

## Sons in Retirement (SIR)



By Phil Frank

### NEWS FLASH!

New 2016 Officers: Big SIR Ron Wolyn, Little SIR Jim Goetsch, Secretary Hal Hawthorne, Asst. Secretary Peter Kenyon, Treasurer Pat Graham, Asst. Treasurer Dave Rosseau, Membership Chairman Phil Jones, Asst. Membership Chairman Randy Friesen; Directors: Bill Andre, Elmer Curtis, Terry Eberhardt, Paul Lambert, Roger Pope, Gary Resnick. We had fun pickin' 'em...now you have fun spottin' 'em in the Rogues' Gallery. Clue: three were not present when our phabulous photographer, Larry Shelley shot 'em, and they are slightly out of order. But, surely you will agree, they certainly seem SIRly.

New Member Michael Cronan was inducted by his brother-in-law SIR Bud Abbott, at our November meeting. Membership Chairman Phil Jones was so busy tallying our 127 members, that he let Bud do the honors.

Newer members next year? Maybe the four free-lunch guests who peeked in on us: AJ Affleck, Tom Duggan, Harold Hilliard and Art Kusnick.

News of our golf team's prowess at the October 19 tournament we sponsored at Dark Horse was announced by Ron Wolyn. I-Ron-ically, he was not one of the seven or so winners who lugged home loot. But, wasn't he won-derful, leaving wealth for the others?

Grew curious about the doings of Bob Chan's Bocce Ballers, did you? Your interest will now be well rewarded. SIR Branch 170 entered 2 teams, of 4 players each, at the Area 33 BB Tournament at the Penn Valley Parkway Courts back on the 29<sup>th</sup> of October. There were 6 teams participating in the event. One of our teams came in 2<sup>nd</sup> place, winning \$80. The top notch tossers were Andy Ameigeiras, Bob Chan, Don Clausnitzer and Jim Shiro. They won 4 out of 5 matches. Our team has been invited to play in the Regional Tournament in Stockton on November 2<sup>nd</sup>. Bravo boys! Now, the rest of us can get up and join our sportsmen with confidence that we'll have great mentors to emulate and celebrate.

You gnu the wild animal subjects of our November speaker would be great. World renowned artist and sculptor Doug Van Howd and his able assistant Tracie Van Wicklin took us orally and visually on his 49<sup>th</sup> trip to his favorite wild animal sanctuary in Tanzania. There we saw the elephants, rhinos, tigers, zebras and eagles that have inspired his sculptures, and we heard about the poaching that is decimating their ranks. On the way back to his famous foundry, near the Auburn Airport and The Ridge Golf Course, we stopped at the White House, where he was President Reagan's artist and buddy, creating gifts for the Queen of the Netherlands. Other subjects and buddies were John Wayne, Bud Anderson and his Old Crow P-51. You can be one too, if you accept his invitation to visit his studio.

Rued with heavy heart is the passing of Chuck Mercer's wife, Rene, We're led by Ron Trimble in condolences to Chuck. But, Ron also reports the return to our "Healthy List" of Big SIR Elmer Curtis, Frank Nole & Roger Pope. Happily, too, two wives who we hope are once again well are Peggy Brewer and Janice Lambert. Your well-wishes during their infirmities must have helped. Did you donate blood at Sunshine Ron's 11/11 drive? Thanks, and don't miss his next.

Crew Work on Halloween: 90 guards effected zero damage to the golf course by patrolling and controlling under the direction of Crew Chief Jim Wilkinson. He praises SIR and Pinesmen alike.

Reviewing our 12/2 Christmas Dinner Dance will have to wait 'til next month. It will be memorable!

Chewing free lunches along with us Wednesday, Jan 6<sup>th</sup> will be Frank Nole and Al Gustavson. Be Merry!