



SIR BRANCH 161 NEWS

Celebrating our 34th year! February 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 Steve Bordi and Bob Damico for taking over for me during lunch as I became ill and had to leave.

Thank you to Carl Mason, our Area Representative for SIR and his remarks of how our club was well organized and fun! I met with the new Management Company and they assured me that they would honor our current agreement, and they will have salads and desert available for each luncheon. I am looking to a fun filled year!

Big Sir Jim Wangeman



ment); If someone asks what is SIR ? It's like " Mister", "Yes Sir", "No Sir". There is no age limit or retirement qualification for becoming a member of SIR.

Continued on page 2

February Luncheon Menu

Chicken Parmesan on Pasta with Seasonal Veggies, Garlic Bread or Roll, Cookie or Brownie, Iced Tea and Coffee

February Birthdays

Frank Alexander, Roy Bristow, Dave Ciruli, Mike Cullen, Bob Damico, John Emerson, Jon Rensen, Tony Rubino, Jim Venhaus, Johnny Welton

February events & activities

Check the respective articles for more details.

Meetings

General meeting & luncheon - February 11.
BEC meeting - February 11.

Activities

Bowling

- Feb 3, 10, 17, 24 - Brentwood Bowlero
- Feb 20 or 21 - SIR tournament, Sacramento

Cycling (3 weekly rides)

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

Golf - February 25 - Shadow Lakes

Dinner With The Ladies - Feb 26, Samurai

Wine tasting February 27.

Little Sir, Steve Bordi

January Guest Speaker

Our January luncheon guest speaker was SIR State Treasurer, Carl Mason, a member and past Big Sir of Branch 88 in Vallejo. Carl also serves as our Area 16 Representative and came to present Dennis Pachucki and Bruce Bohnsack with their Awards. Dennis was the recipient of the Honorary Life Member Award for doing almost everything in our Organization. Bruce, our Secretary for the past 3 years, received a pin and certificate for all his hard work with the BEC.

Carl then addressed our group, regarding the future and direction of SIR. He stressed the need of recruiting younger members, as the average age for a Sir is now around 80. We need to be attracting men in their 40's and 50's who are still working. Today, many are working well into their 70's. He emphasized not mentioning SIR as the acronym (Sons in Retire-



Little Sir, continued from page 1

February Guest Speaker

Our February guest speaker will be Chris Sullivan, President of the Discovery Bay Pickleball Club for the past 3 years. Chris has been a financial advisor for Mutual of Omaha for many years, but now only works part-time so he can devote more time to Pickleball. It is a family affair, as both he and his wife play, much like many couples do in Tennis, Bowling, and Golf. Although Pickleball started in 1965, Chris and his wife didn't take it up until 2020 when Covid entered the scene. They were looking for a cardio activity that they could do together and get a "good workout". Now they're hooked.

Pickleball has been steadily growing in popularity to where it's now being called the "Nation's fastest growing sport" with 15 million estimated participants. Chris will update us on what is happening locally with Pickleball. We are hopeful that our Sir Branch can increase it's membership numbers through community interest in our Pickleball activity. Randy Zierau, who is now directing our Pickleball activity group, wants it to become much like our Golf and Bowling, with leagues and co-ed participation. This sport is actively being promoted as an excellent cardio activity for Seniors, both physically and socially.

Membership, Luis Figueroa

At the January luncheon we had 2 guests and 1 new member inducted. The guests were Sol Robin (Knut Kleinen, sponsor), and Paul Furioli (Luis Figueroa, sponsor).

Don Blotzer was inducted as a new member and his sponsor was Ron Wilson. Don's bio and photo along with his sponsor are provided below.



Don Blotzer (left) and sponsor Ron Wilson

Don has lived in Brentwood for 18 years, where he moved from Vallejo in 2006. He retired in 2023 from Amtrak where he was a supervisor. He and his wife have two children and two grandkids. Don enjoys bowling, bocce, and traveling using his trailer. He is looking forward to being engaged with the Discovery Bay SIR branch.

At the luncheon Dennis Pachucki was awarded a free meal certificate for recruiting the most new members (3) in 2024: Joe Riggs, Rick Martin, and Jim Sniadecki. Dennis is to be congratulated for his efforts.

Please refer to the Membership section on our branch web site at 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 current branch headcount is 121.

Luis Figueroa, Membership Director

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.

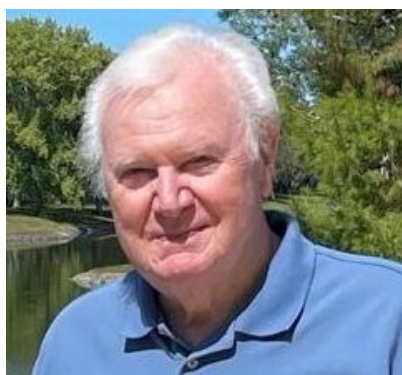


For details, contact Jerry Wiebe at 916-206-9221 or papadrone@gmail.com

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 Ron Keefer on January 13, 2025.

Ron joined our branch August 9, 2022.

Please keep his wife Rosalie and their family in your thoughts and prayers.

When known, we will share Information on Ron's Memorial/Funeral Service.

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



It is freezing in much of the country. A little frost in the morning shouldn't deter playing golf on such clear and beautiful days. Enjoy the great game of golf. We have a great schedule for 2025 (see page 5) and it is time to register! February 25 is our first event at Shadow Lakes. The deadline for this event is February 11 at the SIR Branch 161 Luncheon. This is our usual Winter Four-Ball Scramble and we have invited the Rough Riders group to join us – thanks to Bill Konold.

Registration for all events should be made by emailing Johnny Welton at 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. A financial incentive exists for paying for multiple events at one time. There are ten events this year and again there will be a discount for those that register for nine or ten events before the season starts.

Events Fees for 2025 are:

1. Pre-pay for all 10 Events @ \$570 or 9 Events @ \$515 by 2/11/25 (Refund calculated @ \$57 rate.) Or,
2. Pay for individual events @ \$65 for all other events (Refund @ \$65).

The cancellation policy remains the same - late cancellation will be assessed after the due date (\$15) when SIR is not charged. Full \$65 charge will be made when the club is charged.

As always, checks must be made out to "SIR Branch 161".

In the Event Survey for Dublin Ranch on July 15, there will be a question as to whether we should to play Dublin Ranch on November 18 as currently scheduled or play another course. If you don't play on July 15 but want to have your say on the Survey, just ask me for a Survey. We want to do what you want us to do. The Golf Committee pays attention to those Surveys.

You must be a member of SIR Branch 161 to play in more than five events in one season. Ask about joining SIR Branch 161. Special rules apply for the SIR Branch 161 Individual Championship on October 21 at The Reserve. They will be included in the "Guidelines for Play 2025" to be emailed around February 1.

Guests and occasional SIR member participation is encouraged for all events except the Championship Tournament which has specific guidelines. The registration process and fees are the same as for regular golf participants. We would welcome anyone who wants to play ... anytime! If there are special needs, please discuss them directly with Johnny as soon as possible. All efforts will be made to accommodate reasonable requests.

As always, we are hoping to increase our numbers. Our goal for the regular events is 24. We have space for 32. Each of us need to make a real effort to encourage other golfers to join us and join SIR Branch 161.

Get out there and play ... and don't forget to post those scores!

Johnny



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

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 January mystery Sir was Tony Guarascio.



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

January Awards



Carl Mason, Area 16 Representative, presents Bruce Bonshack (center-left) the Distinguished Service Award.

Also in the photo, left to right, 4 of our 7 other DSA recipients:

Roy Bristow, Paul Elmer, Dennis Pachucki, Johnny Welton.



Dennis Pachucki® receives the Honorary Life Member award from Area 16 Representative Carl Mason.



Gary Hess receives the Senior SIR (90 years) award from Area 16 Representative Carl Mason.

Bowling news, Ron Wilson

We just finished our first half position round on Monday, January 6th. Team # 3, (Mike Sadler, Tony Guarascio, Russ Reid and Vicky Reid) won first place and will bowl second half winners in May to determine league champion. Our second half position round will be on May 12th and Sweepers will be on May 19th.



I want to welcome Don Blotzer into the SIR organization. Don was inducted on January 14th. He had been bowling as a guest in our SIR league. He will continue bowling in our league and in some of our SIR tournaments.

We are taking 12 of our league bowlers to Bowl the Napa SIR tournament. This is a very good number of bowlers for a single branch in supporting the State SIR Tournament schedule. As mentioned last month, Napa is 100% String "Pin Setters" and we can expect a variety of reactions as to how this new technology compares to what we currently use.

Following Napa, the next SIR tournament will be in Sacramento at "Country Club Lanes" on your choice of February 20th or 21st.



The Citrus Heights tournament shown on our annual schedule for March 5th has been cancelled.

Again, a reminder one of our favorite tournaments will be held in Carson City, Nevada at "Gold Dust West" on, April 21,22,23 &24. This is a Singles, Doubles and 4 person team event held over multiple days. We usually bowl one event each day starting on Monday April 22 and finishing with the team event on Wednesday morning allowing us to drive home at about noon on Wednesday. There will also be "Brackets".

The "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 of your room. The room rates are very reasonable. Marie and I have a King Suite reserved at \$125.00 per night. The regular size rooms will be in the \$105.00 to \$110.00 range (my estimate). The plus

here is each guest is provided a "Real Breakfast" at their Cafe 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 Room's" rate. See me before you make your reservations so I can give you the bowling schedule options. As of now I do not have the entry applications for this Tournament, but I have enough information to help you decide on what nights you want to stay.

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

See you on the Lanes.
Ron Wilson

Dinner With The Ladies, Dennis Pachucki

When: Wednesday February 26, 2025.

Where: Samurai Japanese Restaurant, 5007 Lone Tree Way, Brentwood CA 94531 .

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

Menu choices: (Dinner includes appetizer, dessert & non-alcoholic beverage):

- Chicken Teriyaki grilled with sweet teriyaki sauce
- New York Steak (Hibachi Grilled)
- Filet Mignon (Hibachi Grilled)
- Hibachi Shrimp grilled with lemon & butter
- Hibachi Salmon grilled with a hint of lemon
- Vegetable Delight (Assorted fresh vegetables grilled in a light sauce)



All entrees include Mushroom Soup, Green Salad with Ginger Dressing, Hibachi Vegetables and choice of steamed, fried or garlic fried rice.

Cost: \$38.00 per person (includes tax and tip).

Deadline: We need your RSVP no later than Friday, February 22 – there will be envelopes at our General Meeting on February 11.

Please send your checks to me in advance.

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):

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chicken Teriyaki | <input type="checkbox"/> New York Steak | <input type="checkbox"/> Filet Mignon |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hibachi Shrimp | <input type="checkbox"/> Hibachi Salmon | <input type="checkbox"/> Vegetable Delight |

And your rice selections:

- | | | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Steamed rice | <input type="checkbox"/> Fried rice | <input type="checkbox"/> Garlic fried rice |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|

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, 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. 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 the Friday 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/>

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