



# Minutes of the SIR Annual Meeting

Sons In Retirement, Inc.  
Vallejo Elks Lodge



August 2, 2010

Present were the following:

Branch Big Sirs or representatives, Area Governors.

### State Board Members

Elected Officers	Regional Directors	
Buck Kendrick – President	1. Ken Edson	6. James Stedman
Robert Mannell – Vice President	2. Ralph Lingis	7. Richard Kabanek
Michael Berry – Treasurer	3. George Christman	8. John Levis
Hal Stephens – Assistant Secretary	4. Larry Powers	9. Richard Dettmer
Karl Ryden – Assistant Treasurer	5. John Mason	10. Donald Davis

Past Presidents - Dwight Sale, Jim Donovan, Art Pufford, David Reiser.  
Chaplain/Parliamentarian, Bill Short. Publicity & Tools, Walter Schick.  
Meeting Arrangements, Bill Lewis. Insurance, John Thomason. Rules, Tom Smith.  
Growth & Membership, Harry Hubinger. State Training, Jim Stedman.  
SIR Happenings, Don MacGregor & John Skarpelos. Rooster Hardware, Nat Lord.  
Golf, Gene Drennan. Eckart Sellinger

The meeting was called to order by President Buck Kendrick at 10:00 A.M. An eligible voter quorum was present.

Chaplain Bill Short gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

PRESIDENT KENDRICK explained that elected Secretary Gary Gruber has resigned his position and that for this meeting Bill Short will be acting SIR State Secretary. Due to health reasons Gary Gruber has moved from his home at South Lake Tahoe and is now living in Houston, Texas. President Kendrick thanked Bill for stepping in for Gary Gruber. President Kendrick praised Gary Gruber for all of the work that he has done as SIR State Secretary and as State Roster, State Manual and State Forms chairman. Gary will be missed as a SIR State leader and as a friend.

In his opening remarks, President Kendrick thanked all in attendance for coming to this the Annual Meeting of SIR. He introduced the 2010 officers. He then asked each Area Governor to introduce his branch Big Sirs. After these introductions, President Kendrick introduced the invited guests.

President Kendrick commented on the new form 27. He stated that 59 per cent of the branches utilized the form. He encouraged each branch to be involved in reporting membership information and to work for the 10% recruitment goal for the year. The branches that are participating have leveled out their membership so far this year or have slightly increased their members as compared to almost a 4% loss the year before. This is encouraging. Let us all keep working and using the form 27.

The RV committee has been reactivated. (More, under reports)

Larry Garvin the new SIR Travel Chairman was not in attendance but conveyed to President Kendrick that required documentation for travel events is not getting to him. Each branch Big Sir and each branch BEC needs to complete and forward the

documents on travel sponsored by the branch. SIR insurance coverage requires that the documentation be completed.

VICE PRESIDENT Mannell stated that he has attended many SIR State committee meetings. He had praise for the quality of operations that he observed. Vice President Mannell also said that he was honored to present a number of Honorary Life Memberships so far this year.

ACTING SECRETARY Short reminded the branch Big Sirs that August is election of branch officers month. The results of the branch election are to be reported to the INFOSYS chairman, Dwight Sale. The instructions for reporting are on the form 20. The minutes of today's meeting will appear on the SIR website, [www.sirinc.org](http://www.sirinc.org) within 10 to 12 days. Look under Documents.

TREASURER Berry gave a simple summary of SIR State finances. He stated that 90% of revenue to the state treasury comes from the quarterly branch membership assessments. He stated that liability insurance is the largest State expense. Expenses have exceeded last year's spending so far this year by about \$6,000. At the branch level an average of \$13 per member is carried in branch treasuries. (2009 figures) He suggested that branches with heavy amounts of treasury money consider spending on recruiting projects.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY Stephens explained his job in filing branch corporate forms with The State of California, SI 100s. All branches are duly registered and up to date. Hal after four years as Assistant Secretary is stepping down and will prepare his successor for the assistant secretary's role.

ASSISTANT TREASURER Ryden is actively recruiting e-mail. He is encouraging all branches to forward monthly form 28s to him via computer and not by snail mail. A new form 28 excel will go into use in January. He said to keep up the good work and remember that he does not need form 27, only form 28. His e-mail address is posted on the SIR website.

The election of SIR State Officers was held. Past President and Nominating Committee Chairman, David Reiser, read the Nominating Committee's recommendations for each office. He asked if there were any nominations from the floor. There being none, a motion was made and seconded from the voting members present to accept the Nominating Committee's slate of officers. There was a unanimous yes vote for the slate of officers nominated. The following SIR State Officers were elected for 2011:

President	Bob Mannell
Vice President	Jim Stedman
Secretary	Eckart Sellinger
Treasurer	Gus Lopez
Asst. Secretary	Charles Moss
Asst. Treasurer	Karl Ryden

The following elected officers for 2011 gave brief acceptance speeches:

BOB MANNELL, President elect, said that he wanted to serve the SIR organization. He is looking forward to a productive 2011. He wants to continue President Kendrick's turn around stance with membership.

JIM STEDMAN, Vice President elect, stated that SIR is a successful retired men's organization and that all of us in SIR have benefited from our SIR experiences. One of Jim's goals as vice president will be to make joining a SIR branch more attractive especially to newly retired men.

GUS LOPEZ, Treasurer elect, said that he was honored to be selected 2011 SIR State Treasurer. He is looking forward to serving next year and is in favor of more weddings and less funerals.

KARL RYDEN, Assistant Treasurer reelect, gave a thank you for his reelection. He mentioned that if any branch treasurer needed assistance he would be available to them by phone or by e-mail.

President Kendrick next called upon Jim Donovan, Certificates Chairman. Past President Donovan reported that he enjoyed processing SIR certificates and Honorary Life Memberships. Thus far in 2010, 217 certificates have been processed and sent out to be awarded. Twenty five certificates were HLMs and the remainder were certificates for SIR branch members 90 years and older. One certificate went to a member who was 100 years old. "Belong to SIR and live longer!!"

President Kendrick had the honor of presenting Sir Bill Lewis with a SIR State Honorary Life Member award. The surprised Bill was given a standing ovation as he received a framed certificate and an HLM pin. President Kendrick praised Bill for his years of service to State Sons In Retirement.

Old Business was announced by President Kendrick. Bob Carlstroem Area 31 Governor asked to speak. He stated in a constructive comment that he did not think that each branch Big Sir should be burdened by excessive written reports. Quarterly reporting on branch operations should be up to the area governor. No old business was conducted.

Committee Reports were given as follows:

Training Chairman, Jim Stedman, announced that the State Officer Training program will be held here at the Elks Lodge in Vallejo on October 19<sup>th</sup>. Big Sirs elect, Area Governors elect and Regional Directors elect will be invited to attend. The curriculum will cover jobs, quarterly reports and other appropriate topics.

INFOSYS Chairman, Dwight Sale, explained how the data base program helps the branch retain information about individual members. Many branches feel that they are doing an adequate job keeping track of their membership activities. Dwight encouraged individual branches to contact him to upgrade the branch data base process.

[Dwight.sale@comcast.net](mailto:Dwight.sale@comcast.net) Dwight stated that branch secretaries and treasurers need to be computer literate in order to fully communicate with SIR State.

Publicity & Tools Chairman, Walter Schick, informed the assemblage about the availability of the recruiting folders, bumper stickers and gold certificate stickers. Form 21 is to be properly filled out and sent to Nat Lord, Rooster Hardware Chairman for these items. Chairman Schick passed out an information handout entitled, SIR PUBLICITY & TOOLS COMMITTEE ANNUAL MEETING 2010

Growth & Membership Chairman, Harry Hubinger, stated that The Growth and Management team has put together a presentation designed to inform members about

SIR. Branches interested in making arrangements for speakers should contact him. A video presentation is included in this presentation.

RV Chairman, Don Cummings, informed us that the next edition of SIR Happenings will have a summary of the planned State RV activities. Don asked for help from all of the Big Sirs in identifying RV participants within their branches. There are currently 12 RV clubs within the SIR organization.

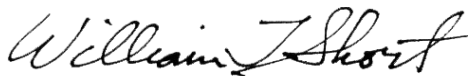
Golf Chairman, Gene Drennan, related that there are not enough golf activities in SIR outside of branch play. He encouraged multi-branch and area golf tournaments. Appointing area golf chairmen would be a good idea when practical. He said that The State Golf Committee will provide more information on SIR Golf to the branches.

President Kendrick called the SIR State Executive Committee to order for a special meeting. At this time, President Kendrick formally installed Secretary Elect, Eckart Sellinger as State Secretary. Eckart will serve the remainder of this year and a full term in 2011. Following the installation, the SIR State Executive Committee Meeting was adjourned and the Annual Meeting continued.

President Kendrick reminded the attendees of the starting point this year, his mission statement. A focus on recruitment, retaining of members and branch activity broadening was mentioned. We need to keep trying for a branch 10% increase in member recruitment. Our team effort is beginning to pay off. The use of form 27 will help individual branches. "Gentlemen....we are adjourned."

The 2010 SIR Annual Meeting was adjourned at 2:12 P.M. by President Kendrick.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "William T. Short".

William T. Short, Acting SIR State Secretary