

Sons in Retirement



Volume 24 Issue 2

Web site <http://www.sir5.org>

February, 2011

Big SIR sez:

The New Year is off to a great start. At our January 26 luncheon, two new members, Robert Carter and David Spaulding were welcomed into Branch 5. I hope that we can maintain this rate of 2 new members each month. It's what we need to keep our Branch vibrant. Bring a friend to lunch and offer him the opportunity to join Branch 5.

Sadly, we note the passing of Past Big SIR, Gordon Miller, and the resignations this month of five long-time members. The reasons for resigning included health or personal issues and schedule conflicts with our luncheon meeting dates.

Our luncheon speaker on January 26 was author Keith Raffel. His description of how he translates life and characters in Silicon Valley to a compelling plot for a mystery story was fascinating. Using techniques similar to those he used to build a start-up company to plan the creation of his books has resulted in the completion of a novel per year. Two have been published and another is awaiting publication.

Forty-Seven members attended the January luncheon. Our luncheon attendance for the past year has averaged about 50 per cent of the active membership. The primary benefits of membership in SIR are the camaraderie, the good food, and the excellent speakers at our luncheons. There are members who did not attend any meetings in 2010,

and did not make their annual contribution. Our Attendance Chair, Ray Odell, will be contacting them to determine if they intend to continue their membership in SIR Branch 5. Paraphrasing Rule 100, a member may be terminated for missing three consecutive meetings, or missing more than one-half of the regular lunch meetings within the previous twelve months without having been excused by the Branch Attendance Chair.

Lunch, 2/23

Salads: mixed greens, caesar, 3 bean, and pasta primavera

Entrees: roast turkey and sirloin tips

Dessert: Sherbet

If anyone wants to attend a luncheon and needs transportation, please contact me at 408-257-6703, or Little SIR, Al Stratz, at 650-948-0490. We'll try to arrange for someone to pick you up and bring you to our lunch each month.

I hope to see everyone at the February 23 luncheon. The speaker will be interesting, the food will be tasty, and, as always, there will be lots of interesting conversation. See you there!



Howard Trudeau
Big SIR

SPEAKER

Vickie Epstein, Program Director
Avenidas Village

Vickie earned an MSW from Saint Louis University in Missouri and did most of her early work in medical settings, including a five year stint at O'Connor Hospital in San Jose. Vickie also served as Recruitment Director for Child Advocates, and Director of Program Services for Addison Penzak Jewish Community Center. In addition, Vickie worked with National Conference for Community and Justice designing diversity programming for schools in San Jose, and trained volunteers to deliver these programs

Avenidas Village is a pacesetter in the national aging in place movement and was the first "Village" on the West Coast. It is also one of the only Villages affiliated with an established, local non-profit agency that has been providing services for older adults since 1969.

Avenidas Village helps you stay in your home and still have access to all of the activities and services you want now, as well as those you may need later.

An annual membership can simplify your life, save you money, help you maintain your home, reduce your stress, provide peace of mind for your adult children, keep you mobile and connect you to others in your community (currently serving Atherton, Los Altos/Los

Altos Hills, Menlo Park, Mountain View, Palo Alto, Portola Valley, Stanford and Woodside).

Avenidas Village allows you to retain your independent lifestyle. As a member, you will always have someone to call 24/7, whether your concern is large or small.

Attendance Report

We were down to 49 members and two visitors at the January 26, 2011 luncheon. We continue to lose members, although we are doing pretty good at bringing in new members to offset some of the losses so our attendance may continue to suffer.

Just a reminder it important that you always sign in at the luncheons even if you come in late to get credit for being present. It's also important that you enter the correct badge number. Otherwise there is a possibility that you could be marked absent. I record your attendance by badge number so if you enter the incorrect number someone else may get credit unless there happens to be a duplicate number. Then I search the records to see which number is correct and who belongs to the incorrect entry. Takes a bit more time. The badge number is on the back of your badge.

Ray Odell
Attendance Chairman

Membership

In Memory of: Gordon Miller

New members: Robert Carter, and David Spaulding

Membership Changes:

Resigned: Elias Botto, George Brown, Phillip Carter, George

Hossfeld and George Omran

Membership Status:

Active: _____95
Waiting: _____1
Inactive: _____10 (2 no Bulletin)
Widows on mailing list: _ 4

Current Mailing List:

121: 92 by email and 29 by snail mail.

Member Record Updates: None

Paul V Butler
Membership Chairman

Bulletin

STATE BOARD REPORTS
NEW MEMBER
RECRUITMENT SUCCESS

AT ITS JANUARY 2011 MEETING THE STATE BOARD OF DIRECTORS LEARNED THAT NEW MEMBER RECRUITING EFFORTS HAVE REDUCED MEMBERSHIP LOSSES FROM NEARLY 5% IN PREVIOUS YEARS TO ABOUT 2.5% IN 2010.

BRANCH LEADERS IN 2010 WERE CHALLENGED TO RECRUIT NEW MEMBERS AT THE RATE OF 10% OF BRANCH MEMBERSHIP. THE LEADERS IN 88 BRANCHES RESPONDED. THEY EXCEEDED THE CHALLENGE AND RECRUITED AT THE RATE OF 13.2%.

THESE BRANCH LEADERS INDUCTED 1,587 NEW MEMBERS.

THESE BRANCH LEADERS REPORT THAT THEY HAVE ATTRACTIVE BRANCHES WITH ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS OF INTEREST TO THEIR MEMBERS.

THEY REPORT THAT MODERN RETIREES ARE JOINERS ONCE THEY SEE OPPORTUNITIES FOR PARTICIPATING IN THESE ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS AND FOR SOCIALIZING WITH OTHER RETIRED MEN.

**BRING A FRIEND TO LUNCH,
SPONSOR A NEW MEMBER**

February Birthdays

Donald H. Sweet 2/2
Paul C. Pickert 2/7
John J. Geibel 2/12
Joseph W. Ames 2/16
Russell C. Currier 2/22
Hwang Huang 2/22
Sheldon D. Sicotte 2/22
Kamel I. Totah 2/22
Alvin H. Soderquist 2/23
Theodore W. Hinshaw 2/23
Lawrence A. Langston 2/28

Minutes of the Meeting of the Executive Board

January 26, 2011

- The meeting was called to order at 10:05 a.m.
- A quorum was present, with 12 in attendance. Those attending were : Paul Butler- Membership, Ray Odell- Attendance, Al Stratz- Little Sir, Ken Liddicot-Director, Fred Van Kirk-Board Member, Wayne Richler-Assistant Secretary and Assistant Golf Chair, Howard Trudeau-Big Sir, Kamal Totah-Golf Chair, Don Harryman-Treasurer, Art Kraemer-Assistant Treasurer, Art Schmid-Secretary, and Ted Hinshaw-Guest
- The Minutes of the November 17, 2010 Meeting were approved. Ray Odell asked that he be sent a copy of future meeting minutes.
- Big Sir Report-Howard Trudeau: Among his comments are the following:
 - A new roster will be completed shortly for year 2011.
 - Chairmen are needed for the BBQ and the holiday party in December.
 - The luncheon price will continue to be \$20 for this year.
 - The 2011 Branch 5 meeting

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dates were presented, and a copy is attached. It was decided that the December Holiday Party should be on Dec.14 if Michaels can accommodate us. Howard Trudeau will contact them.

F. The Form 27 report for year 2010. was reviewed.

G. The average age of the members of our branch is 80.3 years

5. The Treasurer's report was given by Don Harryman, and a copy is attached. We are financially healthy and currently have a cash balance of \$5406.92. Ray Odell said that a budget for the year is forthcoming.

6. Little Sir-Al Stratz. Al suggests we have a speakers committee of about 3 people who will solicit future meeting topics. Fred Van Kirk volunteered to be on the committee.

7. Membership-Paul Butler. A detailed written report was presented and a copy is attached. Through December our membership was 98, which includes 6 new members. For 2011, our new member goal is 10, Two new members, Robert Carter and David Spaulding will be inducted today. It was reported that Elias Botto, George Brown, Phil Craner, George Hosfield, and George Omran have resigned. Gordon Miller passed away and sympathy cards were sent to his wife. Our end of January membership is 95.

8. Attendance Report-Ray Odell. A detailed report was given and a copy is attached. During the year, luncheon attendance ranged from 44 to 57. Our goal is to get 70% of the active members to attend. Members who have not been attending meetings were discussed. A screening of the membership was suggested, since we pay \$4 per active member per year to the State Organization, and shouldn't be paying for members who do not participate.

9. Golf-Kamal Totah. A golf report was provided and a copy is attached. This includes the golf schedule for

2011 which was approved by the passing of a related motion.

10. Past Big SIR Ted Hinshaw provided information on members on his call list who are seriously ill, or cannot attend meetings.

11. There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Art Schmid
Secretary

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**GOLF**  
**January**  
Sunnyvale 1-6

|                |            |      |
|----------------|------------|------|
| Ben Guess      | 92 net 74  | cttp |
| Naim Nazzal    | 97 net 76  | cttp |
| Ed Nazzal      | 98 net 77  |      |
| Howard Trudeau | 117 net 88 |      |
| Fred Van Kirk  | 125 net 89 |      |
| Azmi Habib     | 127 net 91 |      |

Los Lagos 1-27

|               |            |      |
|---------------|------------|------|
| Naim Nazzal   | 84 net 64  |      |
| Jim Stevens   | 94 net 69  | cttp |
| Jiries Nazzal | 101 net 74 |      |
| Jere Austin   | cttp       |      |

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CompuSIR
Chairman,
Jim Dinkey, Branch 35

650-493-9307
jimdinkey@jimdinkey.com
2nd Wednesdays, February 9, 2011,
12:30 p.m.
Location - Palo Alto Elks Lodge,
4249 El Camino Real,
Palo Alto, CA 94306.
Speaker - **Laurie Burruss, Director of Education, Lynda.com.**
Topic - An Online Training Library For The Love Of Learning The Online Video Training Library contains over 900 technology-learning courses and over 50,000 individual movies. Laurie Burruss will present an overview of the library and its technological advances and features. She will also speak about "power users" in the library, discuss using it for online learning and show

some "best practices" that literally transform individual learning experiences

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**TRAVEL NEWS**  
**FOR AREA 16,**  
**BRANCHES 5, 35,**  
**& 51**

Still looking for a travel chairman. See BIG SIR.

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Bowling
BRANCHES 5, 35,
& 51

ART ENGLAND 650-948-5828
Anm_Eng@att.net
Assistant: Bob Taggart
Prizes: Roy Robison
EVERY TUESDAY –
HOMESTEAD LANES,
HOMESTEAD AND STELLING,
SUNNYVALE.

Play starts at 1pm - Practice lanes available at 12:50 pm. Join us for the Winter/Spring Tournament. We bowl on a handicap system, so all bowlers have an equal chance winning the team and individual prizes. Each season, teams are revised and always have a cross section of bowlers by ability. If you're new, it's easier if you call Art in advance so we will be prepared.

Tournament High Scores through Jan. 11:

- Highest "3 game series":
John Synder: 506
Tim Eastham: 501
Chuck Huff: 487
- Highest game:
Bill Nye: 191
Jeff Grundy: 179
Bob Taggart: 169
- Highest handicap "3 game series":
Alan Gaudie: 633
Bill Webster: 613
Fred Schwalbach 605

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Highest handicap game:

Jerry Ososkie: 241

Roy Robinson: 229

Roger Anderson: 223

Bowler is listed only once above, and in the category where he has the highest ranking.

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### Biking

## **Karl Reseck**

[karl.reseck@stanfordalumni.org](mailto:karl.reseck@stanfordalumni.org)

650-941-8837

2<sup>Nd</sup> Thursday — Feb 10, 2011, 11:00 AM

Wives and guests welcome Rain cancels; Helmet required

Coyote Hills-- Alameda Creek -- Niles/Fremont

Ride: We will begin the ride at the Coyote Hills Park and continue on the Alameda Trail to Niles where will have lunch at a restaurant in downtown Niles. The ride is flat and approximately 9 miles each way, with an optional loop with a scenic view of the bay that adds about one mile (a total ride of 19 miles).

Directions: Take highway 84 across the Dumbarton Bridge past the toll booth to the first exit, which is Paseo Padre Parkway. Turn left and go one mile to Paterson Ranch road; turn left. This is the entrance to Coyote Hills Park (there is a small sign). Go 1/2 mile to the toll booth (\$5 per car or use your East Bay Regional Park District season pass). Continue another 1/2 mile over several speed bumps to the park office and museum; park there.

If you plan to ride or have questions please contact Karl as per above.

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RESPONSIBILITY DECLARATION

All activities arranged for or by, or sponsored by, Sons In Retirement, Incorporated, and its Branches, are for the convenience and pleasure of the members and their guests who desire to participate. Son In Retirement, Incorporated and its Branches do not assume responsibility for the well being or safety of the participants or their property, in any matters.

-2011-

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Region Director: John Mason JBMASON832@COMCAST.NET (650) 948-5442
Area 16 Governor: Stanley Barkey stan@stanbarkey.com (408) 996-3133

**SONS IN RETIREMENT
INCORPORATED
SOUTHERN PENINSULA
BRANCH 5**
Howard Trudeau Big Sir
Al Stratz, Little Sir
Editor: Les Spring
4retselgni@sbcglobal.net

ATTENDANCE
Raymond Odell
(650) 366-7827

Fred Van Kirk
534 Torwood Court
Los Altos, CA 94022-2155

**PLACE
STAMP
HERE**
