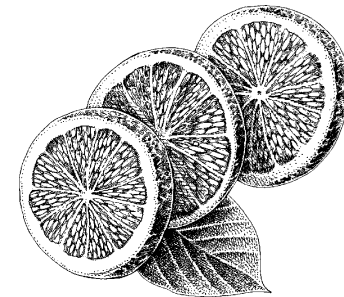




Orangevale Branch 150



State SIR website: www.sirinc.org
Branch 150 website: www.sir150.com
Branch 150 editor: Bob Carlstroem - carlstroem@sir150.com

April 2008

Meetings - 3rd Wednesday of Each Month		Next Meeting - April 16, 2008	
Location	Regular Monthly Schedule	Menu:	Good old fashion meatloaf, brown gravy, mashed potatoes, green beans, salad, cake & coffee.
Rancho Cordova Elks Lodge 11440 Elks Circle Rancho Cordova, CA 95742	Business meeting 10:30 Social time/registration 11:00 Meeting/luncheon 11:30	Speaker:	To be announced
		Topic:	To be announced

Ladies Day May 21, 2007



Rocklin's Johnson-Springview Park

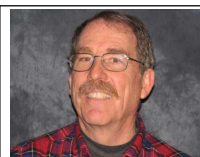
Tickets go on sale at the April luncheon

Here is an update on our annual SIR 150 Picnic. The plans have been underway during the last two months. Hope everyone has the date open for the event. We are looking forward to having a great time.

- The picnic will be at Johnson-Springview Picnic Pavilion in Rocklin.
- The date will be May 21, our regular meeting date in May.
- The picnic will begin 11:00 A.M
- Lunch will be served at 12:00 P.M.
- Tickets will be on sale at the April meeting for \$10.00 per person
- Please bring your wife, or guest, and your favorite dish
- We will have directions at the sign-up during the April meeting
- And a map will be published in the May Newsletter

If you cannot purchase your tickets at the April meeting, you can notify Jerry Courter at 916-353-0715 or Don Severance at 916-961-6668 to make your reservations. Please contact either of them prior to April 30th to allow time for the final preparations.

—SEE YOU THERE—



Big Sir Stan Wirth: Well, here it is April already. In a month and a half we will be having our Summer (Spring) picnic (see picnic article in this newsletter). I would like to thank Jerry Courter for the work he did researching the facilities. I'm looking forward to some of those weird and wacky Bingo games and the great food!!

I would also like to thank Bob Carlstroem and his team for doing the research on other meeting and eating facilities. It was informative and we now have a better idea what it would cost to change locations. We have put everything on hold for now, but we have some good information if we decide to consider this option in the future.

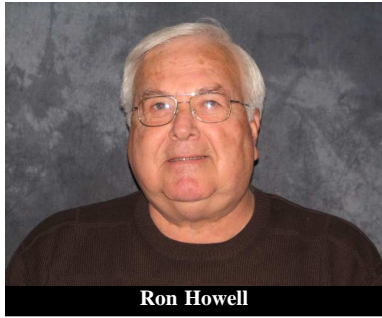


Little Sir Chuck Reed: I have not received confirmation from April's guest speaker as yet but am still hopeful, The bigger the group I deal with, the slower the wheel turns. Come April 1 I will have to scramble for another speaker if current requested speaker does not commit. I have other contacts I can call. So come to the luncheon on the 16th to see if I solved this problem. In the mean time we are going to have great weather, so polish up those clubs, oil the carts, practice the swing and get the excuses ready because its our time of the year, "GOLF TIME." By the way, I'm always open for suggestions on favorite dishes that are feasible for a large group such as Sirs.

Branch 150 Executive Committee			Branch 150 Committee Chairmen					
Big Sir	Stan Wirth	362-1748	Attendance	Norm Green	723-0973	Greeter/Pub Relations	Bill Ferreirae	635-6093
Little Sir	Chuck Reed	363-8406	Booster	Charlie Martin	858-1453	Historian	Dick Clausen	(530) 622-4817
Secretary	Doug Hilton	363-8751	Bowling	Tom Bittner	723-1497	Membership	Jim Rae	967-4951
Asst. Secretary	Bruce Kennedy	363-5412	Bridge	John Mahony	485-2449	Newsletter Editor	Bob Carlstroem	791-3608
Treasurer	Ralph Tomson	354-2236	Chaplain	Joe Ramay	635-1158	Nominating	Jerry Courter	353-0715
Asst. Treasurer	Raymond Avila	481-2402	Communications	Bob Neubacher	685-7528	Nom. Asst.	Bob Carlstroem	791-3608
Director	Jerry Courter	353-0715	Comm. Asst.	Ralph Tomson	354-2236	Nom. Asst.	Don Severance	961-6668
Director	Bob Carlstroem	791-3608	Fishing	Bob Bonner	961-5403	Quartermaster	Walt Nauer	966-3588
Director	Don Severance	961-6668	Golf	Harold Doppelmayer	922-6134	Social Affairs	Jerry Courter	353-0715
Director	Len Bloom	961-2225	Golf Asst.	Brent Soulis	726-6326	Travel & Events	Open	
Director	Jim Rae	967-4951				Webmaster	Bob Carlstroem	791-3608
Director	Bob Trathen	927-5987						
			State President	Arthur E Pufford (707) 996-0992		Director Region 2	Ronald McCall (530) 622-5424	
						Governor Area 31	Ralph J. Lingis (916) 933-5561	

Spotlighted Sirs

By Bruce Kennedy



Ron Howell

Ron was born at home during a blinding February snow storm in 1938 in Croft, southwestern Kansas. Everyone knows where that is. It is still just 10 miles on a gravel road due west of Coats. He attended the one room grammar school in Croft before going to the high school in Coats. The family raised wheat and cattle. The ranch is still there, but someone else operates it for the family. Lettering in high school football, basketball and track, Ron got a scholarship to Pratt College (10 miles north of Coats). As a freshman, he met his wife Ellen who was a high school senior at a rodeo. They were married in 1958. Ron transferred to Colorado State University in his junior year and participated in the Air Force ROTC program. He majored in forestry and biology. After Air Force training as a surgery tech, Ron arrived in Sacramento (as many others have) via the Mather AFB expressway. By the time his enlistment was up at Mather, both Ron and Ellen had determined to stay.

Ron had applied to the California Highway Patrol, Sacramento PD, and the County Sheriff's Department. The best offer came from the sheriff's. Ellen by this time was a registered nurse. Ron held many interesting assignments. He trained at the academy, was the supervisor of Robbery and Theft Unit. For a period he was the unit coordinator for an eight-agency mutual aid and response group. Perhaps the most interesting times occurred while he was with the bomb unit. In taking that assignment, Ron went to training at the Redstone National Arsenal in Huntsville, Alabama, and to England to train with Royal Army Ordinance Corp and Scotland Yard. He also received CSI training from the Department of Justice including photography courses that led to a continuing hobby he shares with his son. Ron was very involved in the uni-bomber case that destroyed a computer store here in Sacramento and who was also tried at our Federal Court House. Ron is still a life member of the International Bomb Technicians and Investigators Association.

For a period early in his law enforcement career, he worked the grave yard shift. This enabled Ron and some buddies to go directly from work to golf courses in the area to play before going home to rest. Ron would play a course until he could get a subpar round and, only then, would he move on to another course. If most of us tried this we would be stuck on one course for the rest of our lives. Ron was a 2 handicapper at this time. He competed in the Police Olympics up and down the state, played with "Pepsi Tour" semipro open tournaments for awhile and also played with the old Camellia City Men's Club.

While the kids were growing up a lot of time was spent on Ron's 26 foot sail boat in Folsom Lake, S. F. Bay, or sailing down the coast to Monterey whale watching. Ron competed in several Camellia Cup Regatta events sponsored by the Folsom Lake Yacht Club. The family was also involved in Boy Scouting and that led to camping and fishing trips. Ron retired in 1993 and Ellen was not far behind. They sold the boat five years ago for a fifth-wheel RV and 14 foot fishing boat. So, you can still find Ron trolling for trout in the Sierra.

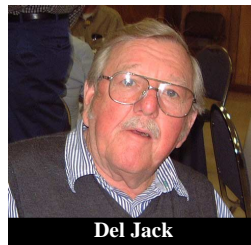
Ron has also been very active in the Elks Chapter where we meet. He was chapter exalted ruler in 1999 and is becoming state secretary this year. That is a huge commitment. And, if you look at the podium with the Pony Express seal on it at our next meeting you are looking at the results of another hobby of Ron's, woodworking. Many of us have said we wonder, now that we are retired, how we ever had time to work. Ron is the

poster child for that saying. He was brought into Branch 150 by Rick Lauther to play golf. Now he's working to find time to do just that. Ron and Ellen have a son in southern California and a daughter three doors down from their house. They have two grandsons and a granddaughter.

Growing Things

This is a new column that hopefully will share expertise in horticulture. In looking over our database indicating hobbies and interest, it is quite apparent that gardening strikes the fancy of many of our members. Hence, I hope "Growing Things" will be well received by the membership. I also hope many will contribute their positive and negative experiences of growing things.
Bob Carlstroem, Editor

What's a cactus? Or, who gives a damn!



Del Jack

Bob Carlstroem, our illustrious SIR editor, asked me if I would submit a column on plants, you know, those things that grow in the earth (sometimes) and that ladies love to get from us on their birthdays, mother's day- actually any day. (For you old guys who are starting to date again; pay attention!) I've been raising a number of types of plants for nearly a half a century and currently

have over 500 different species of plants in my green house! "Who is this nut-case?" you ask, and what's with a GUY who would pay that much attention to plants.

The truth is, way back when, I was in a serious battle with depression and read an article in some magazine how cacti and some other succulent plants were able to endure and surmount the most horrendous conditions nature could throw at them. Of course I was interested. I learned that some cacti and some other succulent plants (Oops! "Succulent" means "water storing." Sorry for the tech talk.) could not only repel the animals that would want to scarf them for their water, but also could withstand the desserts high temperatures (sometimes over 130 degrees!). This was accomplished by an insulation process which sometimes included creating a wax like or white powdery substance on their bodies that reflected the heat or a dense mat of spination (you know, the thorns) that would protect the plant's skin from the sun's rays like excelsior insulates some refrigeration. The spines of course, kept the cheeky rats and other animals away. Oddly, learning this was therapeutic, an existential awakening! I'm still "nuts" but relatively happy.

I also learned to appreciate the variety of sculptural forms these plants assume and the visual "turn on" of their satin-like colored flowers.

So what is a Cactus? You ask. It's any plant that possesses an "areole." That's a relatively small tuft of white or yellow "fuzz" on their stem or leaf. If you've ever seen or have eaten one of those "pad" shaped cacti that look like a bunny's ear (their called Opuntia, O-PUNT-I-A . That's the last of the tech talk) you've seen them or had to cut them away these from the stuff you were about to eat, It's not the spines or thorns that make a cactus, its this "tuff"- like stuff on the plant that makes it one. Think about the rose or a hundred different other plants with stickers or thorns that obviously aren't cacti.

Now for a growing hint about these "suckers." In my experience, the weather we're experiencing now makes for the worst time of the year to grow cacti. They have been dormant all winter and are, with the changing temperatures, wanting to "Boogie". However, if you decide to water cacti at this time, you MUST have quick draining soil and the certainty of a few sunny days ahead of you for them to dry out after you water. If not, their roots will suffocate in the water, O.D. and die! I know, there's always someone who has done just the opposite of what I am suggesting and has had no problems (If its you, get your butt to Reno-NOW!). Seriously. If I had a dollar for every plant I've lost during this "readjustment" period, I wouldn't even talk to Bob C. or be writing this lame stuff. Have you heard of the French Riviera? Next time: "The sneaky succulents."

GOLF NEWS

Call **Harold Doppelmayr** at 922-6134 or his assistant **Brent Soulis** at 726-6326 if you have questions or concerns. Tournament sign-ups are available at www.sir150.com or at each monthly luncheon and at all tournaments.

Cordova Golf Course

Weekly Tournament Play

Every Friday except the last Friday of the month

Sign-up when you show up

End-of-Month Scramble

Every last Friday of the month

Prior sign-up required

2008 Away Tournaments

April 1 (Tue) Lockford Springs - 9:00
April 14 (Mon) Alister Mackenzie - 8:00
May 6 (Tue) The Reserve - 8:30
May 20 (Tue) Rio La Paz - 9:00
June 10 (Tue) Plumas Lake - 9:00
June 24 (Tue) Wildhawk - 8:04
July 8 (Tue) Dry Creek Ranch - 8:02
July 21 (Mon) Ancil Hoffman - 8:00

*August 6 (Wed) Diamond Oaks - 9:00***
(Note: above requires 10 day pre-payment)
August 19 (Tue) Mather - 8:00
September 2 (Tue) Wild Wings - 9:15
September 16 (Tue) Green Tree - 9:04
October 7 (Tue) Bartley Cavanaugh - 8:30
October 22 (Wed) Bing Maloney - 8:30
November 3 (Mon) Alister Mackenzie - 9:00
November 18 (Tue) Wildhawk - 9:00

** Note: this is a date change

Branch 150 - 40 Golf Competition

The competition will be held on May 8. The first tee time will be 7:00 at Wild Hawk. We have room for 30 players. It will be match play. More information will be coming as the committee gets together to iron out the details of the pairings.

2008 State Championship

The division 2 area 31 individual qualifier for Poppy Hills will be held at Mather Golf Course Tuesday May 13th. Green fees are \$30, buy your own cart. First tee time is 9:00. The deadline for signing up for the Poppy Hills qualifier is April 10th.

The individual division 2 qualifier for Poppy Hills will be held at Butte Creek in Chico. On Monday August 18th. Cost is \$57 which includes green and cart fees and a box lunch. It will be a 9:00 shotgun start.

The individual Championship and open play at Poppy Hills will be on November 3rd and 4th.

The State Scramble Team Championship qualifier will be held at Mather Golf Course on Tuesday June 3rd. Green fees are \$30, buy your own cart. First tee time is 7:30.

The State Team Scramble Championship will be held at Poppy Ridge Golf Course on Monday August 11th at 7:00 am with a shotgun start. You are on your own for food and beverages. The cost will be \$200 per team.

FISHING NEWS

Monthly Breakfast Meetings: Jolly Hookers meet at Folsom Elks on the 2nd Friday at 8:00 AM. Wheels & Reels meet at Coco's Restaurant on the 3rd Monday at 8:00 AM. If you are a fisherman and want to enjoy like company, why not join us for breakfast.

For more information, contact **Bob Bonner** at 961-5403

The water is getting warmer and the fish are emerging from their winter doldrums. Wow! What a great time to be out on the water, trolling for fish and enjoying our beautiful Northern California spring. April second we will be down in the delta fishing for stripped bass. April fourteenth we mail our money to IRS and the following day we recover by going on our April derby to Collins Lake. Come join the fun. By the way. Those Folsom Lake salmon are very tasty.

BRIDGE NEWS

For detailed information related to bridge meetings and schedules, contact Chairman **John Mahony** at 485-2449

Four tables of eager bridge players gathered on March 10, and enjoyed the games and their partners. Two new players, Doug Hilton was # 1 and Bob Miller was # 3. Art White won second prize, and John Conyers was fourth. Tom came in last with a very low score. I hope we didn't jinx him with the reports of his winning ways. John will call for April 14 th's game. IHOP has a very large room, and so we can accommodate more players. Interested???

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

For detailed information contact **Jim Rae** at 967-4951. Printed rosters are available at the monthly meetings or an electronic copy can be requested from james.rae@att.net.

The following membership changes were made at our March meeting: Harrison Holton resigned from our Branch.

We added the following new members: John Duffy and Joe Farruggia.

We now have 101 active members and 17 inactive members for a total of 118.

New Members



John Duffy



Joe Farruggia

Win a Free Lunch in 2008

Beginning January through October, if you attend 9 of the 10 luncheons OR bring in a new member, you will receive a voucher for a free regular meeting lunch. Only one free lunch per member.

TRAVEL TIPS

The following destinations have been submitted by some of our members. If you would like to learn a bit more about these potential travel locations, these members are willing to share their experiences and provide you some tips such as touring company, costs, places to stay, things you must see, what to expect, and much more. Behind each members name you will find contact information. This is the preferred method. In other words, some might prefer to respond by the convenience of e-mail.

Where	When	Key	Where	When	Key	Key	Member	Preferred Method of Contact
Africa, East		7	Ireland	2002	13	1	Skeeter Regan	armondregan@sbcglobal.net
Alaska		7	Ireland (Treasure of Ireland)	Fall 06	6	2	Dick Clausen	papadick@hnet.us or (916) 704-4817
Alaska	Aug 07	8	Israel	2000	13	3	Jerry Courter	jcourter2@yahoo.com
Alaskan Cruise	Fall 01	6	Italy	Jun 06	10	4	Len Bloom	lenbloom4@comcast.net
American Heritage Tour	Jun 01	6	Montana		7	5	Bob Carlstroem	bob@carlstroem.com
Australia/New Zealand		7	Nevada, Mesquite	Apr 07	2	6	Charlie Caudle	chascaudle@cs.com
China Land/Yangtze River Tour	May 07	9	North Carolina (Elderhostel)	Mar 05	5	7	Jim Jorgensen	jorgensensports@starstream.net
Costa Rica	Jan 02	4	Norway (Grand Circle)	Aug 07	5	8	Dan Berg	(916) 989-4816
Costa Rica	Jan 04	5	Nova Scotia (Elderhostel)	Sep 06	5	9	John Galik	johncg@aol.com or (916) 366-0195
Cruising, General	Apr 07	1	Philippines	2007	13	10	Bruce Kennedy	bandckennedy@sbcglobal.net
Durango CO, Silverton Railroad Trip	Aug 07	11	Rhine/Danube River Cruise	Spr 04	6	11	John Means	jojohnm@sbcglobal.net
East Europe	2005	13	Russia, St. Petersburg (Grand Circle)	Aug 07	5	12	Al Dumont	(916) 635-7813
Greece	Apr 07	4	South America		12	13	Ralph Grishaber	rgrishaber@value.net
Greece	07	12	Texas, South Padre Island		14	14	Norm Green	g19thgreen@surewest.net
Hawaii		7	Wyoming, Cody	Aug 07	2			
Hawaii, Big Island	Oct 07	13	Yellowstone National Park	Jun 07	3			
Hawaii, Maui	Jul 07	2	Yosemite National Park	Spr 07	3			
Ireland	Apr 07	1						

Fun Stuff

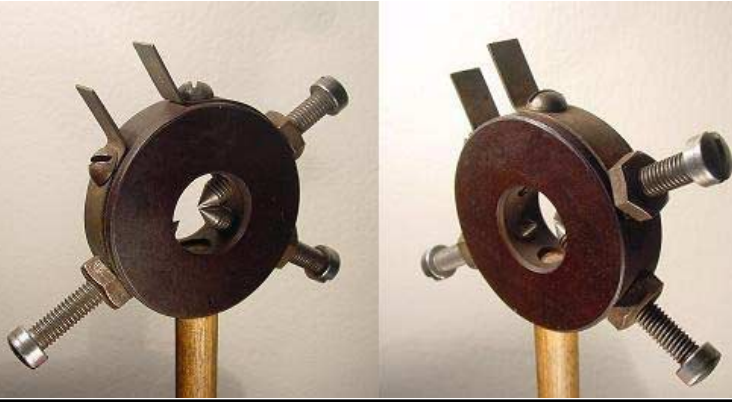
The first person to provide correct solution will receive a prize at the next regular meeting. Send your answers by e-mail to Bob Carlstroem at carlstroem@sir150.com or mail to 7990 South Lake Cir., Granite Bay, CA 95746. I saved some of my retirement money last month. There were no correct answers. Better luck this month.

What might this be?

Hint: It isn't a crock pot.



February Solution:
old spark gap tester for small engines



Bob Carlstroem, Editor
7990 South Lake Circle
Granite Bay, CA 95746

Honored Members

Past Big Sirs

- 1989 George Erkson *
- 1990 Jim Eastlund *
- 1991 John Mahony
- 1992 Lou Parton *
- 1993 Ken Allard
- 1994 Ruel Smith
- 1995 Bill McCarthy *
- 1996 Tom Wirth *
- 1997 John Means
- 1998 Jim Delk
- 1999 Bob Smith
- 2000 Bob O'Neal
- 2001 Lou Joaquin *
- 2001 Joe Ramay
- 2002 Bob Trathen
- 2003 Jim Rae
- 2004 Len Bloom
- 2005 Don Severance
- 2006 Bob Carlstroem
- 2007 Jerry Courter

* Deceased

Honorary Lifetime Member

- John Mahony 2001
- Jim Rae 2007

Birthday Boys

- | | | |
|------------|-----------|--------|
| Edelen | Rick | 2-Apr |
| Barthel | Daniel O | 4-Apr |
| Means | John W | 5-Apr |
| Neubacher | Robert G | 7-Apr |
| Bland | Gregory R | 9-Apr |
| Livingston | Earl | 10-Apr |
| Carlstroem | Robert | 13-Apr |
| Rotz | Jeff R | 14-Apr |
| Steele | Howard | 15-Apr |
| Trathen | Robert | 15-Apr |
| Mackerness | Peter | 18-Apr |
| Reed | Charles J | 21-Apr |
| Williams | Robert H | 25-Apr |

April Humor

This Policeman pulled a car over and told the man driving that he was going 50 mph in a 40 mph zone.

"I was only going 40!" the driver protested.

"Not according to my radar," the officer replied.

"Yes, I was!" the man shouted back.

"No you weren't!" the policeman said, starting to get annoyed. With that, the man's wife leaned toward the window and said,

"Officer, I should warn you not to argue with my husband when he's been drinking."

NON RESPONSIBILITY DECLARATION: All activities arranged for or by, or sponsored by, Sons In Retirement, Incorporated, and its Branches, are for the convenience and pleasure of the members and their guests who desire to participate. Sons In Retirement, Incorporated, and its Branches do not assume any responsibility for the well being or safety of the participants or their property, in any matters pertaining to said activities. (Rule 345).

PAYMENT FOR TRIPS AND TOURS: Checks, money orders or credit cards for Travel for one day or less (no overnight), where a bus/busses is/are used as the primary means of transportation, may be made payable to the Branch sponsoring the event. All other checks, money orders or credit cards for travel must be made payable to the travel agency. (Rule 420 & 421).

ATTENDANCE: Members are obligated to attend all regular luncheon meetings unless prevented by illness or absence from the Branch locale. (Rule 60). **REQUIRED ATTENDANCE** - A member who misses three (3) consecutive meetings or who attends less than six (6) regular meetings of the last twelve (12) luncheon meetings may be notified, by letter, of the pending termination of his membership in SIR. (Rule 100 & 107).

