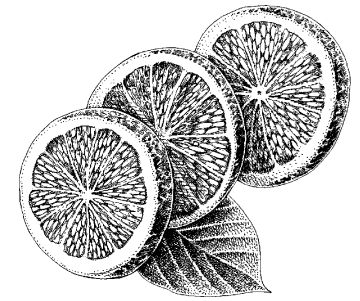




Orangevale Branch 150



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

December 2009

Meetings - 3rd Wednesday of Each Month		Next Meeting - "Ladies Day" December 16, 2009	
Location	Regular Monthly Schedule	Menu:	What's Happening
Rancho Cordova Elks Lodge 11440 Elks Circle Rancho Cordova, CA 95742	Business meeting 10:30 Social time/registration 11:00 Meeting/luncheon 11:30	Entertainment: Others:	Pork Tenderloin, Chicken Marsala, or Tilapia The Swing Scene Paid, pre-registration only

Big & Little Sir Tidbits



Big Sir Chuck Reed

HOLIDAY GREETINGS TO ALL MY FELLOW SIR MEMBERS. This ends my year as the Big Sir and I can honestly say it was a fun year. I got to know my club members a lot better because of direct involvement on a consistent basis. I now can match names with faces and am even learning some of the personalities, and believe me each person is unique. We are a great group of men enjoying our retirement. This is also the time of the year when we look forward to seeing and sharing our time with family and friends. Probably all of us are not only fathers, but grandfathers and great grandfathers as well. There is no greater treasure than family. May the season that's coming, be cherished by all, peaceful to all, kind to all, and enjoyed by all. HAPPY HOLIDAYS!



Little Sir Jim Dodge

Happy Holidays to all of you! Time to reflect on this past year. We have added several new members this past year, BUT we lost some of our very close friends, whose memory will remain with us forever. So the active membership has remained just above the 100 mark.

For the past 20 years, SIR membership has decreased from 30,000 in 1990 to less than 20,000; 184 branches to less than 150 branches; and there are more about to close. We need to continue recruiting and inducting more members. My challenge to each of you is to bring in at least one new member this next year. The key to recruiting is to have involved members who enjoy the comradeship and activities they experience in SIR and share them with friends, neighbors, their former co-workers and/or clients. Another challenge to each of you is to "spread the word." I also want to thank John Duffy for volunteering to take over the "Little Sir" position, and I hope he enjoys it as much as I did this past year. I hope to see all of you at the Christmas Luncheon. AGAIN.....HAPPY HOLIDAYS!!

Ladies Day - Xmas 2009

Plans for the Winter Luncheon are nearly complete. The "Swing Scene" band is practicing daily in preparation for providing us with some great music. They have a six-member band, including a vocalist.

This year we have a great turnout for the luncheon. Currently we have 80 members and guests signed up for the event. This is the largest turnout in recent years. If you have not yet signed up, there is still time. On the menu, you will have a choice of three main entrees. They are Pork Tenderloin, Chicken Marsala, or Tilapia. And, each lady that attends will receive a gift from the club.

Arrive early because the social hour will begin at 11:00 o'clock. There will be a no host bar during the event. Just prior to lunch there will be a short induction ceremony for our incoming 2010 branch officers. It is a sit-down luncheon, so the Elks staff will begin serving lunch at the tables starting at 12:00 o'clock. Your ticket is color coded to help the servers, so place your ticket by your plate where the server can see it.

If you will be able to attend, but have not yet purchased your ticket or tickets, contact Don or me and we will set you up for a great meal and a great time. We will be able to take reservations until Sunday, December 6, 2009. Hope to see you there.

Jerry 916-353-0715 or Don 916-961-6668

Branch 150 Executive Committee			Branch 150 Committee Chairmen				
Big Sir	Chuck Reed	363-8406	Attendance	Norm Green	723-0973	Historian	Dick Clausen (530) 622-4817
Little Sir	Jim Dodge	638-2394	Booster	Charlie Martin	858-1453	Membership	Jim Rae 967-4951
Secretary	Doug Hilton	363-8751	Bowling	Tom Bittner	723-1497	Newsletter Editor	Bob Carlstroem 791-3608
Asst. Secretary	Bruce Kennedy	363-5412	Bridge	John Mahony	485-2449	Nominating	Stan Wirth 362-1748
Treasurer	Ralph Tomson	354-2236	Chaplain	Joe Ramay	635-1158	Nom. Asst.	Jerry Courter 353-0715
Asst. Treasurer	Raymond Avila	481-2402	Communications	Bob Neubacher	685-7528	Nom. Asst.	Bob Carlstroem 791-3608
Director	Stan Wirth	362-1748	Comm. Asst.	Ralph Tomson	354-2236	Quartermaster	Walt Nauer 966-3588
Director	Jerry Courter	353-0715	Fishing	Bob Bonner	961-5403	Social Affairs	Jerry Courter 353-0715
Director	Bob Carlstroem	791-3608	Golf	Harold Doppelmayr	922-6134	Social Affairs	Don Severance 961-6668
Director	Don Severance	961-6668	Golf Asst.	Brent Soulis	726-6326	Travel & Events	Open
Director	Len Bloom	961-2225	Greeter/Pub Relations	Bill Ferreirae	635-6093	Webmaster	Bob Carlstroem 791-3608
Director	Jim Rae	967-4951					
			State President	David Reiser (408) 268-2148		Director Region 2	Ronald McCall (530) 622-5424
						Governor Area 31	Ralph J. Lingis (916) 933-5561

Of Course You (Men) Know!

By an anonymous Lady Sir

Of course you men know that a whole lot of kissing goes on under the mistletoe, all part of a Christmas tradition. However, kissing under the mistletoe is really embracing under a parasite. Mistletoe is really a parasitic shrub that grows on the branches or trunk of a tree. It actually sends out roots that penetrate into the tree and robs it of nutrients. The name mistletoe originated from a bird called the “mistel” (or missel) thrush. The Europeans observed that the mistel thrush’s favorite treat are the seeds of the mistletoe. The belief was that the bird would spread the seeds of the mistletoe by leaving its droppings on the branches or twigs. Thus, the name mistletoe was born from the Anglo-Saxon word “mistel” word for dung and “tan” for twig. So, mistletoe means “dung-on-a-twig.” Not exactly a word origin that is keeping with its romantic reputation. Kissing under the mistletoe is associated with primitive marriage rites, and to have the power of bestowing fertility. The custom is to hang the mistletoe at Christmas and the young men have the privilege of kissing the girls under it, plucking each time a berry from the bush. For those who wish to observe the correct etiquette- when the last berry is gone, there should be no more kissing!

Of course you men know a soda-pop company invented Santa. No Joke. Fat, jolly Santa—the guy with the red suit and cap; the thick black belt and sooty boots; and the rosy cheeks—is all part of an advertising campaign by Coca-Cola according to The Boston Phoenix in the 1930s. Back in the late 19th century, when Coca-Cola first hit the market, the beverage was medicinal. If you were feeling low or suffered from a headache a Coke was the perfect remedy. During the depression the beverage sales were slow and Coca-Cola needed a new look to attract the American market. So, in 1931, Coca-Cola changed its target audience from adults looking for a medical remedy to the whole family. A Swedish artist named Haddon Sundblom, depicted a portly man in a red suit bringing joy to family and friends with a bottle of Coke. The figure in the illustrations was the first modern Santa. Coca-Cola patented a formula for the bright red color used for coke packaging and for Santa’s suit. As far as a jolly man in a red suit, Santa Claus is pure Coke!

Of course you men know all of Santa’s reindeer, including Rudolph, are female. According to the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, while both male and female reindeer grow antlers in the summer each year, male reindeer drop their antlers at the beginning of winter, usually late November to mid-December. Female reindeer retain their antlers till after they give birth in the spring. Therefore, according to every historical rendition depicting Santa’s reindeer, every single one of them, from Rudolf to Blitzen.....had to be a female. Of course we women knew this since the reindeer are able to find their way on Christmas Eve!

E-mail vs Snail-mail

Last month a survey was conducted to try to determine if newsletters mailed were read more than those e-mailed. Those mailed responded using a self addressed stamped envelope and those e-mailed with an e-mail reply. It turns out that 20 out of 22 (91%) mailed responded and 56 out of 101 e-mailed responded. At our last meeting a show of hands of those that do read the newsletter by e-mail but didn’t respond produced perhaps another dozen or more. Since roughly ¾ of our members were present it might be assumed a few more might have responded had they been at the meeting. Thus, an estimate approaches 75% readership using e-mail. With this knowledge, our Branch Executive Committee decided readership was healthy and that we would continue with our current procedure to keep expenses low.

A couple of comments suggested printed material was easier to read. Perhaps the solution is to print out the material realizing you are saving the branch the cost of postage, printing, and labor; thus contributing to our operational success.

Spotlighted Sir

By Bruce Kennedy



Harry Fields was born in “da Bronx” in 1937. Dad was a “Green Grocer.” Harry stayed there through High School at William Howard Taft. At 18 he joined the Air Force in 1955 and went through Basic in the last class before they closed Sampson AFB in upstate New York. He then went for training

at Springfield, Massachusetts. Harry had joined the Air Force to “see the world” and this was not a good start. His next assignment, to a remote station along the Distant Early Warning (DEW), did meet the requirement for being “out there” for a whole year. Compensation was that he had the best chow in his entire career. There were more bear and moose than humans. Minus 35 degrees was an average winter day and he actually walked in it. In the summer, fishing and boating were great pastimes. And, seeing the ice breakup on the Yukon River and watching the Aurora Borealis almost every night were events few people see.

He then went to Hanscom AFB, just outside of Boston, where he completed his four year commitment. He went to re-up and was told he would stay right where he was if he did. So, he let his obligation expire, became a civilian for one day, and then re-enlisted a day later. By doing this he could get to Orlando, Florida. Then it was off to downtown London where he met his wife Ann and had two of their three children. The best way to describe this assignment (without being shot) is that Harry was involved in multi-force contingency planning to be prepared to meet potential conflicts (I bet there are some good stories). His last assignment was to Mather AFB where the term of his second enlistment expired.

At that time, 1964, Ann had a sister in Los Angeles and another in Montreal. Harry’s family was still in New York, so they decided to head back east. For awhile Harry worked for National Airlines at Kennedy Airport and also at a hotel. He then applied for, and joined, the US Postal Service. By 1967 the appeal of New York was dimming and Ann’s Montreal sister had moved to California. Harry really liked the Sacramento area and applied for a transfer. It was granted and Harry was soon on the streets of Sacramento and living in Rancho Cordova. But not for long, Harry was promoted to Supervisor and retired from the Florin Office in 1992. He and Ann then started up a day care center in their home which they ran for 12 years before completely retiring.

As the children grew up, by now two sons and one daughter, several vacations were trips back to England, and some larger European ventures. And, of course, visits to the California sisters. They also started doing some cruises. While the boys were growing up you could find Harry behind home plate at various Little League fields for many years in Rancho. In 1999 they bought a vacation home, well, a 34 foot trailer that they keep at Pismo Beach for getaways three or four times per year. Nice. Family is very important to Harry. All three children are close and there are now 2 granddaughters. When asked about a special memory, Harry responded that all honeymoons are great, but his started on the White Cliffs of Dover, then to France, Germany, Luxembourg and Holland. Not bad. Grover Daniel recruited Harry to SIR Branch 150 during a pinochle game.

Remember the Attendance Requirements

The “Gold Pan” is our primary source of operating funds. Lunch charges (\$15) are a straight pass-through to the Elks Lodge. If you miss a meeting, please make up for the absence at the following meeting.

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

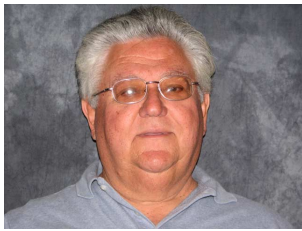
Changes may occur due to holidays

2009 Away Tournaments

Tournaments have been completed for 2009

Sandbaggers of the Month

John Ramos: At Cordova had a gross 81 for a net 56, 7 under par.



Dan Barthel at Wildhawk had a gross 89 for a net 60, 12 under par.



Honorable mentions to: Charlie Martin who had a gross 96 for a net 62, 10 under par and Ernie Wells with a gross 79 for a net 63, 9 under par.

Away Tournament Green Fees

The new policy of paying green and cart fees at the course will be done on a case by case basis. Some courses insist on one check for the green fees. Look at the top of the sign-up sheet for direction.

2010 NCGA Membership

2010 NCGA dues are due and must be collected before the last week in December. Anyone who has not paid before the deadline will be put on inactive status. They will held that way for 30 days. After that time they will be deleted unless they choose to be put on active status again. It will be up to the individual to initiate payment. The list of golfers will be on the 150 website. Check that if anyone does not remember if they have paid. Checks are preferred, but cash will be accepted. The fee this year is \$36. Checks must be made out to SIR 150.

To date, 12 members have not responded. Check the website, if your name is hi-lighted in red, please use the link in the upper right corner to send an e-mail to Harold with your choice to rejoin, to be put on inactive status, or be deleted.

Golf Luncheon

The annual Golf Luncheon will be held at the Cordova Elks on Thursday January 14th. Social hour is at 11:00 and lunch at 12:00. Choices are steak or chicken sandwich, steak fries, family salad and cake for dessert. Table service will be provided. A no host bar will be available for the three hours.

November & December Scramble

The November Scramble has been postponed to December 4th and the December Scramble will take place December 18.

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 occurred at our November meeting:

Chuck Shumate returned to active status.

We approved an application from 1 new member: Harry Fields.

We now have 103 active members and 22 inactive members for a total of 125.



New member Harry Fields.
Welcome to Branch 150

TREASURER'S REPORT

For detailed information contact **Ralph Tomson** at 354-2236 or rotomsonre@yahoo.com

Beginning cash balance January 1, 2009	\$1,916.94
General Accounts Receipts	1,877.00
General Disbursements	2,322.86
Gain or (loss)	(445.86)
Custodial Receipts	11,881.00
Custodial Disbursements	10,531.61
Gain or (loss)	1,349.39
Ending total cash balance	\$2,820.47
November attendance: 70 members, and 0 guests.	
Attendance averaged 66.5 per month, year to date excluding the picnic.	

BRIDGE NEWS

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

Yes, we will be playing in December. Monday, the 14th - same place, same time. Tom will be taking reservations. The November meeting was lots of fun with four tables and new score cards everyone could easily follow. IHOP does serve good food. So stop wrapping packages and putting up decorations, and come join the group. New players are always welcome.

For November: First Place, **Ken Strewe**; second, **Tom Bittner**; third, **John Conyers**; fourth, **Shirlee Wasson**.

FISHING NEWS

Monthly Breakfast Meetings: Jolly Hookers meet at Cordova 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 Jolly Hookers fished Camanche Reservoir on November seventeenth. The weather was beautiful and we just about had the entire lake to ourselves. **Don Scott {SIRS 150}** took first place, John Hulkko was second and Lloyd Willoughby caught the third heaviest fish. All nice rainbow trout. The change in fishing regulations put a wet blanket on the ocean trip so we cancelled that outing. There are no scheduled trips for December but we do have a great Christmas Party coming up on the evening of the eleventh. Nice dinner plus a major drawing for the fishermen and their ladies. Merry Christmas to all from a bunch of Hookers.

Please - not another blond joke

(blame Bob Neubacher)

A police officer stops a blonde for speeding and asks her very nicely if he could see her license.

She replied in a huff, 'I wish you guys would get your act together. Just yesterday you take away my license and then today you expect me to show it to you!'

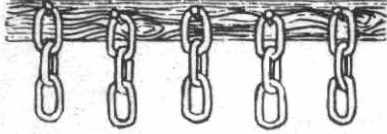
There's this blonde out for a walk. She comes to a river and sees another blonde on the opposite bank 'Yoo-hoo!' she shouts, 'How can I get to the other side?'

The second blonde looks up the river then down the river and shouts back, 'You ARE on the other side.'

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. Last month's puzzle was not solved with first answers.

Working on the Chain Gang



If it costs five cents to break a link, and ten cents to weld it again, what is the least it would cost to join in a single length of chain the five segments shown here?

November Solution

The counterfeit stack can be identified by a single weighing of coins. Take one coin from the first stack, two from the second, three from the third, and so on to the entire ten coins of the tenth stack. Then weight the whole sample collection. The excess weight of this collection, in number of grams, corresponds to the number of the counterfeit stack. For example, if the group of coins weights 7 grams more than it should, then the counterfeit stack must be no. 7 from which you took seven coins, each weighing one gram more than a genuine half-dollar.

**Don't forget to keep a few
"Invitations To Join SIR 150"
cards with you.**

*These were passed out at the last meeting.
If you were not there, contact Jim Dodge to obtain some.*

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
2008	Stan Wirth

* Deceased

Honorary Lifetime Member

John Mahony	2001
Jim Rae	2007

Birthday Boys

Anderson	Bill J	3-Dec
Martin	Terrence M	9-Dec
Hooper	William L	11-Dec
Kennedy	Bruce	12-Dec
Kilgore	Dan V.	13-Dec
McKechnie	Richard E	17-Dec
Andrews	Patrick J	20-Dec
Rainey, Jr.	Vincent	25-Dec
Wells	Ernest	26-Dec
Eres	Pete J	27-Dec
Martin	Charles R	27-Dec
Tomson	Ralph	28-Dec
Kilborn	Kent M	31-Dec

Old Golfer

Great Grandfather had been playing golf whenever possible for over 78 years. Today had been no exception, he was out early and played his 18. Directly after golf he attended his great, great grandson's wedding. During the wedding reception, he was conversing with his great, great grandson, giving advice on having a happy marriage and a great life. After a while the young groom said "Grandfather what's it like making love when you reach your age." And he replied, "Well, its kinda like putting with a rope."

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).

