

Sons in Retirement



Volume 22 Issue 2

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

February, 2009

Big SIR sez:

President's Letter

Instead of the usual commentary from yours truly this month, I'd like to share with the membership a letter from David M. Reiser, President of SIR Inc. to all branch officers and members as follows:

“At our January State Board Meeting we approved a program entitled LEADERSHIP ACTION PLAN (LAP). This program did not materialize out of thin air. It came about because we have dedicated, concerned members, who put in countless hours of research which produced statistics, charts, and graphs which gave us for the first time the reason some of our Branches are failing. It also gave us the reason some Branches are successful.

The LAP was approved by the State Board as a voluntary program of the Branch. They do not have to participate if they do not want to. I would, however, encourage Branches to take advantage of a very generous offer by some committee members who have agreed to help participating Branches. They will help gather information that will assess the

health of the Branch. Based on that information, there will be recommendations to help the Branch maintain and grow their membership. The Committee will be able to give the Branch an honest evaluation. It does not matter whether the Branch is large, or small. Every Branch is important, and our goal is to help all Branches in any way we can. More detailed information will be forthcoming very shortly.

Lunch, **Menu for 2/25**

Salads:
Spinach, Caesar,
Antipasto,
Black Bean and Corn

Hot:
Chicken and Sausage Jambalaya,
Beef Stroganoff,
Roasted Potatoes and Veggies

Dessert: Bread Pudding

You will notice that I included Members in my salutation. In the final analysis Members (with a capital M) are the key to eventual success.

Best wishes for a successful year.

SinSIRly,

/s/ David M. Reiser”

I will keep the membership apprised of subsequent correspondence in regard to this, and I, along with the BEC, will appreciate your feedback. Looking forward to seeing you on the 25th.

Ted Hinshaw

Big SIR

SPEAKER

The New Airport in San José
Mineta San José International Airport is beginning the next major phase of construction this month to improve customer service, convenience, and competitiveness for business and leisure travelers.

The \$1.3 billion terminal improvement plan ultimately will replace Terminal C, originally opened in 1965, with a new Terminal B. It will also provide enhanced customer amenities and operational capability at Terminal A. In addition, the project includes a new 3400-space garage for the public and rental cars, and improved traffic circulation. The New Airport is scheduled to open in 2010.

Rich Dressler is the Airport's Community Liaison to surrounding cities, businesses and related public organizations. Mr. Dressler has 25 years of experience in the public and private sectors. He has an extensive background in municipal government, serving as a Recreation Supervisor for several Bay Area cities, designing and implementing community-wide recreation programs for both youths and adults. Most recently, he served as Marketing Manager for the Santa Cruz Beach Boardwalk, administering that the park's promotional, advertising and public relations campaigns. Mr. Dressler received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Public Administration from San José State University. He joined the Airport's Business Development and Community Outreach Division in 1999.

The topics that we will focus on in the presentation will include:

- 1) Quick overview of the Airport Improvement Program (AIP)
- 2) Goals and Customer Service benefits of the AIP
- 3) Upcoming changes to the Airport's layout and how this will affect customers

The goal of the presentation is to introduce our members to the "New Airport" and to give them a clear understanding of the AIP and construction process. We would like to leave those attending the meeting with an idea of what to expect the next time they visit the airport.

Attendance Report

Attendance Report
January 28

We have established a new record but it's not necessarily one to feel good about. Attendance at the January meeting was 60 members plus one guest. That is the lowest ever. It's sad to see how far we have fallen when you can look back not too many years ago when we had over 300 members at a luncheon. Of course we had many more members then so what does that tell us.

We need more members and we need more members attend our luncheons. Accordingly, I hope to see you at the next luncheon on February 25.

Ray Odell
Attendance Chairman

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Membership

In Memory of: Paul Ford, Emil Ozimec

New Members: membership pending – (Mr. Dennis Boilard, Badge #3)

Membership Changes:
George Knapp, Badge #40, Carl Oldenburg, Badge #68, Charles Russ, Badge #10, Robert C. Werner, Badge #7, Roger Martin, Badge #43, have resigned.

Membership Status:
Active: _____ 114
Waiting: _____ none
Inactive: _____ 10 (2

no Bulletin)
Widows on mailing list: _3

Current Mailing List: 152: 93 by email and 59 by US mail.

Member Record Updates:
None

Al Stratz
Membership Chairman
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March Birthdays

Robert H Carlstead 3/12
Don Harryman 3/15
George H. Hassfell 3/04
Robert V. Mesh 3/16
Raman W. Stultz 3/11

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Minutes of the Meeting of the Executive Board

January 28

None Received

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GOLF

January

None Received

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CompuSIR Chairman, Jim Dinkey, Branch 35

The CompuSIR group meets the second Wednesday of each month at noon for a brown bag lunch at the Los Altos Legion Hall ,

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347 First Street, Los Altos. The following speakers are currently scheduled:

Feb 11th – BILL YOUNG on building your own Basic computer.

Mar 11th – ROBERT ACKERMAN of the SETI institute will discuss engineering aspects of the Allen Array and discuss what it takes to search the heavens for signs of intelligent life.

April 8th – LARRY TEMPLETON – Build your own high-end media home entertainment computer

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

Apr 9 – 23, 2009 15 Days  
**EASTERN MED CRUISE** on NCL's JADE  
\$3304 – 4107pp  
dbl

**SOLD OUT**

Escort: Joe Ames 408-736  
**Round Trip from BARCELONA – 5 PORTS + EGYPT (SIGNUP NOW! GREAT TRIP WILL FILL UP.**

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Sep 22 – Oct 1, 2009 10 Days
SHADES of IRELAND (Kiss the Blarney Stone & More!) \$3299pp dbl Escort: Joe Ames 408-736-8387

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Oct 12 – 23, 2009 12 Days  
**MEXICAN RIVIERA**

**CRUISE (Round Trip from San Francisco)** \$1175 – 1804pp dbl Escort: Joe Ames 408-736-8387

**NEW!! Optional shore trip to COPPER CANYON**

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Aug 28 – Sep 7, **2010** 11 Days
PASSION PLAY in OBERAMMERGAU & GERMAN HI-LIGHTS \$4795pp dbl (Note Price Increase)
Escort: Talbot Tours 408-879-0101 **\$200 Refundable Reservation Deposit!**

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**Canceled –DANUBE CRUISE – Is NOT being offered in 2009**  
Call the Escorts for Complete Information and Reservations for the trips.  
(See Flyers for details)

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Bowling
BRANCHES 5, 35,
& 51

We Bowl Every Thursday.
Come Join Us: Palo Alto Bowl
4329 El Camino Real,
Palo Alto, Practice at 12:45,
Bowl at 1:00

George E. Falkenthal
cloxdoc@aol.com
(650) 493-8401

There were no 200 games this month.

The one 500 series went to Tim Eastham.

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**Biking**

**Jerry Butler – (650)494-8078**  
[GXB366@aol.com](mailto:GXB366@aol.com)

**2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday — Feb 12, 2009, 11:00 AM**  
**Wives ands 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 show your East Bay Regional Park District season pass). Continue another 1/2 miles over several speed bumps to the park office and museum; park there.  
If you plan to ride send an email “reply” or contact me or Tom Gregory, 650-493-8894, [tgreg@surf.free.com](mailto:tgreg@surf.free.com)

**FUTURE RIDES**

March 12 Stevens Creek - Shoreline Park  
April 9 Foster City  
May 14 Los Gatos Creek

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- June 11 Coyote Creek (so. San Jose)
- July 9 Alameda Creek – Coyote Hills
- August 13 Stevens Creek – Shoreline Park
- September 10 Foster City
- October 8 Los Gatos Creek
- November 12 Coyote Creek (So. San Jose)

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**Special Notice**

The February edition of SIR Happenings has just been posted on the SIR website:

<http://sirinc.org/sirhappenings/>

I also want to call your attention to an arti-

cle on the front page describing the new Leadership Action Plan to address our membership crisis. On pages 2 and 3, we have started a series of articles called “Great Ideas That Work.” Here you will find some good ideas on ways to recruit new members.

Don MacGregor  
Editor, SIR Happenings

**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.

-2009-

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Area 16 Governor: Stanley Barkey (408) 996-3137

**SONS IN RETIREMENT  
INCORPORATED  
SOUTHERN PENINSULA  
BRANCH 5**

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Ken Christie, Little Sir  
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**PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE**

