

SIR Branch 13 Branch Executive Committee meeting minutes, November 21st, Catta Verdera

Meeting called to order by Big Sir Jay James, 10:05AM

Attendees: Big Sir Jay James, Little Sir Tom Mack, Secretary Leonard Kaufer, Treasurer George Hubbard, Membership Chair Phil Sanderson, Database Manager Chuck Deitz, Director Bob Hebson, Webmaster and Director-elect Jay Southard, Little Sir-elect Jim Parker, Secretary-elect Phil Browning

Secretary's report: The minutes from the October meeting were approved.

Treasurer's report: The starting balance was \$4051 and the ending balance was \$3936. The treasurer's report was approved.

The treasurer made a suggestion for the branch to subsidize \$10 of the cost of the holiday luncheon. With current attendance levels this will likely amount to \$400-\$600. Sir Jay S. requested that the subsidy be announced at the November luncheon so no one would get the false impression that they could expect similar quality meals going forward. It needed to be clear they were getting a \$40 meal for only \$30 due to the action of the BEC. A motion was made, seconded, and carried to charge only \$30 for the December luncheon with the branch treasury making up the difference.

The Big Sir Report: Sir Jay J. acknowledged the BEC-elect members in attendance and thanked them for stepping up to support the branch. He also thanked those BEC members whose terms were ending with the turn of the year.

The branch ordered 42 lunches from Catta Verdera for November. One of the members who did not respond "yes" to the lunch survey changed his mind after the cutoff date. He called several members of the BEC and also directly called Catta Verdera. Catta Verdera added him to the order bringing the lunch order up to 43. This otherwise trivial event did raise some questions: 1) How firm is Catta Verdera's cutoff date for receiving our headcount? 2) Given there are always a couple no-shows, could the branch be charged for 42 or 43 lunches? The Big Sir may want to follow up on these questions with Catta Verdera.

Sir Jay S. reminded everyone that December's luncheon is not considered an official monthly meeting. It does not count towards the 50% attendance requirement. He suggested that we should not conduct formal branch business during the luncheon. There should be no call to order or new member inductions. All of the other luncheon activities - raffle, heads/tails, birthdays, etc., can be conducted at the discretion of the Big Sir. The raffle, in particular, is expressly **not** a part of the formal meeting anyway.

**DECEMBER BEC MEETING WILL BE AT RALEY'S ON MONDAY,
DECEMBER 18th, AT 10:00AM.**

Membership: The branch has 68 members, down one due to the death of Sir Bob Moore. No new members for the month. However, numerous candidates contacted Sir Phil S. during the month and several were expected to fill out applications. One was expected to attend today's luncheon. (Secretary's note: The guest did indeed attend. He was a prior member from a branch that had closed. He did fill out an application.)

The BEC was reminded that it is the policy of SIR that a guest receives a free lunch the first time they attend.

Webmaster report: The website was up to date except for the posting of the October minutes, since they were only published hours before the BEC meeting. The website did include memorial information for Sir Bob Moore. There is also a notice about the Branch 98 holiday dinner.

Database Report: The database shows 68 members. Sir George asked that the BEC meeting include a report on the actual luncheon attendance numbers. He is already reporting these to the state on Form 27. For October there were 36 paid lunches, 3 free lunches, and 3 no-shows. He is typically able to collect for the no-shows. In the case of persistent non-payment of a no-show, he lets the issue go. The BEC is fine with this. Between Sir George and Sir Jay S. there is enough information to alert the BEC should anyone be a persistent no-show, no-pay member.

Old Business: Sir Leonard had suggested at October's meeting that the BEC consider eliminating the need for members, guests, and speakers to sign the state liability waiver that was introduced during the COVID era. After some discussion which included the point that the state does not require the waiver, a motion was made, seconded, and carried to eliminate the need for the waiver. There was one vote in opposition.

New Business: None.

Meeting Adjourned: 10:40AM