

Sons in Retirement

(SIR)

By Phil Frank

On the first Wednesday of every month the Sports Lounge is invaded by SIR Branch 170. (Oops, that's my first misstatement. I can't wait 'til I can say "...the Club House is invaded...". Thank gosh, it won't be long, now.) Well, I'd like to give you an insider look at how our invasion, wherever, happens.

First, the Meeting Room is populated by the anointed people who compromise, oops, comprise the Board Executive Committee. Big SIR, Paul Lambert calls the rowdies to order at 10:45, and sets in motion the neatest agenda you've ever seen. He gets reports from Secretary Bob Chan, or his assistant, Lynden Laird, Treasurer Dave Rosseau or Asst. Doug Wilson, Little SIR Glenn Delisle (best speaker recruiter in LOP), Membership Chairman Phil Jones (if you're not a member, he's awaiting your call: 268-7714), Bulletin Blogger Rich Hibbs, LOP News Correspondent Phil Frank, (who's he?), CH7/Pines Times Liaison John O'Halloran, Info Tech/Website Manager Gary Resnick, Food Chairman Roger (Yum Yum) Pope, Golf Chairman Rod Corvington and his ex-officio, Chuck Mercer, Peripatetic Travel Advisor Hal Wallace, Health "Nurse" Ed O'Reilly, and Clothing Haberdasher Glenn Delisle (again!).

Then, Paul pulls out any old business to wrap up, and proposes nifty new business for us all to ponder, including "Anything for the Good of the Order". With that much teamwork accomplished by 11:30, we're really ready to stagger into the meal hall, mingle with the rest of our 101 +/- member friends, and savor some of Chef Dave's fine food. And then the conviviality really begins. You hear guys catching up on each other's aches and pains, their golfing, fishing, hot-rodding and/or social exploits. You name it, there's nothing "retiring" about our get-togethers when the gang's all there!

Notwithstanding the excellence of Dave's Desserts, the piece de resistance du jour is always the presentation of Little SIR Glenn's speaker of the month. February's was a TOPPER! Octogenarian Col. Clarence E. "Bud" Anderson, USAF Retired, had us agog and enthralled by his commentary and videos of his 26 medal winning exploits as a World War II Triple Ace and veteran military test pilot. He is retired now and resides in Auburn. He has co-authored the book "To Fly & Fight", which has been acclaimed by the Historian of the Air Force as "the finest pilot memories of WW II". Listening to his exploits was so entertaining that no one left early. When we finally did, with memories of one of the finest presentations we've had, many of us headed for a book store. (Oops, we stuck around for the two Free Lunch Drawings, too!)

With good times like this every month, how can you not join us at our next meeting on Wednesday, April 3? I know you'll SIRtainly enjoy it!