



SONS IN RETIREMENT ALMADEN BRANCH 94
A NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION FOR RETIRED MEN
Devoted to the Promotion of Independence and Dignity of Retirement

Almaden Branch 94 Meets the Second Thursday of each Month at the
 Elk's Lodge, 444 W. Alma Avenue, San Jose, CA. 95110
 Executive Board Meeting—10:00 A.M. Fellowship—11:00 A.M. Luncheon—11:45 A.M.

OFFICERS			DIRECTORS			ADVISORS		
Big Sir	Roger Prow	408-370-7769	Ron Carter	408-996-1285	Ron Bianco	408-267-0386		
Little Sir	Jim Stonehouse	408-227-4494	Dave Catron	408-268-8528	Chuck McCoy	408-371-6988		
Secretary	Gary Auclair	408-255-6319	Neil Keever	408-257-1345	Bud Souza	408-340-0082		
Asst. Sect.	Earl Bowers	408-997-0224	Darrell Jensen	408-371-6652	Sam Walters	408-268-3739		
Treasurer	Dan Petersen	408-225-5796	Ernie Veal	408-224-3584	Dave Zenk	408-997-0766		
Asst. Treas.	Bob Baker	408-269-1964						
State SIR Web Site	www.sirinc.org		SIR State President	James Stedman	925-932-1636			
Branch 94 Web Site	www.sirbranch94.org		SIR Region 7 Director	Richard Kabanek	408-841-5639			
			SIR Area 5 Governor	Richard Bischoff	408-395-8878			



**BIG SIR MESSAGE FOR
JANUARY 2012**

IT'S ANOTHER YEAR!!! Notice the exclamation points? That means I am excited about 2012. Getting out of our comfort zone and volunteering to do things for others, can give us that boost you need as you look forward to the next day.

For instance, it was wonderful to see all the lovely women at the Christmas luncheon and to see all the smiles on everybody's faces. Women are important to help us reach a growth goal of 10%. They have friends who have husbands who would love to join our group. Did I mention 10%? YES!!! I would love to bring in 17 new members (at a minimum) this year. Seventeen (17) is 10% of our current membership.

Another dream of mine is to get at least 70% of our membership to the monthly lunches. There are 30 great guys out there that call all of you every month to see if you are coming to the Branch 94 luncheon. Many times they have to leave you a message. The best thing you can do for them and for Branch 94, is to call back and say hello. We need accurate counts for the Elks and the caterer. The best thing you can do for yourselves is to reserve the 2nd Thursday of the month and tell them you are coming to the luncheon.

Looking forward to this year and having fun. The bottom line is to enjoy the time we have left.

Wishing you all the best for 2012.
 Big SIR, Roger Prow

Editors Note -- Sorry this is so late this month!!! Holidays, Tax Season, and new responsibilities seems to have gotten in the way.



**FINANCIAL REPORT FOR
DECEMBER 2011**

Respectfully Submitted By
Dan Petersen, Treasurer

Opening Balance 12/01/2011	\$ 3,502.70
December Income	
Luncheon Receipts	\$ 0.00
Contributions (2012)	\$ 0.00
Badges	\$ 0.00
Christmas Luncheon	\$ 532.00
Total Income	\$ 532.00
December Expenses	
Elks – Luncheon	\$ 2,250.00
Drawing	\$ 0.00
Badges	\$ 0.00
Christmas Singers	\$ 100.00
Total Expenses	\$ 2,350.00
December Ending Balance	\$ 1,684.70

SIR HAPPENINGS NOTICE

The Fall edition of SIR Happenings is now available on the SIR website:

<http://sirinc.org/sirhappenings/>

Be sure to check out page 4. **RON BIANCO** sent in an article about Branch 94. Look closely and you might see your picture in the State Newsletter.

GOLF

Gentlemen,

The first tournament of 2012, will be held on the 30th of January at the Coyote Creek Championship course. The price remains the same as last year at \$60 each, and includes golf, cart and a prize fund. The team play will be 4 man 2 best ball. This is a new beginning of the 2012 season. We hope to see all of you guys there.

The first SIR State tournament will be in Las Vegas with rooms at the Palace Statikon or the Suncoast Hotel and Casino. Reserve the dates from April 22nd to April 26th on your calendar NOW!!! Your hosts for this event are - Bob Mannell, Bill Wihelm, and Rich Seyler.

Chuck McCoy - 408-371-6988,
15019 Cooper Ave. San Jose, CA, 95124
chuckmccoy@comcast.net.

Sam Walters - Area 5 Chairman 408-268-3739,
6488 Almaden Rd. San Jose, CA 95120
sowalters@att.net

TRAVEL

A new year and new (old) faces. We are blessed to have **Darrel Jensen** taking over the travel chairmanship. Darrel likes sports, golf, and especially traveling. **Ray Mesa** has stepped up and agreed to be the assistant travel chairman. There will be some great trips lined up for 2012 with these two guys guiding the way!!!

Be sure to visit the travel table and thank these two guys for volunteering to try to make your new year exciting. Take a look at the many travel choices for you. **Your next vacation is in your hands.**

Darrel Jensen - Travel chairman 408-371-6652
gparentsrus@sbcglobal.net
Ray Mesa - Asst. Travel Chairman 408-379-5097

Editors Note:

If you like getting a newsletter, volunteer to keep it published every month. Everyone likes the newsletter, volunteer to get one published with your ideas every month.

Roger Prow

Newsletter editor, Web Master.

BOWLING

No report for December.

Contact **Dennis Pitchford** (408-559-7977) or check the web site at www.sirbranch94.org for more **Branch 94** bowling information

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REMINDER

The servers would like to thank you for leaving a buck or two on the table. They really appreciate your kindness especially during this Christmas Holiday Season.

*Always Remember This, You don't stop laughing because you grow old,
You grow old because you stop laughing!!*

ATTENDANCE — DECEMBER

Members 60 (38%)
Guests 60
Total Active + Life Members 157 (0)
Total Inactive Members 9 (0)

ANNIVERSARIES IN JANUARY

Send updates or changes to ron.carter@comcast.net

Louie	Deanda	(Irene)	46
Bill	Graham	(Betty)	
Bob	Kuechler	(Judy)	48
Howard	LeBas	(Ruth)	
Chuck	Loney	(Judy)	45
Jim	Love	(Fran)	11
Larry	Nelson	(Jean)	68
Andy	Orendac	(Loretta)	57
Mike	Sinnott	(Lek)	13
Dan	Thery	(Yvonne)	26
Ernie	Veal	(Shirley)	
Larry	Verjinski	(Norma)	

SIR BORN IN JANUARY

Jay	Bandanza	Jim	Krepps
Jim	Castillo	Chuck	McCoy
Peter	DeKruif	George	Souza
Marcelo	Jasso	Ernie	Veal
Bill	Knowlden	Dave	Zenk

DRAWING WINNERS FOR DECEMBER

No drawing in December

MEMBERSHIP CHANGES

No Changes in Branch Membership last month.
Have a Happy New Year and bring in more members.

MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN

Report errors, corrections, or changes to:

Ron Carter - 408-996-1285,

ron.carter@comcast.net

Editors Note -- This is State SIR President Jim Stedman's message to all SIR members. It was requested to be published in all January Branch newsletters.

NEW MEMBER RECRUITMENT IS SUCCESSFUL BRANCHES ARE IMPROVING

Our goal was to recruit 1,900 new members in 2011. Branch leaders exceeded this goal by recruiting and inducting 2,100 new members. This is an outstanding accomplishment which puts to rest the idea that newly retired men are not joiners. They will join SIR branches that are appealing. But this successful year is only a start.

The SIR organization fell on hard times in recent years. Overall membership declined from about 32,000 members in 1990 to about 18,000 now. 44 branches failed and closed in the last 12 years. We know why this happened. We lost our focus on maintaining a good balance of newer and older members in our branches. We did not recruit enough new members annually to maintain a good proportion of newer members and our branches became less appealing and lost members.

Our challenge now is to restore this balance. We have found that recruiting new members every year at the annual rate of at least 10% of membership is needed. We met and exceeded this goal in 2011. So when Branch leaders remind you to sponsor a new member, please respond by inviting your retired friends and acquaintances to join. Each successive year this goal is met the proportion of newer members in your branch will increase. Over time balance will be restored and your improved branch will be there for you and for those who come after you.

SIR President Jim Stedman

SOME OF THE DECEMBER BIRTHDAY GUYS



SIR BRANCH 94

JANUARY

2012

NEWSLETTER

Return Service Requested



SONS IN RETIREMENT RULES

Sons in Retirement require that members may be dropped for failing to attend 6 meetings a year, or for missing 3 consecutive meetings without a valid excuse. Dispensation may be made for those who leave the San Jose area for an extended period each year, but who attend regularly while they are in town. Members who are unable to attend meetings for reasons should consider requesting inactive status.

NON RESPONSIBILITY DECLARATION: All activities arranged for or 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.



LUNCH THURSDAY, JANUARY 12, 2012

This should be very interesting!!! **CHRISTOPHER CARROLL** is a supervisor of Special Agents, working out of the San Francisco Division of the FBI. He also has had some responsibility in New Mexico. Chris will talk about some of his assignments. He has been well received by some of the other Sir branches he has spoken to.

The Lunch will be:

COMFORT FOOD!!!

Meat Loaf with Mashed Potatoes and gravy

Salad and Vegetables,

Rolls and Dessert

