeks; both are sanctioned with the USBC. We bowl every Monday except for Holidays, and we always have room for more bowlers, seasoned bowlers as well as newcomers. During the year various SIR Branches sponsor Bowling Tournaments throughout Northern California; Check the state SIR website (<http://www.sirinc3.org/sirBowling/index.html>) for dates and details.

Golf: Larry Mensch

Golf is usually on the third Tuesday of each month from March through October, at various local courses. Also, there are a number of state-wide SIR-sponsored events during the year; Information can be found on the state SIR website, <https://www.sirinc2.org/golf2018/>.

Away Golf Tournament (*): Larry Mensch

We also have a Branch 161 Away Golf Tournament each year. It is a men's and couples, tournament held last year at the Saddle Creek Golf Resort in Copperopolis, as it is again this year, May 6th and May 7th, 2020.

Pickle Ball (*): Bob Lyman

If you have ever played a racquet sport of any kind, and have the energy to use those skills again, come check out pickleball. It's a great game for both men and women, lots of good social interaction and the fastest growing sport in the country, with the best courts in Contra Costa County right here in Discovery Bay. Play is at the Cornell Park pickleball courts. Check the monthly Activities | Pickleball article for drop-in play days/times and learning day(s).

Wine tasting (*): Dick Donald

Monthly on the 4th Thursday, at different hosts each month. Each couple brings a bottle of wine and an appetizer to share. The bottle is covered so that the label is not visible and is poured in 1 ounce 'tastes', which is graded on a scale of 1 to 5 by each participant. At the end of the evening the bottles are uncovered and the scores are totaled to determine how each wine is rated.

Bike Riding (*): Jerry Wiebe

9:00 a.m. Thursday mornings, meeting at Jerry's address, 2071 Windward Point, Discovery Bay, for a weekly 13 mile ride into Brentwood, sometimes further on other routes, and when possible, a mid way coffee shop stop for a leisurely bit of group chit-chatting.

Tennis (*): Larry Mensch

Tennis is a new activity that was added in 2019. It is a mixed co-ed group, similar to the pickle ball group. We play Monday, Wednesday and Saturday at the Discovery Bay Community Center starting at 8:00 am. Players rotate in so that everyone plays. It is an easy-going tennis group that usually ends up at Starbucks afterwards. Sometimes, we'll go out for breakfast or lunch, especially if the weather is not good.

Continued ...

Branch 161 Activities and Events (*continued*)

Dinner with the Ladies (*): Dennis Pachucki

SIR Dinner with the Ladies is a well attended event. We have 8 annual events at various local restaurants. Dinners are typically the last Tuesday of the month, 5:00 PM socialization and 6:00 PM dinner. All Sirs and ladies and their guests are welcome. Look for dates and locations in our Monthly newsletter.

Poker: Dick Donald

SIR Poker is a weekly, low-stakes poker game. It's played every Monday evening at 6:30 through 9:30. Games are quarter-limit dealer-choice and the dealer antes a quarter for everyone. A schedule is made with a different host and six additional players each week. Everyone plays about seven times over two and a half months.

Annual Al DiGiusto Boat Cruise and Luncheon (*): Bob Damico

In 1993, Al DiGiusto conceived the idea to plan a SIR event that would introduce some of our non-boating members and their wives to the world of boating in the Delta. Sirs with boats invited members and their wives to ride with them on a cruise to one of many Delta waterfront restaurants for lunch. Al coordinated this successful event until his passing in 2005, and the event continues in his honor. This year's boat cruise and luncheon will be Thursday July 23, 2020, and starts at the Boardwalk Grill in Discovery Bay. There will be sign-up sheets at the June meeting.

Eric Jensen Memorial Collector Car Show: Bill Konold

Our September meeting is also the SIR Collector Car Show. So polish that Collector Car of yours and bring it to the meeting. Any interesting car, old or new, is welcome. Got a new Hemi, a cool Corvette, or an old Mercury? Bring it to the September meeting and park with other SIR car enthusiast members. Tire kicking is both before and after the meeting, so arrive a little early, stay a little late, and enjoy the machinery.

Sporting Events (*):

The state SIR organization puts together special "SIR Days" for a variety of sporting events, such as A's & Giants games, Golden Gate Fields horse racing, Sacramento River Cats, AAA baseball, etc. Information on these events can be found on the state SIR website (http://www.sirinc.org/siractivities/SIR_sports.htm), and flyers are routinely included in our monthly newsletter.

Bocce Ball (*): Dick Donald

We are re-starting our weekly game, and we will once again use the Discovery Bay Country Club facilities.

Beer Tasting: Temporarily on hiatus.

(*) denotes a co-ed and/or couples activity. Details & schedules of individual activities can be found in our Branch 161 monthly newsletter. Contact information for coordinators can be found in the current Branch 161 Handbook.

Membership Requirements & Principles

(revised 2019)

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 *(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 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 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 organization. For those who have yet to pay their dues, be sure to bring \$20 cash or check (made out to SIR Branch 161) to the next meeting. Or you can mail it to our Treasurer, Jerry Wiebe.

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 Paul Elmer by the Friday preceding the meeting if you don't plan to attend.

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Tel: 462-9160

Your newsletter team



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View SIR Happenings, the State SIR newsletter: <http://www.sirinc.org/sirhappenings/>