

SIR Article for LOP News March 2014

Sons in Retirement (SIR)



By Phil Frank

We marched right through January and February, (so little mud or snow to slow our go). So, please forgive me if I muse for a moisturized March. We'll need loads of liquid to float the boat (the USS Hornet of World War II fame) of our next speaker. CDR Richard Nowatzki, USN Retired, was onboard when the Doolittle Raiders took off for their Tokyo attack. Make sure that you are there (Magnolia Pointe Grille, Wednesday, March 5th) when he tells us all the rest of the story! (Bring some scrip to buy his book.)

At our last meeting, spurred by Big SIR Dick Green's energetic expansion program, Membership Chairman Phil Jones introduced four new members, raising our ranks to 106. In alphabetical disorder, they are Robert Reeder, Horst Bendzella, Richard Keith and Coy Powell. But, no matter how you spell it, weir rilly glad thay joynd r groop!

Our Golf "Pro" Rod Corvington and "Co-Pro" Chuck Mercer forecast an enhanced golf schedule for SIRs in Area 33. Combining our tournaments with other branches, avid hackers will soon have two chances per month to compete with others in the area. Plus, niners' skill will be tested on frequent Fridays at Black Oak. If you don't get a detail email, call Rod at 274-8125.

Hearing from Health Committee Chairman Ed O'Reilly that SIR Hal Garrett is recuperating from heart surgery filled us with mixed emotions...sad he had to; glad he's on the mend. Heartfelt wishes for your quickest recovery, Hal.

You must have heard the drone groans when Bob Chan told us he couldn't take our money right away for his long awaited Beale Air Force Base Tour on March 27. But, he promised to let us know the logistics, soon. I'll bet it's all set, as you read.

Our scheduled Speaker, LOP General Manager Fred Dean-Turner, was called away, but his shoes were amply filled by Operations Manager Eric Post. We nominated him for the SIR Choice Award for Best Slide Show Presentation of LOP's "Ten Years of Progress". Replete with great shots of design, demolition, rebuilding and openings of the Swimming Pool, Sports Lounge and Club House, his grand tour of our improvements was accompanied by a manager's-eye view of charts and graphs, showing us just how things were planned, managed and paid for. Yes, boys, that's where your well-managed money goes! Well done, Fred and Eric!

Eric returned the awards favor by drawing tickets for Free Lunch Winners Robert Reeder, (a February Birthday Boy and a hungry New Member) and Jim Goetsch, (just plain lucky). Make sure *your* ticket is in the hat on the 5th!