

## Sons in Retirement

(SIR)

By Phil Frank

Boys, I'm sure glad you don't take my word as gospel. If you had followed my last month's tag line..."See you at the CLUBHOUSE!"...you'd have missed our last great meeting at the SPORTS LOUNGE. Well, the best laid plans of Roosters and LOPers sometimes go awry. But, I'm impressed by how we all were somehow guided to land at the right place at the right time...just like drones homing in on Beale Air Force Base. You all seemed to be determined not to miss our neighbor LOPer, Dennis Kocher, reveal what he has in store for us when we sign up for his tour of that very special place on October 3<sup>rd</sup>. He tantalized us with photos of a U-2 Dragon Lady spy plane and an RQ-4 Global Hawk drone that will be awaiting our cameras-in-hand inspection. There'll be a bus ride around the base to and from venues for MT-12s, K-9 dog training, photo reconnaissance, piloting onboard and remote control, flight control tower ups and downs, and a tour of the Museum of the Forgotten Warrior. They'll even serve us lunch, but I'll wager nary a sole will be fed up with this tour! Our Rooster of All Trades, Bob Chan, (268-8606), is our drone pilot for sign-ups. Call him quick. I hope you're not too late.

Under another of Bob's caps, he has Capored, i.e., Captained The SIR Roosters through a thrilling season of Bocce Ball. We won 42.71% of our games, placing fourth in our five team league. Our crowning glory was that, at the end of the season, WE won our final match with the league leaders, The Village Idiots! So, I'm proud to have been one of the un-holy rollers, and here I dare to name the others: Elmer Curtis, Jim Goetsch, Rich Hibbs, Barry Hopkins, Phil Jones, Lynden Laird, Steve Michalak, Don Miller, Paul Murphy, Ed O'Reilly and Gary Resnick.

While we were "dark", (no lunch meeting) in July, eight of our Roosters played golf at Turkey Creek Golf Club. Don Barnett, Bob Chan, Rod Corvington, Pat Graham, Greg Kosinski and Chuck Mercer jovially mingled with golfers from other SIR branches in our area. Chuck, Greg, Larry and Pat even paid for their gas to the course by gobbling up cash winnings! I hope to report next month that an even bigger flock of our guys did as well at Auburn Valley on August 26<sup>th</sup>. Golf Chairman Rod Corvington (274-8125) urges you jump in for the fun at that other Lake...Wildwood, on Wednesday, 25 September.

Perennial Party Planner Steve Michalak is setting the stage for the return of the SIR Christmas Dinner Dance. Keep December 4 open on your calendar and your eyes open here for details later.

Another example of how we SIR plan ahead: we elected next year's officers! Big SIR will be Dick Green, Little SIR will be Don "Skip" Albee. But, more about them later...Paul Lambert and Glenn Delisle will continue their bang-up jobs throughout this year.

Two other long-time members are furthering their retirement plans. Mike Aparcar will roll his little MG down to a pleasant retirement home in Pleasanton. John O'Halloran, a two-time Big SIR at the turn of the century, will take a turn at retirement living in Grass Valley. Gosh, guys, we'll miss you.

Once again, and for real this time, "See you at the CLUBHOUSE" on the fourth!

