

SIR Article for LOP News April 2014

## Sons in Retirement (SIR)



By Phil Frank

ALL MILITARY INVITED! On the second Monday of each month we will have a military MBS (Military Bull Session) at the Clubhouse Happy Hour 1600-1800. This is an informal get-together. Anyone with any military service is welcome! In February, for the first one, we had a good turnout of four services. Attendees were Elmer Curtis, Terry Eberhardt, Bill Hagin, John McMahan, Ken Shannon, Ron Trimble and Commander in Chief Dick Green. We're sure that the Marines missing in action will make it up at future events. The Sons In Retirement started this, but all military in LOP are invited, regardless of experience, age, or gender!

Boy, you'd be hard pressed to top last month's luncheon speaker! We could almost see his head and shoulders above the podium, and almost hear his LOP PA-system-muffled voice, but we hung on his every word as we relived with him the experiences of a bright, eager young patriot headed out to sea to defend his country. Now LCdr. Richard Nowatzki, USN(ret), he really lived up to his advanced billing, speaking of his experiences on the USS Hornet and way places. He didn't look his full 91 years, so you'd never think he was remembering and vividly describing 72 year old events. But as, with wit and humor, his arms and hands flew, we "saw" Jimmy Doolittle's 16 B25's take off from the Hornet's deck. Later, as Japanese dive bombers, bullets and torpedoes hurtled toward us, we abandoned our sinking ship and were plucked out of the sea to fight, and win, another day!

So, we'll be back, on April 2, to hear other exciting tales from another sterling speaker, Chuck Stoker, who was raised on Alcatraz! Right!

Remember that photo, in the March article, of Big SIR Dick Green presenting our "First volunteer" certificate to Jim Wilkinson? I forgot to tell you what a fine example of get-up-and-go and do-something-for-our-cause Jim showed us. You can win one, too. Just bring in some new members. Or, you would-be members call Membership Chairman Phil Jones at 268-7714. He'll greet you with open ears, just like he did New Member David Taylor.

Despite my wrong-date announcement last month, Bob Chan shepherded his flock, on March 7, to a great tour of Beale Air Force Base. No fly-by-night operation that...everyone had their eyes wide open!

Golf Chairmen Rod Corvington and Chuck Mercer stepped up to the tee to tell us that your next SIR Tournament will be at Lake Wildwood, April 23 and Woodcreek, April 28. If you can drive that far ahead, hit the Black Oak on May 9.

Fortunately for you, this article reaches you only once a month. But, you can keep yourself informed about membership and golf, heck, all our activities, anytime you like, by following Info Tech Gary Resnick's advice...address <http://branch170.sirinc2.org/>. Do it soon!