

Sons in Retirement (SIR)



By Phil Frank

I'm sorry to start with a sad note, but I want you to understand the sorrow that we SIR feel since the passing of Senior SIR Member Dick Dement. Many will remember him as an age old charter member of our chapter and a fine fellow on the LOP scene. I was fortunate to accompany him in one chapter of his life. Ann and I encountered him, and his wife Aimee, cruising down the Mississippi on the American Queen. I know that you will have numerous other fond memories of him, and supporting thoughts for Aimee, as Dick sails on.

We're further saddened by the news that Tom Haslett's wife, Stella, has passed away. Nonagenarian Tom was to have been presented a SIR Senior Certificate by SIR Area 33 Governor Craig Saunders. Craig was here, but, understandably, Tom was not. It's really hard to take such news, and this strengthens our respect for Tom and his continuing membership and honored position in our group.

Craig did congratulate us as he helped us to officially induct seven new members! Count 'em: Allen Bolen, Gary Davis, Hal Hawthorne, Bob Martinet, Carl Paquin, David Parmenter and Mark Wuelfing...seven...joining 170! Welcome, fellows! Plus, Alan Cade is in the wings to be inducted next month. Big SIR Dick Green is tickled pink; "Each time I thought the agenda was complete, Membership Chairman Phil Jones had another application. Honorary Life Member Steve Michalak and Little SIR Elmer Curtis are vying for Recruiter of the Year. Keep up the good work!"

So, what nostalgically interesting Speaker's Presentation did these newbies (and sixty or so oldies) enjoy hearing and seeing at our last luncheon? LOP resident Pat (Anne) Hendrickson was our Hostess with the Mostess, relating and "sliding" us through her family's life and friendship with world famous photographer Ansel Adams, his family and Yosemite Valley. We heard and saw how, while her husband Roger managed the hospital in Yosemite, and Ansel roamed the state, memorializing it on film, their families lived a beautiful life in beautiful surroundings. When the time came for them to expand their horizons and find better schools for their children, their logical choice was Lake of the Pines. Thanks, Anne, for sharing glimpses of our kind of country and our kind of people, in your own artful way!

Our ubiquitous SIR Ron Trimble had a busy day, last Sun the 24th, shepherding blood donors through his LOP Mobile Blood Bank. Maybe it was in appreciation of his humanitarian efforts that his muse drew for him a Free Lunch Ticket from the SIR Happy Birthday Hat. He's happy for that, I'm sure, but he'll be even more so if you'll donate with him the next time his blood wagon comes around. Look for it...and give a little! Another Free Lunch Winner was newly certified SIR Carl Paquin! All ya gotta do is join SIR ... right Carl?

Our SIR Roosters Bocce Ball Team didn't win all their games this season, but they sure had fun. Congratulations to Bob Chan, Elmer Curtis, Terry Eberhardt, Jim Goetsch, Tom Healy, Rich Hibbs, Phil Jones, Al Jose, Paul Murphy, Robert Reeder and Ron Wolyn for strutting their stuff on our behalf. Follow Capo Bob Chan's suggestion: enter the Round Robin Bocce Ball Tournament at Penn Valley Courts, Western Gateway Park on Tue 9/9/14 09:00. There'll be Mixed Teams (take your gal or any non-SIR). \$10 pp Call Pete Thompson 530 823-7383 or Bob Chan 530 268-8606.

Other "SIR or not" amusement: Military Bull Session, Marina Lounge Wed 9/10 1600-1800 hrs, + all 2nd Weds. Plan for SIR Fun Day Sat 9/27: 10:00 Bocce Ball, 11:00 Putt, 12:30 Golf, 16:30 Drinks, 17:00 Eats & Awards. And, of course, I'll see SIRs and guests at our lunch and program on FLYING AUTOS, 11:30 Wed, Sep 3rd!