



# SIR BRANCH 161 NEWS

November 2011 Volume 11 Issue 11

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

## Vince Vargas, Big SIR

**Mark your calendars!** Our next luncheon is the second Tuesday, November 8. **If you cannot make the meeting call Bill Konold – 634-2738.**



Our branch has reached a new high in active membership – 176. So far this year we have inducted 27 new members and have one inactive member returning to active. We have added some younger members, which is good for SIRs as a whole. Current branch members are the best resource for introducing prospective members to our SIRs organization.

The 2012 Branch Executive Board slate was approved by acclamation by the membership. We will install the 2012 Board at the November meeting. Our branch has an excellent cadre of Honorary Life Members and past Big SIRs who are very dedicated to SIRs. They continue to be active and involved when needed in the operation and management of our Branch activities. Needless to say, a well run organization and meaningful activities are fundamental to an active and involved membership.

Our mainstay activities continue to be well attended. Bowling has started and the Winter League has 26 teams in active competition. On October 18th, SIRs golf had 40 plus members competing for the “SIRs championship”. Dinner with the Ladies, Wine tasting, Poker night; Pickle Ball and Bocce Ball are drawing in members. The branch will be surveying the members to search for additional desired activities.

We email the monthly newsletter to 130 plus members; the rest by snail mail. I know the wives are the ones who maintain the family social calendar – we need to get them to read the newsletters and check the calendar of SIRs activities. I know who keeps me very involved socially - my wife; She sets the social and family calendar in our house.

**Don't forget the Christmas Luncheon**

**Tuesday, December 13th.**

**Tickets on sale now - \$22.00/person.**

**Note that, for the December (Christmas) luncheon only, there will be no requirement to call Bill Konold to say you're not coming;** Since the Christmas luncheon is by ticket only, anyone who hasn't purchased a ticket will be assumed to not be attending.

A quote I read the other day I feel is very appropriate and fits SIRs to a “T” – ***“it's all about the people”***. See you at the November 8th luncheon meeting!

Vince

### In this issue

**Message from Big SIR.**

**Little SIR report.**

**Membership update.**

**Birthday boys.**

**Bowling, golf and activities reports.**

**Branch 161 contacts.**

## Walt Shipilov, Little SIR

**Luncheon meal:** For our November 8th meeting, Chef Jeff will prepare one of his signature dishes. The entree will be Fried Chicken with whipped potatoes, gravy and seasonal vegetables. In addition we have our usual rolls, butter, iced tea, coffee with cookies and brownies for desert.



**Please note:** Any special dietary needs need to be pre-arranged several days before the meeting. Contact Bill Konold.

**Speaker:** In November we will not have a speaker. Instead we will have a performance from the **Delta Strummers**, a local ukulele group. This group comes to us from Discovery Bay and Brentwood. Several of our Branch 161 SIRs are members of the group.

Think back in time to Arthur Godfrey and his CBS TV show when ukuleles were the rage, or more recently Tiny Tim. This promises to be very entertaining and fun, whether you have ever heard a ukulele or not.

**October recap:** Our speaker in October was Hugh Henderson, the Fire Chief for the East Contra Costa County Fire Protection District (ECCCFPD). He talked to us about the structure and history of the ECCCFPD and the financial challenges that it is now facing. He informed us that there will probably be a parcel tax measure on the June ballot stabilizing the ECCCFPD funding and maintaining existing service levels. Without this parcel tax there will be further service reductions in fire protection. The presentation was very timely and informative for all and was followed by several questions.



**Free Lunch winners:** The winners of the free lunch drawing were: Jim Furlong and Jerry Weibe. As always, I am sure they will both enjoy their free lunch.

Walter

## 2011 Meetings Calendar

11/08/2011	12/13/2011
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## Christmas luncheon tickets

Tickets for our Christmas luncheon are still available. This is a “not to be missed” event. In addition to a great meal cooked by Chef Jeff and his team, we will be entertained by the Summerset Singers.

The ticket price is \$22 per person.

Be sure to get your tickets from Tony Pacheco at our November 8th meeting

## 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, 2111 St. Andrews Ct, Discovery Bay, CA 94505

**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.

## Attendance Policy

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 or email: bkonold@comcast.net

## November Birthday Boys

**The following Branch 161 members celebrate their birthday in November:**

Colin Brodie, John Capelli, Pete Dean, Dick Donald, Gary Hess, Jack Hodson, Chet Loveland, Dr. Clinton Sparks & Craig Wilson. Loyd Sindel, who is on our inactive list because of ill health, turns 90 this month.

## 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 the form 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.

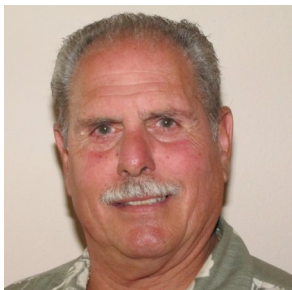
Four new members were inducted at our October 11 Branch 161 meeting:

**Alan Jarvie** and his wife Pam moved to Discovery Bay from Saratoga in 2010. He retired after 40 years in the semiconductor process equipment industry. Hobbies include bridge, boating, gardening and bocce ball.

Alan was sponsored by SIR Murray Cole.

**Ken Fanucchi** has lived in Discovery Bay for 22 years. He retired from Discovery Auto Body in 2010. Ken and his wife Tami have 3 children and 1 granddaughter. His interests include golf, boating, travel, RVing and bowling.

Ken was sponsored by SIR Dennis Pachucki.



**Bob Smith** has lived full time in Discovery Bay for 8 years. He retired from pharmaceutical sales at Immunex in 2002. Bob and his wife Sandy have 1 son and 2 grandchildren. Hobbies include golf, fishing and boating.

Bob was sponsored by SIR Will Meyer.

**Jim Venhaus** has lived in Discovery Bay and the Byron area since 1992. He retired from a career in real estate in 1990. Jim and his wife Winkee have 5 children and 5 grandchildren. Hobbies include RVing and dancing.

Jim was sponsored by SIR Bob Harlan.



## Branch 161 members on the pickleball court

For more information see Dick Donald's **Activities** article on page 5.



SIRS Don Patterson and Pete Dean have their hands full at a recent day of play.

## Bowling News, Paul Elmer

We just completed the 8th annual Bob Matteucci tournament held at Harvest Park Bowl in Brentwood. There were 135 entries split almost evenly between Tuesday the 18th and Thursday the 20th. The events included singles, doubles, and all events with men having 2 divisions (Division 1 was 175 and under, division 2 was over 176. Division 3 was women only).



There were some hectic unexpected moments such as this was the first tournament to be held using the bowling center's brand new computer system. Just picture this - 70 bowlers ready to start practice, bowling balls in hand, and the program would not start. After 10 or 12 minutes it was decided to start regular tournament play and erase the practice scores. That worked but we didn't know if the tournament would shut down half way through the third game.

Thanks to Bob Rhiner quickly contacting the specialists at Brunswick, a fix was ready in case of the shut down - IT DID NOT HAPPEN! The program ran smoothly.



Barbara Matteucci throws out one of the first warm-up balls

There were some bowlers from branch 161 and 108 that did place in the money. They included:

Division 1 men - Al Fleisher, fourth - Jose Arroyo, fifth, and Jerry Marshall, seventh.

Division 2 men - Ed Gallagher, third, and Greg Mattus fourth.

Doubles Division 2 - Bob and Terry Damico - 2nd, Barbara Matteucci and Ed Gallagher 4th, and Roberta Bodine and Al Fleisher- 6th.

Singles Division 3 women, Connie Ryan 4th and Rosie Elmer 5th.

All Events Division 3 Women - Terry Damico - 4th and Connie Ryan 6th.

All Events Division 1 men - Paul Elmer 5th and Tom Kirtley 8th.

All Events Division 2 men - Ed Gallagher - 2nd.



L-R: tournament co-chairs Bill Bayer, Branch 108 and Paul Elmer, Branch 161, Curtis Manning, Branch 161.

I want to especially thank Bob Rhiner, Bill Bayer, Bob Damico, and Curtis Manning for all their help in making this a successful tournament.

The next and final tournaments of the year are Modesto, November 2nd and 4th, and Concord, November 15th and 16th.

Paul

### From your newsletter team

This publication is produced and published through a team effort by LaVan Bock, Bill Konold, and Tom Jones. If we can improve this publication, please let any one on the newsletter team know.

## Golf News, Dale Welin

Our season came to an end with the largest turnout of the season, 33 players.

Thank you for your participation. Ed Carr won the low net competition with a net score of 61. He beat out Bill Konold with a cardoff tiebreaker.



## 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

There will be no wine tasting in November because of Thanksgiving. The next wine tasting will be in early December, and will be hosted by Lynn and Harriet Pierce. If you are interested in attending please contact me at 513-2849, or email me at DickDonald@Yahoo.com . Also let me know if you would like to host a future wine tasting event.

### Bocce Ball– Dick Donald – 513-2849

We are currently playing bocce ball every Wednesday at 4 PM. If you are interested in playing you just need to show up at the country club Bocce Ball courts any Wednesday.

### Poker – Dick Donald – 513-2849

We are still planning to have a SIR poker game each month, and are looking for more SIR members who would like to be regular players. If you are interested in being a regular player or a substitute for a once monthly quarter-limit game playing on Thursday evening, please contact me at dickdonald@yahoo.com . The next game is scheduled for Thursday, November 17 at 7 PM.

### Pickleball - Bob Lyman – 628-7906

Join other SIRS members and some wives (about half are women) in playing Pickleball. Play is taking place Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday at 9 am and Wednesday at 4:30. We play at the public tennis courts on Willow Lake Rd. **See photo on page 3.**

Dick

### Errata:

Due to an editorial error, the November issue of our Branch 161 newsletter emailed to members contained the October version of Dick's article.



Ed Carr receives his trophy from Dale Welin.

There were some very good scores and the first 5 place winners were:

- 1st place Ed Carr net 61
- 2nd place Bill Konold 61
- 3rd place Don Ramos 62
- 4th place A. Anderson 62
- 5th place John Homan 62

Closest to the pin winners were B. Watkins and G. Macbride Congratulations to all the winners. See you next year.

We announced at the tournament that the 2012 NCGA SIRS golf dues are due now and must be received by Dec. 15. You can send your check to Dale Welin (check made payable to Dale Welin) as soon as possible.

See you on the green in 2012.

Dale

## Branch 161 Officers

Big SIR:	Vince Vargas	(925) 516-5915
Little SIR:	Walt Shipilov	(925) 634-3246
Secretary:	Remy Giannini	(925) 634-7007
Assist. Sec.:	Jim Davis	(925) 634-3232
Treasurer:	Tony Pacheco	(925) 240-0523
Asst. Treasurer:	Mike Reich	(925) 634-7970

## Branch 161 Directors

Len Fadda	(925) 513-0738
Jim Heck	(925) 634-6142
Tom Kirtley	(925) 240-8071
Lowell Onstad	(925) 516-8468
Lowell Thomas	(925) 516-8840
Dale Welin	(925) 516-9463

## Branch 161 Chaplain

Chaplain:	Gary Hess	(925) 634-5114
Assistant:	Clint Sparks	(925)634-2076

## Branch 161 Committee Chairmen

Attendance:	Bill Konold	(925) 634-2738
Assistant:	Bill Chelseth	(925) 516-8767
Activities:	Dick Donald	(925) 513-2849
Audit:	Lou Bruton	(925) 634-8283
	Myron Lenicioni	634-3369
Bowling:	Paul Elmer	(925) 634-5690
Assistant:	John Fry	(925) 634-8647
Bridge:	Lex Overzet	(925) 634-4614
Assistant:	Howie Fisher	(925) 634-0490
Dinner with the ladies:		
	Jim Heck	(925) 634-6142
Golf:	Dale Welin	(925) 516-9463
Assistant:	Lowell Onstad	(925) 516-8468
Greetings:	Remy Giannini	(925) 634-7007
Membership:	Len Fadda	(925) 513-0738
Newsletter:		
Editor:	Tom Jones	(925) 634-7026
Distribution:	Bill Konold	(925) 634-2738
Support:	LaVan Bock	(925) 513-1070
Webmaster:	Tom Jones	(925) 634-7026
Pins, Supplies:	Peter Constantine	634-0208
Programs:	Walt Shipilov	(925) 634-3246
Sunshine:	Bob Damico	(925) 634-0465
Song Leader:	Howie Fisher	(925) 634-0490
Backup:	Tom Jones	(925) 634-7026

## 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

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 where 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 at noon. All members are expected to attend. You are required to notify the Attendance Chairman by the Friday prior to the meeting if you cannot attend. Regular members missing three consecutive meetings without notifying the Attendance Chairman, or attending less than seven meetings within the last year, shall be notified by Form Letter #4 of their pending membership termination. 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.

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