

The first meeting of BRANCH 142 was held August 6, 1987, with fifty-one charter members attending. CH indicates charter member in the roster. We received our charter February 4, 1988.

SONS IN RETIREMENT, INC., HISTORY. Realizing the social nature of man and the desire for the company of others, particularly those retired from gainful employment, the late Damian L. Reynolds conceived the idea of Sons in Retirement in the spring of 1958.

Mr. Reynolds met with three old friends, Messrs Claus Hink, Lorenz Hansen and Wallace Plummer. He outlined his idea and suggested that they join him in activating it. A kickoff meeting was held in San Mateo on July 23, 1958. This was the first meeting of the present Branch No.1.

At a second meeting August 20, 1958, eighteen presents, the name SONS IN RETIREMENT was chosen as most retired men desire some activity. The chosen name seemed to give dignity to retirement.

Rules and Procedures drawn up at the time of incorporation in 1959 set forth the basic guidelines. These have been revised from time to time. Basic principles were:

1. It was to be a luncheon club composed of men retired from gainful employment.
2. There were to be no dues, initiation fees or assessments other than voluntary contributions at each luncheon to cover expenses. (Dues are now allowed. This was changed at the state level because of increased costs of general expenses such as insurance.)
3. The organization would embrace no political party, religion, or sect of any kind.
4. Eligible men would be invited to join after attending one luncheon and being introduced by a member sponsor.
5. The Club would meet monthly for lunch at the member's expense, and a program would become part of each luncheon.

The growth of SIR Inc. has been phenomenal. From a single branch with nine members in 1958, it has expanded to 168 branches with approximately 26,005 members, all in California. There are eight regions which are divided into areas. Region 4, the S. F. Peninsula, is part of Area 13. Included are Branches 1, 4, 5, 35, 16, 35, 51 and 142.

The Corporation's copyrighted emblem is the ROOSTER. Quoting Mr. Reynolds: *"Of all the creatures on earth, none expresses more independence and dignity with more sureness and aplomb than the ROOSTER. The majesty of his presence is felt in every barnyard and when he crows, he can be heard for miles, not a fainthearted crow, but with a noise that calls attention to his majestic being."*

This, together with the slogan, "**PROMOTING THE INDEPENDENCE AND DIGNITY OF RETIREMENT**" sums up the feelings of accomplishment and meaning of Sons In Retirement.

MEMBERSHIP: SIR Incorporated welcomes into membership, men of good character who have retired or are semi-retired, from gainful employment and who are recommended and sponsored by a member in good standing.

Application for membership will be accepted after the applicant has attended one or more meetings as a guest.

The monthly luncheon is usually held on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at noon. The Branch Executive Committee and the Committee Chairmen meet at 10 AM. *Members are invited to attend.* The social hour starts at 11 AM. Members in good standing who have paid their annual dues of \$60.00 are to bring their badges to the meeting to show the Attendance Chairman/Staff.

NOTE: Attendance records are based on badges shown to the Attendance Chairman upon entrance to the luncheon meeting. Please wear your badge during the meeting. Seat reservation cards are the only legal means of saving a seat at a table. Scraps of paper or business cards are not valid and may be replaced with the formal reservation card.

We welcome guests whom you wish to propose for membership. The Attendance Chairman will provide a guest badge and a reservation card. Applications for membership will be available at the check-in desk. Allow your guest to observe our meeting and let the branch sell itself. If he wishes to join the following meeting, he will so indicate.

Every effort is made to close the meeting at 1:30 PM. But if we run over, please be considerate and courteous to the speaker and, if possible, remain until the end of the meeting.

FINANCES: The annual dues for membership in Branch 142 is \$60.00. If dues are not paid by February first, the member will be notified once. If there is no response the member will be dropped from the branch. The dues are used for various expenses incurred by the branch such as printing costs, mailings, badges, lunches for our guest speakers, special awards, and assessments by the State Central Committee for insurance. For new member joining the branch after January the dues are pro-rated (reduced) by \$5.00 for every month that has passed in the current year. For example, if a new member joins in February, his dues assessment for the current year is \$55.00. The following year his Dues will be \$60.00.

PARTICIPATION: Membership is worth only as much as the member contributes to the success of the organization. Many committees need your help, volunteer your services--mention your interest to the BIG SIR.

Your officers make every effort to please you and to make the meetings worthwhile. Your comments and suggestions are always welcomed. If there is something you would like changed or added, please see a committee chairman or attend the Executive meeting. Above all, enjoy yourself and your fellow members.

FELLOWSHIP: Make yourself at home at the meetings. Visit with your old friends and introduce yourself to some new friends, especially the new members. Participate in the many activities, many of which are area wide. A listing is usually shown in the bulletin and the branch is usually receptive to any new interests.

HONORARY LIFE MEMBERSHIP: An award confirmed by the SIR State Board of Directors on a member who has shown outstanding and exceptional service to his branch in the furtherance of the purposes and objectives of Sons In Retirement. . Honorary Life Members are not required to pay dues.

HALL OF FAME: An award conferred by Branch #142 on those members who have served in many capacities and provided outstanding leadership or performance in the roles in which they were either elected, appointed, assigned, or volunteered.

Its purpose is to recognize the unselfish dedication and service of those members of Branch #142 who could not be included on the Honorary Life Membership list. A maximum of twelve members can be in the Hall of Fame at any one time.

SPONSOR OF THE YEAR: An award conferred by Branch #142 on a member who recruited the most new members during a calendar year.

ATTENDANCE RULES:

RULE 60: Members are obligated to attend all regular luncheon meetings unless prevented by illness or absence from the branch locale.

RULE 100: A member may be notified in writing by the branch of the pending termination of his membership.

RULE 101: Certification of attendance by a member at another branch meeting will be considered as a credit to his attendance record. Individual branches may limit the number of make-ups during a twelve-month period.

RULE 102: Attendance by a state elected or appointed officer; state advisor or state committeeman at a meeting of a state standing committee or a meeting required by the by-laws or standing Rules, shall be a credit to his requirements. The attendance by any other member at such a meeting may likewise be so credited by the Branch Executive Committee.

RULE 345: NON-RESPONSIBILITY DECLARATION RULE

All travel events and other activities sponsored by SONS IN RETIREMENT, INCORPORATED or its branches, are for the convenience and pleasure of the members and their guests who desire to participate. SONS IN RETIREMENT, INCORPORATED and its branches do not assume any responsibility for the well being or safety of the participants or passengers, or their property or any damages whatsoever, in any manner pertaining to said travel activities.