

SIR Branch 13 Branch Executive Committee meeting minutes, December 18th, Raley's

Meeting called to order by Big Sir Jay James, 10:01AM

Attendees: Big Sir Jay James, Little Sir Tom Mack, Secretary Leonard Kaufer, Treasurer George Hubbard, Membership Chair Phil Sanderson, Little Sir-elect Jim Parker, Secretary-elect Phil Browning, SIR State President Dave Gonzales

Secretary's report: The minutes from the November meeting were approved.

Treasurer's report: The starting balance was \$4091 and the ending balance was \$4077. The treasurer's report was approved. Treasurer noted that there were 42 lunches ordered for November: 36 paid and 6 no charge. The final lunch count for the holiday luncheon on the 19th is 78.

The Big Sir Report: Sir Jay J. introduced the SIR State president, Dave Gonzales, and asked him to make some remarks.

SIR State President: SIR Dave said that he made it a point each month of his presidency to visit a branch that he had not been to before. This would be the final branch visit of his presidency. It was ironic that he had not visited Branch 13 before, since he lives in the Whitney Ranch area of Rocklin, quite close to Catta Verdera. Dave is currently a member of Branch 98, but in addition to his visit as state president, he wanted to evaluate branch 13 as a potential transfer.

SIR Dave highlighted some of the challenges facing the SIR organization. A median age of 80 makes it difficult to find members willing to serve in leadership positions. Declining membership is a problem not only for the long term viability of the organization, but also may impact the member dues. With ~9000 members SIR is treated as a large organization by our insurer. If our numbers decline to where we become a medium organization our insurance rates will increase dramatically. This might result in a doubling of the per-member assessment the state requires from each branch.

SIR Dave talked about a study the SIR did. It looked at the number of potential members in areas served by the branches compared with the number of actual members. Statewide, the SIR membership represents about a 1.5% market penetration of potential members. This shows that there is a huge potential membership pool that the branches should be actively targeting.

In response to a question, SIR Dave said that the membership had made it clear during the past year that they did not want to open the organization to women members. The issue has been closed.

SIR Jay noted that the attendance at adaptive golf was not high enough for the venue and that the activity would be canceled.

Membership: Ted Galvin will be transferring into Branch 13. Membership applications for Larry Saunders and Paul Gardner were presented to the BEC. Both were unanimously approved .

Old Business: Sir Jay contacted Catta Verdera and requested that the fireplace be turned on and the bar staffed for the holiday luncheon. They agreed to both requests.

New Business: Sir Leonard commented that having served under 5 Big Sirs - including himself - Jay James was the best BEC chair he had seen and thanked him for his service. This sentiment was echoed by the other BEC members.

Sir Jay was asked to remind members that dues would come due at the January meeting. The BEC approved a motion to keep the dues at \$25.

Meeting Adjourned: 10:28AM