



# SIR BRANCH 161 NEWS

Celebrating our 34th year! *March 2025*

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

## Jim Wangeman, Big Sir

Thank you to everyone who attended our February luncheon. The New Management Company got off to a great start, with a fantastic Chicken Parm lunch! I met with the new company and they assured me that they plan on honoring our current agreement. We are going to have a Great year my fellow Sirs. Thank you to our Little Sir for getting our speakers lined up for the future!

Big Sir Jim Wangeman



## Little Sir, Steve Bordi

### February Guest Speaker

Our February guest speaker was Chris Sullivan, the Discovery Bay Pickleball President for the past three years. Chris was excited and eager to speak to our SIR members because of his love and enthusiasm for the sport.

His main intent was to recruit members into the sport, encouraging them to come out and "give it a try". His presentation included a "live volley" demonstration performed by master SIR Pickleballers Bob Lyman and Randy Zierau.

The first time I ever heard of Pickleball was 20 years ago when Bob introduced it as a SIR guest luncheon speaker, and he is still actively playing today. He said, at that time, that it was a Senior friendly sport, and he is "living proof". He described the game as a cross between Tennis and Table Tennis (Ping-Pong).

***Continued on page 2***



## March Luncheon Menu

Corned Beef and Cabbage with Steamed Red Potatoes, Creamed Horseradish and Mustard. Garlic Bread or Roll, Cookie or Brownie, Iced Tea and Coffee.

## March Birthdays

Steve Bordi, Terry Brekke, Roy Brett, Ron Crawford, John Davis, Jake Fair, Dave Goodwin, Keith Jones, Gary Leonis, Mike Maita, Sean Murphy, Dennis Pachucki, Joe Riggs, Jim Sniadecki, Vince Vargas, Dave Vicencio

## March events & activities

*Check the respective articles for more details.*

### Meetings

**General meeting & luncheon - March 11.**

**BEC meeting - March 11.**

### Activities

#### **Bowling**

- March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 - Brentwood Bowlero
- March 25 or 26 - SIR tournament, Clayton

#### **Cycling** (3 weekly rides)

- March 3 and 5 - long ride
- March 7 - short ride

**Golf** - March 18 - Elkhorn Stockton

**Dinner With The Ladies** - March 25, Zephyrs

**Wine tasting** March 27.

### ***Little Sir, continued from page 1***

Randy Zierau, our SIR Pickleball leader, is wanting to introduce more of our SIR members to the sport. On the first Saturday of every month at 11:00am there is a new player workshop at the Discovery Bay Community Center Courts (1601 DB Blvd.). If you are ready for a fun and invigorating workout, give Randy a call at (925) 308-4640.



Little Sir Steve Bordi presents Chris Sullivan, our February speaker, with a Certificate Of Appreciation

### **March Guest Speaker**

This month's guest speaker will be the "renowned" UFO authority, Ruben Uriarte, who has been highly recommended by his good friend Will Myers. Ruben hails from Union City (Hayward / Fremont area). He graduated from Jamea Logan High School and Cal State University with a BA in Psychology and Latin American Studies. Ruben is a member of "MUFON" (Mutual UFO Network) as a field investigator, and is also a State Director for Mexico and Cuba.

He has been interviewed in some 7 Television Documentaries, 3 of which you might be most familiar with are Discovery Channel's "UFOs over Earth" and History Channel's "UFO Files" and "Ancient Aliens". He has also co-authored 8 books. One local California book that intrigued me was "Aliens in the Forest", an alien encounter in 1964 in Cisco Grove in the Tahoe National Forest in Placer County (Cisco Grove is 50 miles East of Auburn, near Emigrant Gap on Highway 80 heading over the Sierras towards Reno, NV.).

This will be a very interesting presentation. Be ready with your questions for Ruben.

## Membership, Luis Figueroa

At the February luncheon we had 1 guest and 2 new members were inducted. Bill Dowden (Gale Nelson, sponsor) was our guest and we had two new inductees: Sol Robin (Knute Kleinen, sponsor); and Paul Furiosi (sponsor, Luis Figueroa).



Sol Robin (left) and sponsor Knute Kleinen

Sol Robin recently moved from Sonora to Brentwood. He had been a SIR member in Branch 136 for 8 years.

Sol and his wife have 4 sons, a daughter and 4 grandkids.

Paul Furiosi was in the restaurant business for many years, and owned an Italian seafood restaurant in Santa Clara. He originally moved from Pennsylvania to California in 1963. After retiring from the restaurant business he moved to Twain Harte in the mountains. In 2023 he moved to Antioch to be closer to his son. Paul and wife have three kids and five grandchildren. He enjoys cycling, Bocce, golfing, and dining out.



Paul Furiosi (right) and sponsor Luis Figueroa

Please refer to the Membership section on our branch web site at [www.sir161.org](http://www.sir161.org) to better understand the new member process, and if you have any questions, please feel free to contact me. Prospective members have the option to become inducted at their first luncheon meeting if they have already completely filled out their application and submitted it, or wait until after attending the first luncheon and later submitting the application. In addition when bringing in guests, please notify Phil Newlin or myself in advance of the meeting in order to allow time for the preparation of a guest package. The Branch continues to give a free bottle of wine to any member who brings in a guest to our luncheons, and a free lunch certificate to the member who sponsors a new member.

The current branch headcount is 119.



## SIR Cyclers, Jerry Wiebe (916) 206-9221

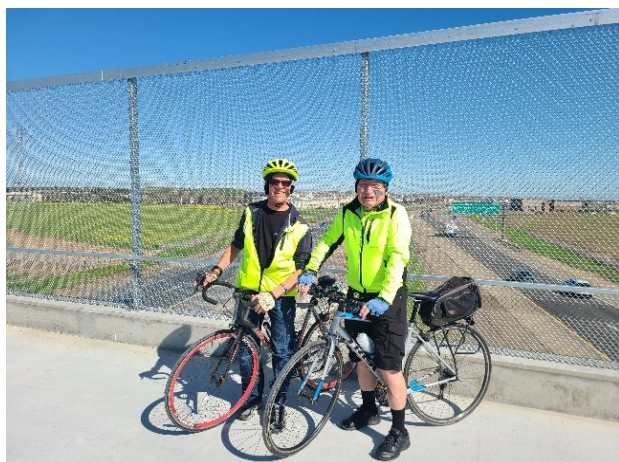
A group of SIR cycling enthusiasts meets weekly to ride in local communities, promoting the physical and mental benefits of regular exercise.

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

Dust off your bike and join the fun to start the new year on a positive note!



## In Memoriam



We were sad to hear of the passing of Dale Welin on February 16, 2025.

Dale joined our branch in 1998, was a member for over 20 years before dropping out due to ill health in 2022, and was well known in the community.

Dale served on our Executive Board as our Golf Chairman for fifteen years. He and his wife Sonja (also well known in the Discovery Bay Ladies Golf community) recently moved to Chicago to be closer to family. Dale's health had been declining, and a recent fall led to his passing on February 16, 2025.

## Golf News, Johnny Welton

If you want to add someone to the SIR 161 Golf Activity distribution email, please send me an email: [johnnywelton40@gmail.com](mailto:johnnywelton40@gmail.com)



It was a warm sunny day at Shadow Lakes Golf Course as the SIR Branch 161 2025 Golf Season began on February 25. Thirty players formed eight teams to compete in a "Scramble" format. Three new players joined SIR golf for the first time.

On Hole #7 Dennis O'Connell was closest to the pin at 4' 1". Hole #17 went to Mike Carmichael with 4' 9". Team scoring was very close. 61 was the number of the day with three teams holding that score. A 59 was earned by two teams: David Vicencio, Al Goodspeed, Ron Bengé, and Vince Vargas tied with Joe Stanley, Johnny Welton, Ray Valdez, and Sol Robin but were just out of the money!

Second/Third Place at 68 and earning \$5 were James Taylor, Mike Carmichael, Bob Klovas and Dennis O'Connell tied with Dan Lippstreu, Phil Kepp, Gale Nelson, and Tony Rubino. First Place honors and \$10 per player went to Todd Ramsdell, Saul Gold, Jim Spann, and Rich Martin with a net score of 55.

Surveys have become a big part of the golf program. They have provided a lot of information to the Golf Committee and have guided the direction the program has taken. Twenty-seven out of the thirty participants put their name on a survey and turned it in. As always we were happy to play Shadow Lakes and look forward to playing next year (100%). There is lots of support for continuing the tradition of opening the season with a scramble competition (24/27). Pace of play was rated very good. There were 4 ones and twos indicating slow play but 11 threes, 8 fours, and 4 fives. There was some frustration that a group of five players that were very slow teed off ahead of us. That will be shared with the course professional.

Next up is March 18 at Elkhorn Golf Course in Stockton. Tee times start at 9:00 am. The primary contest will return to 4 member team: Two Best Ball format. As usual two Closest to the Pin Holes will be offered as well as two Flights for Skins, Low Gross, and Low Net prizes. Twenty-two players are registered at the time this was written. There is room for 28 players. Registration for all events can be made by emailing Johnny Welton at [johnnywelton40@gmail.com](mailto:johnnywelton40@gmail.com) and registration for one or all events can be done today. Make checks out to: "SIR Branch 161" and note the place of the event on the check. Send or give the check to Johnny Welton at 5751 Prestwick Court, Discovery Bay, CA 94505. Checks must be received before the deadline. Early registration and payments for multiple events are encouraged.

As the weather gives us great opportunities to spend time on the links, take advantage and practice up; post scores; and register for SIR Golf!

Johnny Welton  
SIR Golf Director



## SIR Branch 161 2025 GOLF SCHEDULE

you want to add someone the SIR 161 Golf distribution email list  
have a question, please send an email: [johnnywelton40@gmail.com](mailto:johnnywelton40@gmail.com)

12/19/2024

1. Tuesday, February 25 9:00 SIR 161 Winter Four-Ball Scramble Due: 2/11/25  
Shadow Lakes, Brentwood {Tee Prize: Range Balls}
2. Tuesday, March 18 9:00 Elkhorn, Stockton [32 miles] Due: 3/11/25
3. Tuesday, April 15 9:00 Swenson Park, Stockton [16 miles] Due: 4/8/25
4. Tuesday, May 20 9:30 Manteca Park, Manteca [33 miles] Due: 5/13/25
5. Tuesday, June 17 9:00 Elkhorn, Stockton [32 miles] Due: 6/10/25
6. Tuesday, July 15 9:30 Dublin Ranch, Dublin [30 miles] Due: 7/8/25
7. Thursday, August 21 8:00 Concord SIR: Match Play Diablo Creek, Concord Tee Prize  
[17 miles] SIR 161 players will receive prizes.  
Shotgun Start hosted by SIR Branch 8 Concord. Limited to 20  
players {Tee Prize: Sleeve of Balls} Due: 8/12/25
8. Tuesday, September 16 9:30 Blue Rock Springs, Vallejo [36 miles] Due: 9/9/25
9. Tuesday, October 21 9:30 SIR Individual Championship at The Reserve, Stockton  
[30 miles] Flier and guidelines to follow. Due: 10/14/25
10. Tuesday, November 18 9:00 SIR 161 Fall Four Ball Shamble, Best Drive {Play your own ball  
with 70% handicap}  
Dublin Ranch, Dublin [30 miles] Due: 11/11/25

### Mystery Sir

Our February mystery Sir was Tony Guarasico.



Can you guess who this month's mystery Sir is? (photo on left).

If you have an 'early' photo of yourself you'd like included, please email to:

[sir161@comcast.net](mailto:sir161@comcast.net)



**February Awards - presented by Bob Damico**



*Jim Wangeman receives the Distinguished Service Award pin and Past Big Sir Badge for 2024*



*Ron Wilson receives the 25- year Branch 161 Membership Award*



*Rich Barber Receives the 20-year Branch 161 membership award.*

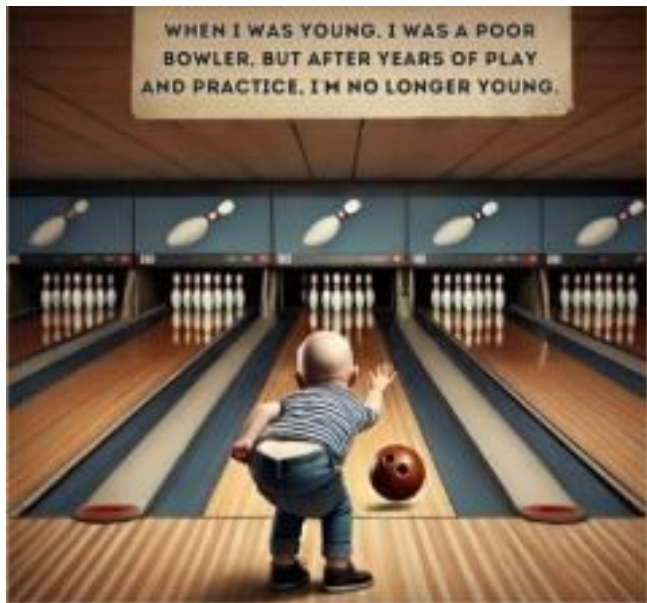
## Bowling news, Ron Wilson

On Monday February 17 at league bowling Tom Kirtley rolled a 276 Game! This is a very nice honor score. Congratulations Tom.

Eight of our league bowlers went to the Sacramento Country Club Lanes on February 20th. We do not yet have the results.

The next SIR tournament will be sponsored by Concord Branch 19 on our choice of March 25th or 26th. The tournament will be held at "Clayton Valley Lanes". This location is an easy drive over Marsh Creek Road.

One of our biggest and best tournaments is coming up at Carson City Nevada (Gold Dust West) on April 21, 22, 23. This is a singles, doubles and 4-person team event held over multiple days. We usually bowl one event each of three days starting on Monday, April 21st and finishing with the team event on Wednesday, April 23 morning allowing us to drive home at about noon on Wednesday. There will also be "Brackets" at this event.



The Venue for this event (Gold Dust West) is a nice facility with everything in house. It is nice to be able to Eat, Gamble and Bowl, all within a few steps from your room. The room rates are very reasonable. Rooms are in the \$105.00 per night range with no resort fees. The plus here is each guest is provided a "Real Breakfast" at their Café for each night's stay.

I recommend that you reserve your rooms now to be sure you get one. Call 775-885-9000 and ask for the April SIR Tournament "Block of Rooms" rate. See me at league bowling for an entry application and how to determine schedule of bowling.

I will send all Tournament Bowlers (E-Mail) the application for this event.

As always, if you want to bowl any of our SIR Tournaments, I will do all of the paperwork for you. All you have to do is pay the entry fee and show up ready to bowl and have fun.

See you on the lanes.  
Ron Wilson





## Wine Tasting, Terry Silva

The wine tasting was hosted and held at Bruce and Kathy Bohnsack's house in Discovery Bay.

### Attendees:

Vince and Bobbie Vargas, Jerry and Sue Wiebe, Terry and Sue Silva, Dennis Pachucki and Karen Capra.

We had a great time and Bruce and Kathy were great hosts.

Next month's event will be on Thursday March 27 at Vince and Bobbie Vargas's house on the golf course in Discovery Bay.

Terry Silva, SIR Wine Chairman



## Dinner With The Ladies, Dennis Pachucki

**When:** Tuesday March 25, 2025.

**Where:** Zephyrs Grill& Bar, 613 1st #100 Brentwood, CA 94513.

**Time:** Arrival & Cocktails starting at 5:00 pm. Dinner served at 6:00 pm.

**Starter:** Caesar Salad: romaine, house-made Caesar dressing, parmesan, croutons.

**Entrée choices:** (Served with buttermilk mashed potatoes & seasonal vegetables):

- Chicken Marsala: pan-seared | cream | mushroom marsala wine sauce
- Grilled King Salmon (Gluten Free): lemon butter
- Braised Short Rib (Gluten Free): wine & mushroom reduction.

All entrees include Water, soft drinks, coffee, tea.

**Cost:** \$44.00 per person (includes tax and tip).

**Deadline:** We need your RSVP no later than Friday, March 21 – there will be envelopes at our General Meeting on March 11.

Please send your checks to me in advance of the dinner.

Please make your checks out to Dennis Pachucki and mail to:  
2125 Sand Point Road, Discovery Bay, CA 94505. Cell phone 408-309-5206

----- Detach and mail with your check -----

Your Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Your Menu choice(s):**

Chicken Marsala

Grilled Salmon

Short Rib



## 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 mail a check for \$25 (made out to SIR Branch 161) to our Treasurer, Norm Petersen.

**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. It is suggested that hats be removed while reciting the Pledge Of Allegiance.

**If you're unable to attend a meeting**, our Branch is obligated to pay for lunches not served. Please email or call Phil Newlin by two Sundays preceding the meeting if you don't plan to attend.

Phil Newlin: ward28fred-sirs@yahoo.com

Tel: (408) 505 5359

### Your newsletter team



**Tom Jones**  
*Editor & email copies*



**Bob Damico**  
*Paper copies*

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