

Sons in Retirement (SIR)



By Phil Frank

Mother Nature's wilderness is GREAT! If we didn't know that before, we now know that one of her chief proponents confirmed it at our March Luncheon. Reverend Don Baldwin re-inspired us with his impersonation of John Muir. Reminding us of our introduction to Yosemite National Park last August by LOP resident Pat (Anne) Hendrickson, Don (transformed into John, by beard and brogue), "sauntered" among our tables, walking stick in hand, enthraling us with memories of his voyages from his native Dunbar, Scotland to our Wonderful West and the wonder-wearing glaciers of Alaska and Yosemite.

We had learned earlier that Pat's husband Roger had managed the hospital in Yosemite. How neat now to know that Roger had presided at the birth of Reverend Baldwin's two daughters in that small-world hospital. Now, through Rev. Don's perfect portrayal, we heard of John Muir's championing of the wonders of our west's wilderness, and of our need to preserve it. The man is a prince, in either of his iterations!

While you were waiting impatiently to read this article:

Four more handsome members joined our club. See them herewith...Dave Finck, Brian Lewis, Jim Meyer and Ray Tschihart. Welcome, fellows.

Terry Eberhardt's LOPers lapped up wine in the lap of luxury at Wise Villa Winery, near Lincoln, back on the 20th. Be sure to sign up for his next outing, to be announced at our next luncheon.

Nine SIR golfers ravaged the Morgan Creek course in February. SIRs from the other branches lauded them for their turn-out, but loathed them for their triumphs. Their winning places were 1, 3, 5 & 13. Wearing his Golf Chairman Hat, Ron Wolyn took the 1st! With that impetus, you, too, can score when you join them on their next foray...4/27 at Woodcreek.

Randy Friesen was handed the baton by Music Chairman Verne Bagby, who, "...has to step down as maestro due to vice failure". Honest, folks, that's what Big SIR Elmer Curtis typed in his agenda for our Board Executive Committee Meeting. Elmer don't 'llow no failin' singin' vices 'round here! I nominate him for a new post: Chuckle Chairman.

Sunshine Chairman Ron Trimble had referred us to a 2/12/15 front page article in The Union that dulled our day. It was about 7-year-old Silas Hurd, son of LOP's Recreation Coordinator. He has a rare and severe form of epilepsy that strains the family and drains their resources. When Ron introduced Nicole at our March meeting, we were touched by her sincerity in discussing her plight. We hope that we brightened her family's day with our pass-the-hat donation of \$627. You, too, can help by contacting www.gofundme.com/hopeforsilas or www.facebook.com/hopeforsilas.

Another very sad note: the passing of former Big SIR Dick Green's wife, Georgia. As she sails on, you have our heartfelt sympathy, Dick.

Need to get out of town, quick? Contact Travel Chairman melvinpimentel@juno.com or 530 268-3359. He has some great escapes to Yellowstone, Mt. Rushmore, Branson, CUBA!...and more. They'll never find you.

Our lunches are so good that I'm sure Birthday Boy Brian Foster and Just Plain Lucky Don Nurisso will be back for their freebies on Wednesday, April 4th! I know they won't want to miss the presentation of Jacques Mercier, the Proprietor and Winemaker for Grass Valley's Solune Winery. CHEERS!