



# SIERRA HILLS

## Branch 79 Newsletter



**HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS: PBS Don Dill, PBS Ken Hansen, PBS Craig Saunders**

### **Big SIR** - David Blitstien

To my treasured friends of Branch 79 and their family, I wish you all a healthy, happy and successful New Year. May we all experience perfectly functioning bodies accompanied by a lot of fun! We all have a lot to be thankful for, the friendship that we have established and the new members that are joining us. This year we'll be bringing in new members from different walks of life, we need to embrace them and let them know the meaning of what being a Branch 79 SIR is all about. Last year we had one of the best year on record for bringing in new members, let's keep the ball rolling.

I'm calling on all Past Big Sir's to help me organize a welcome committee to talk to the new members after they come in for the fellowship hour, a 5-10 minute conversation can mean everything. Please come talk to me at the next luncheon for more info.

### **Little SIR** - Jack Meylink

January will be my first official month as your Little SIR. People usually join SIR to participate in our activities or for the camaraderie and conversation of the monthly luncheons. In my case I started playing Bocce with my wife's Godfather (Irv Eastman) and some of his friends a couple years ago. They invited me to a SIR lunch and soon after I was a new member. My wife and I started going to the dining night out and the wine tasting events. We have met a lot of great people and have really enjoyed the friends and companionship

In my case it was a particular activity (Bocce) that brought me into SIR, but it is the great people in our branch that have made the experience memorable. Regarding activities; dining out and wine tasting were natural as eating and drinking are things that I already know how to do. It is important however to challenge yourself, so I also joined the cooking group which my wife can tell you is not something I do. Who knows, I might pick up a golf club some day and give it a try.

In the meantime I'll do my best to support our branch by filling the roll of Little SIR this year. Since we have been unable to find a volunteer for speaker chairman I'm doing that job as well. We already have 4 or 5 of our lunches booked, but if you have a subject or speaker that you would like us to pursue let me know. Or if you are interested in volunteering for the speaker chairman position you might be able to pull it away from me. Thanks for your support.

### **MEMBERSHIP** - Craig Saunders

Happy New Year and welcome to the Sweet 16. Our membership in 2015 ended with a very high gain. We finished at Plus 15 in gained new members and that exceeded our Branch Executive Committee's (BEC) goal of Plus 12. Great job everyone, be rightfully proud of your pursuit of new guests to our luncheons to becoming new members! You brought in thirty-eight (38) guests and ALL 38 became new members. Fantastic growth. Now you can see that Plus 15 means 38 in and 23 losses out. The 23 went by transfers, family relocations/requirements and passing's. So we finished the year and 197 Active strong.

This 2016 year the BEC is going with the same growth number of Plus 12. Our work is cut out to bring in more new members to our growing brotherhood of SIR. I know we can do it. Ask your neighbors and friends to our luncheon and enjoy the camaraderie of SIR.

### VOLUME 36 • NUMBER 1 JANUARY 2016



**BIG SIR**  
David Blitstein



**LITTLE SIR**  
Jack Meylink



**MEMBERSHIP**  
Craig Saunders

**LUNCHEON ABSENCE  
CALL DEADLINE  
JANUARY 14th  
CALL BILL HEALE  
(530) 477-1647**

**NEXT LUNCHEON:**  
**Thursday, January 21, 2016**  
Fellowship - 11:00 a.m.  
Call To Order - 12:00 p.m.  
**Menu: Chef's Choice**

**Program:** Randall Benton, Senior  
Photographer, *The Sacramento Bee*.

Benton has been a professional photographer for 25 years. For the last 12 years, he has worked as a staff photographer for *The Sacramento Bee* newspaper. As a staff member, his photos have documented a rich and diverse cross-section of life in northern California. He has photographed the NBA, NFL, PGA, and WBC; Stephen Hawking, Arnold Schwarzenegger, Elton John, and the Pope; surgeons, teachers, cops, and murderers. He has shot from helicopters, inside tiger cages, in underwater caves, and on movie sets.





*Andy (Keith) Anderson and his wife celebrated their 70th Wedding Anniversary on January 13, 2016*

**PHOTO OP**



**Travel** - Phil Bolander

My wife and I were in Scottsdale, Az for New Years. This outing was organized by Talbot tours. There were about 60 of us with 2 buses. My wife and I were the only ones from Auburn. The rest were from Chico area and the bay area and San Jose. We stayed at the Hilton Doubletree which was very nice with day trips to Sedona, Indian Cliff dwellings, Frank Loyd Wright home and studio plus tour of Phoenix and old town Scottsdale. We had a fabulous dinner and a swing band that was awesome plus time to be on our own. Our farewell dinner was at Robbers Roost on a hill which overlooked the whole area. This trip was well organized with everything taken care of and this shows that with a little effort there could be a group 79 and/or 37 group trip in the future. Have a great year.



*Montezuma Castle, AZ Ancient Indian Apartments*

**Golf**

Phil Bolander



Happy New Year to all and especially to the 79 golfers. Well, a new year is here and let's hope it will be as good as last year. The rain has certainly helped the courses but has put a damper on our golf outings. I guess we'll have to break out those boots. Sorry to say there is not so good news. Mr Tom Stone was going to be the golf chair but due to lingering illness he will not be able to chair. He would have been an excellent chair and we wish him well. So, moving on we need someone to step up and take that position. It's not that difficult because most of the work has been put into place so all that is required is to collect the monies for the tournaments and give to Joe Dydynski our treasurer. Keep a list of players and who paid and give to Ken Hansen who will set up teams and score cards.

Our 1st outing is in Feb. so time is short to have someone in place. And also write a golf article for the newsletter. Let ken Hansen or Phil Bolander know ASAP. Thank you all

**79er Wine Trail** - Bob Lemmon

2016 is looking like an excellent year for our Wine Group. We will be repeating most of our successful outings experienced in 2015, with a few exceptions, most will involve lunch of some nature. Since this is an El Nino year all of our winter outings will be indoors. The following is our tentative schedule for 2016.

- Feb. Beerworks Cool for lunch & beer
- Mar. Solune Winery for Tasting
- April Pescatore wine & food Paring as before
- May Vina Castellano Tasting with bag lunch by their pond
- June Pilot Peak. Sat, 18th SunSet Series evening Dinner & Dance as before
- July Smiths Winery, Barrel & Tasting, SIRs group only in their vineyard
- Aug Pilot Peak Sat 20th again SunSet Dinner & Dancing as before
- Sept Naggia Wine Festival, Live Band with dancing plus Lunch
- Oct Sunshine Vineyard -- Dave house, your annual pot lunch & wine
- Nov May not have--- if Must do, go to Wise Winery for tasting & lunch
- Dec Christmas party,

**Friday Golf**

Bill Heale

No report this month

**Veteran's Affairs**

Don Bull

No report this month

I want to wish each of you & spouse a very happy new year.

## **Bowling** - Tom McEntee



SIR's BI-Monthly Round-Robin Results:

SIR Bill Larson led the three-bowler contingent from Branch 79 at the December 28th 2015 Round-Robin event at Nu Generation Bowl in Yuba City California, closing out the 2015 Round-Robin season. Here's looking to a great 2016 season. Hopefully we will expand our participation in the New Year.

SIR's Yuba City Nu Generation Bowl Results, 12/28/2015:

	Game 1	Game 2	Game 3	Series
Bill Larson	188	235	202	625
Lou Alvarez	213	200	150	563
Harvey Easley	199	164	187	550

Our bowling group currently bowls at Rocklin Bowl on Fridays at 12:30 PM. This is a non-USBC sanctioned event and is open to all seniors. There are several ways to earn a few bucks without going into hock to play. It is a great way to spend the afternoon and meet some new people.

## **Bocce Ball**

Pete Thompson & Don Sherman

The Grand Opening of four Bocce Courts at the Auburn Recreation District Park Auburn on December 5th 2015. Cutting the ribbon is Scott Holbrook, the Chairman of the ARD Board of Directors, and the Bocce Club Chairman Mr. Pete Thompson of SIRS Branch 79.



## **Fishing Group**

David DeRosa & Tom Beale



Hello Fisher Folks. At long last we are getting some much needed rain. At last posting, Folsom Lake was up 30 feet. That means the launch ramp is only 1/2 mile from the water. Joking aside we need a lot more rain. Let's hope El Nino keeps on providing the needed moisture.

This is being written before our next Fishing Group meeting which will be held on January 14, 2016. Our guest speaker at that meeting will be Garrett Sells, who is the Manager of Rocklin's Bass Pro Shop fishing and marine sections. Catalogs will be provided to those who want them. This should be a very interesting talk.

Our next meeting will be February 11, 2016, at which time we will have Mike Eister as a guest speaker. Mike is a very well known guide from Shasta, Trinity and Whiskeytown Lakes. Some of our members have fished with Mike.

Sign ups for our annual fishing trip to Shasta will be taking place. Cost will be the same as last year I am told. Chuck Mierkey will be the person in charge once again.

Fishing group meets the second Thursday of each month at Denny's Restaurant on Auburn Ravine Rd., just off I80 at the Foresthill Exit. Please plan to attend as we have a couple of featured guests, and our annual trip to Shasta will be discussed.



# happy birthday!

JANUARY: Dave Aulbach, Michael Bane, Fred Barth, Bob Berzanski, Philip Cece, Robert Flack, Herb Grounds, Dale Haskin, Ray Mahlberg, Tom McEntee, Jack Meylink, Tom Parks, Allen Pierce, Craig Saunders, Michael Self, Jim Still, John Wong.

## Treasurer's Report

Terry Doan, Treasurer

Beginning Balance \$4586.37

Ending Balance \$3253.57

The money you put in the tube on your table at the luncheon helps cover our branches expenses. A minimum contribution of \$3.00 per person is suggested.

## Membership

Craig Saunders

Active: 201

Inactive: 8

Pending: 0

DECEMBER LUNCH

Members & Guests: 169

## Sunshine Report

Terry Doan

Jim McCreary and Earl Montgomery both had knee replacements. They are both doing well and are home already. Tough old bastards. They will be up and about in no time. Back on the golf course!! Please keep me informed of any of our members that need a little sunshine. That's why I am here and available 24/7.

## Dining Out

Craig Saunders

Lets kickoff the new year with a fine casual restaurant in Auburn. The Dining Out is on Wednesday, January 27 at the Sierra Grill Smokehouse at 2515 Grass Valley Highway, 95603 (next to All American tire-Across from Big 5 sporting goods). Happy hour is 2-6 PM, Arrive 5 PM for libations and order dinner and stay until 7PM (or later). Choice of 3 meals on SIR menu: 1. Sierra Steak with 1 side; 2. Sierra Steak Salad with choice of meat topping ; 3. Combination plate(2 meats choice and 2 sides)---OR order off menu. Sign-up sheet at the luncheon in bar area. See you there

## STATEWIDE NEWSLETTER SIR HAPPENINGS

To read the latest edition of SIR appenings visit [sirinc.org/sirhappenings](http://sirinc.org/sirhappenings) Learn about what is happening in the SIR state organization and at other SIR Branches. The 2015 winter edition is now available.

## SIR INFORMATION

**Executive Committee Meeting**  
First Thursday of each month  
7:45 a.m. at Denny's, Auburn Ravine  
Road (I-80/Foresthill Exit)  
**Branch 79 Newsletter**  
[sir79newsletter@gmail.com](mailto:sir79newsletter@gmail.com)  
**Branch 79 Web site**  
[www.sir79.org](http://www.sir79.org)

### BRANCH 79 OFFICERS

Big SIR: David Blitstein (530) 274-2100  
Little SIR: Jack Meylink (530) 305-9112  
Secretary: Ron Markham (530) 889-8580  
Treasurer: Terry Doan (530) 878-2742

### BRANCH COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Attendance: Bill Heale (530) 477-1647  
Chaplin: Karl Simon (530) 320-7588  
Clothing: David DeRosa (916) 652-9562  
Database: Bob Huntington (530) 886-8426  
Greeters: Tom Parks & Ron Deberard  
Membership: Craig Saunders (530) 268-9668  
Newsletter: Jay Hansell (530) 368-2850  
Opportunity Drawings: Harvey Eisley (530) 823-5988  
Photographer: Lynn Hartford (530) 320-8730  
Sunshine: Terry Doan (530) 878-2742  
Webmaster: Milo Schauer (541) 580-7747  
Wine Steward: Bob Lemmon (530) 477-8507

### BRANCH 79 ACTIVITY CHAIRMEN

Bicycling: Ken Hansen (916) 663-4716  
Bocce Ball: Pete Thompson (530) 823-7383  
Don Sherman (916) 663-2958  
Bowling: Tom McEntee (530) 889-0605  
Classic Cars: Gary Beckes (919) 789-0347  
Computer: Milo Schauer (541) 580-7747  
Dining Out: Craig Saunders (530) 268-9668  
Fishing: Dave DeRosa (916) 652-9562  
Tom Beale (530) 878-0301  
Golf: Phil Bolander (530) 745-9874  
Learn & Lunch: Stan Bishop (530) 823-8016  
Men's Cooking: David Blistene (530) 274-2100  
Travel: Phil Bolander (530) 745-9874  
Vet's Affairs: Don Bull (530) 999-1076  
79er Wine Trail: Bob Lemmon (530) 477-8507



### DECLARATIONS

**Important:** When a member is unable to attend a meeting, he should notify the Attendance Chairman A.S.A.P.

**Attendance Rule:** Regular members missing three (3) consecutive meetings without notifying the Attendance Chairman, giving a valid reason, or attending less than six (6) meetings within the past twelve (12) months, shall be notified of pending termination. Certification of attendance at another Branch Meeting is considered a credit. Excused meetings cannot be included to achieve the minimum attendance requirement.

**Prospective Members:** Must attend a Luncheon and be introduced by a sponsor to the general membership prior to being accepted as a new member of the branch

**.Non-Responsibility Clause:** All travel activities arranged for or by Sons In Retirement, Inc. and its Branches are for the convenience and pleasure of the members and their guests who desire to participate. Sons In Retirement, Inc. and its Branches do not assume responsibility for the well being or safety of the participants or passengers, or their property, in any matters pertaining to said travel and other activities.

**Checks For Travel Activities:** Checks for travel activities of three (3) nights or less shall be made payable to the Branch, or if arranged through a travel agency, checks may be made to the travel agency, at the Branch's option. Checks for events of four (4) or more nights shall be payable to the travel agency involved.