



**Sons In Retirement Inc.
MINUTES of State Board Meeting
Chardonnay Golf Club
2555 Jameson Canyon Road
American Canyon, California 94503**

Tuesday, January 13, 2015 at 9:30am

State Board Members

President: Bob Hairston
Vice President: Don Dill
Secretary: Derek Southern
Assistant Secretary: Ron Flagel
Treasurer: Karl Ryden
Assistant Treasurer: Hal D' Ambrogia
Director, Region 1: Bob Roberts
Director, Region 2: Russ Salazar
Absent *

Director, Region 3: Jimmie Johnson
Director, Region 4: Bob Staib
Director, Region 5: Robert Fox
Director, Region 6: Dick DeVoe
Director, Region 7: Patrick Misener*
Director, Region 8: Jerry Strain
Director, Region 9: Mark Stuart
Director, Region 10: James Filippo

Invited Participants

Past Presidents:
State Advisor, Parliamentarian: Dwight Sale
Nominating: Maynard Rodland
Past Treasurer: Mike Berry
Bowling: Del Locke
Auditor: Russell Jackson

Rules: Larry Powers
Travel: Bob Spellman
Golf: Bill Wilhelm
Insurance: Angelo Coero
INFOSYS: Dean Steichen
Auditor: Don Merson

Call to Order, Welcome

President Bob Hairston called the meeting to order at 9:30 am and welcomed the attendees. Secretary Derek Southern verified there was a quorum.

Region 8 Director Jerry Strain led attendees in singing "God Bless America".

Region 1 Director Bob Roberts gave the invocation.

The minutes of the November 4, 2014 meeting were approved as submitted **M/S/A**

Presidents remarks

President Hairston acknowledged the work of his immediate predecessor Sir Maynard Rodland and expressed pleasure in seeing him fit enough to attend the meeting after the health problems he suffered in 2014. President Hairston pledged to build on what Maynard and previous leaders have accomplished, but felt it is not enough to just maintain goals of the past, instead we need to develop and innovate, and to commit ourselves to create a better future. He referenced his President's letter (circulated immediately after the meeting) focusing on ONE. A copy is available in Appendix B.

President Hairston recognized Past President Maynard Rodland's service to SIR with the award of a State HLM which was met with unanimous approval and applause. In his remarks Maynard thanked President Hairston for filling in during his absence, then speaking as Chairman of the 2015 Nominating Committee invited attendees to submit names to the committee for evaluation.

President Hairston then awarded a pack of business cards to the new Vice President Don Dill, and a calculator (with large numbers) to Treasurer Karl Ryden.

Treasurer: report from Karl Ryden.

Karl noted that Branch Treasurers are not always properly informed by their predecessors how to properly complete and submit Form 28 for their branch. He will send to Regional Directors a list of the branches whose Form 28s are missing or incorrectly completed. He then called on Mike Berry (immediate past Treasurer) to report on the end of year financials and the 2015 budget.

Mike said he had circulated the 2014 Year End financials to the Board which showed the SIRInc bottom line was quite good with a surplus of \$1,200 compared to a forecast deficit of \$10,000. He noted this change was mostly due to some things which did not happen, eg the cost of prepaid meals at Vallejo replaced with meals paid as consumed at different venues, G&M did not spend their budget, Regional and Area travel was very low, and \$3,000 for SAT branch visits was unspent. Finally, the organization's reserves are approximately \$90,000.

Don Dill asked what happened to the Regional Director's (RDs) budgets in 2014. Mike noted the RDs had a difficult time submitting good budgets but the Treasurer can now provide Regional Directors and Area Governors (AGs) with details of their actual expenses in 2014 as a guide for submitting their 2015 budgets. Some felt that AGs did not submit personal expenses because they did not know what could be claimed or were unaware of the expense claim process (NB: Form 15 from the website, and see Rule 38)

Mike then gave an update of the IRS position on the organization's tax exempt status. He is working with their Utah office and finds they are particularly difficult to work with. He filed to have the parent organization's tax exempt status re-established but we have to wait for up to 3 months for a ruling. Meanwhile he decided to file individual postcards (a one page form on their website) for each branch as that process triggers an immediate response that the data has been accepted. The whole set was rejected on Jan 9th because the branches had lost their exempt status, even though the branches are not shown in the database as having lost their status. We have paid to have the parent reinstated but Mike warned we may have to pay for the branches to be reinstated as well. Mike offered to stay with the problem until it is resolved, instead of passing it on to the new Treasurer. We will need to file with the State in April to confirm our status.

External Auditors

Treasurer Ryden reported that he is not in favor of hiring external auditors, but asked the Board for instructions. RD Fox reminded the attendees that concerns were raised at the Annual Meeting. Advisor Dwight Sale commented that having an external auditor would have done nothing to prevent previous fraudulent activity and an audit could cost \$10K - \$15K. Past President Rodland reminded the Board that at the previous Board Meeting it was m/s/a that the Budget Oversight Committee recommend at this meeting on the need for an External Auditor, including the scope and cost and recommend any improvements to the financial procedures designed to strengthen the internal audit and other controls.

The motion **not to have an external auditor** was M/S/A (Motion proposed/Seconded/Approved).

RD Devoe suggested that information be circulated to the members explaining this decision. RD Stuart stated that we should also inform membership that a Budget Oversight Committee has been set up and is active.

Remarks from Vice President Don Dill

Don stated he does not intend to be an active ex-officio on all committees. He wants this year to be a learning process on getting some things done that we discuss constantly, such as new branches. Everything would be brought before the board for action.

Remarks from Secretary Derek Southern

Derek stated he will be pushing for better communications from Branch ↔ State Board, including consistent reporting on Forms 27 and 28. He did not understand how 5 branches had not returned any F27 for any month in 2014. In response to a report that some Big Sirs do not know where to obtain a new Form 27 he stated that, as always, new Form27s are available on the State website for downloading.

Remarks from Assistant Treasurer Hal D'Ambrogia

Hal reminded the Board he should receive Form 28 monthly from each branch but he has only received 20 copies (as of 1/10/15) and he asked RDs to follow up with their branches when their submittals were late. RD DeVoe suggested it would be easier for RDs if Hal notified them of missing forms, but Hal responded that he has to follow 134 versions each month and asked RDs to do the follow up. Infosys chair Dean Steichen suggested that if Area Governors used the Area checklist (also available from the State website) they would be aware of the missing forms. He suggested we need to be tougher on branches which are delinquent in their reporting. Dean stated he was still receiving reports as a Regional Director because the branch's mailing list had not been updated. Hal reported that even though he had informed Branch Treasurers to send Form 28 to him, Karl was still receiving them. It was clear that communications between former and new branch Officers could be improved, and members are not reading messages sent to them. Hal recommended that Treasurers download from the State website the Form 28 Excel version (dated 10/28/2014) where the math is performed automatically (reducing errors). He commented that if a branch was using a spreadsheet it made little sense to print a copy and mail it to him – they should email it as an attachment!

Hal further noted that AGs receive Audit reports from branches who forward it to him. So far he has only received 1, and it was incorrectly filled out. Dean Steichen reminded everyone that Treasurers must **save** the F28 before sending it. If it is not saved, the form is going to be sent as an empty sheet. Dwight Sale commented that he has received more than 20 blank Form 40s! Past President Rodland made a plea for branches to select computer literate Officers, and suggested that AGs should be assisting branches in this respect.

President Hairston said when he was VP he preferred to receive expenses by email with attachments as it required fewer steps than snail mail and manual entries.

2015 Budget Oversight Committee: report by VP Don Dill

Don noted the 2015 budgeted Revenue is \$81,320 compared to \$82,400 for 2014 which he thought was good considering the decrease in membership (Nov 2013 – Nov 2014) of 773 or 4.8%. Expenses for 2015, which are the main concern of the Budget Oversight Committee, are \$89,000 of which the largest part is for Insurance \$40,931 (approximately 50% of the total). He asked 2014 Treasurer Mike Berry to explain Foreign Travel revenue and expenses. The cost of foreign travel insurance was \$3,200 but only \$1,200 was collected from branches, thus the cost to the State was \$2,000. Mike also explained that General Travel is non-Committee travel.

The budget will be evaluated as we go, making any necessary corrections.

Major changes in expenses are due to moving Board Meetings away from Vallejo, arranging to have the 2015 Annual Meeting at Concord Hilton Hotel, and having Training meetings at multiple locations.

The motion **to pass the 2015 budget** was M/S/A.

A summary of the 2015 budget is attached as Appendix C.

Regional Directors presented their reports: see attachments in Appendix A.

Proposed Rule Changes (summary of voting) Details in Appendix B

Rule 130 (area governor nominations) M/S/A

rule 131 (election of officers) M/S/A

rule 134 (election of officers) M/S/A

rule 155 (area governor nominations) M/S/A

rule 164, 169 (new), 171 (succession planning) M/S/Rejected (State Advisor Sale and others suggested the latter two items are better covered in Training as best practices)

rule 180 (certificates- effective dates of change) M/S/A

proposed travel rules revisions all of the following were M/S/A in a single vote

rule 369, rule 371, rule 374, rule 374, rule 374, rules 383, 384 (rule 383 presupposes a new form 59.) Rule 388 , rule 423

rule 504, 554, 579, 785, 797 (term limits for certain state positions) M/S/A

rule 607 (rules committee) M/S/A

rule 609, 610 (rules committee) M/S/A

rule 780 [in accordance 11/4/14 state board presentation] M/S/A

New rule 786 proposed by 2014 President Maynard Rodland. M/S/A

Rule 868 (State funds disbursement) M/S/A

INFOSYS Committee Report: Dean Steichen

Dean reported that his committee is basically unchanged since the last meeting. The State website content has been updated regularly but its structure has not been changed. His major concern is the Data Base (DB) sub-committee and will be his major focus in 2015. Marty Owen leads the process but his consulting work has taken him off-task. Dan Weller has been recruited to work on the DB sub-committee.

The latest version of SIR Happenings has been published, thanks to Dwight Sale, John Scarpelos, and Don MacGregor. Dean also thanked the people on the committee who handle rosters, rules, Leader's Guides etc. Don Dill asked when the new State DB program might be ready. Dean responded it could be next year (but this might be optimistic). Some data from Form 20 is already entered, but emails and financial data handling are among the unresolved problems.

Travel Committee: Bob Spellman

Bob is concerned because last year we had 94 branches with Travel Chairmen, this year we only have 75. He offered to help any Travel Chairs who need help, and asked RDs to pass that word to their branches. Very few branches are sending him travel forms and that concerns him, he asked RDs to ensure that the correct forms are completed and submitted.

Insurance Committee: Angelo Coero

A general comment often made is that Insurance is 50% of the State budget. Angelo believes it is easier to organize this expense centrally on behalf of the branches, it amounts to less than \$3 per active Sir member for the year. He gets 2-3 calls a week asking for Certificates of Insurance, but he tells enquirers to go to the website and download a copy of Form 9 and send it to our broker. This comes up every year so he asked for the topic to be covered in annual training for Big Sirs.

Our insurance policy is a general Liability policy and it covers a multitude of things. The "3C" rule, Care, Custody, and Control and if any one of those criteria are met we, as SIRInc are liable. Since Board members might well be driving on SIR business he asked for certain data so liability coverage could be arranged. He requested the Travel chairman to provide a list of the number of the foreign trips and the number of members involved, and also requested a copy of the Annual Financial report from the Treasurer.

Angelo reported that fishing is not covered by the current policy, but he may be able to persuade the insurance company to include fishing, but we may have to pay a surcharge for coverage. A

questioner asked if the standard disclaimer would cover this problem. Should we consider a different Insurance company? Angelo explained that our current company is Charity First, part of Travelers and is regarded as #1 in the industry. We request 6 quotes a year to see if we can find a better deal, but so far we cannot. We request around 200 Certificates of Insurance a year, for which some companies charge from \$10 - \$100 each, our company does not charge us for these. The primary liability for a Sir car owner or boat owner is his Home policy. Any excess liability over that insurance is in a gray area. President Hairston suggested any member organizing a boat trip have fellow Sirs sign a **Waiver of Liability**. Angelo used a YMCA example where such a waiver was held to protect YMCA from liability. The Waiver is better than a Disclaimer. State Advisor Sale asked the Insurance Chair to prepare a suitable form for "Waiver of Insurance". RD DeVoe noted that Rule 650 refers to 'winter sports' and 'water sports' and they are not authorized, whereas SIR has 'winter and water recreational activities' such as ice-skating, skiing, and kayaking. Could an insurance surcharge be paid for recreational activities if they are not currently covered. The Insurance Chair pledged to obtain an answer to this question.

Growth and Membership Committee: Jerry Strain

Jerry reported on the first meeting of his committee, stating he'd asked its members for two paragraphs describing what G&M should focus on in 2015. He enumerated several of their ideas, starting with "Do less to do more", meaning G&M should encourage RDs to form committees to focus on critical issues, and G&M would act as a staff function to provide information and ideas. Critical issues that we talk about all the time include operating strategies for branches, motivating branches, and recruiting younger members – Jerry stated we need to do something, not just talk.

He asked for RDs to provide him with the **median** age of each branch in their region so we can analyze the data and see what's going on. Jerry wants to create Regional support teams to support teams. There is not enough communication from RD to AG to Branch and back again, He emphasized the importance of submitting Forms 27 and 28 on time. He also suggested the use of TeamViewer (free program) for holding meetings online, and went on to suggest a Fireside Chat concept where the State President might sit down with a camera and chat to the membership. The video could then be posted on a SIR Facebook or website page.

G&M has been asked to develop a kit for new branches so all requirements are listed in one place. He recommended that each branch include a link to Happenings so more members become aware of State activities. Each Board member was given copies of a new tri-fold brochure promoting the importance of co-ed activities at a branch. The question was raised "Should we purchase these in bulk to keep the cost-per-piece lower?" The label space on the back was not sized for easy use of a label to personalize each branch's information. Don Dill suggested we take the brochures back to our branches to see if they are well received. These are examples of ideas, and are not necessarily a final document. Does this work for your branch? The electronic file of this brochure is available to any branch requesting it. The testimonials need to be targeted towards the activities available at individual branches.

The G&M Committee has been asked to suggest changes to the SIR Mission Statement and several members are working on that. A "Friends for Life" statement may also be included in the Mission Statement as suggested by VP Don Dill.

Jerry concluded by suggesting a rule change to make Training an independent Committee instead of reporting through G&M. He will work with the Rules committee to submit a rule for discussion at the next Board meeting.

Bowling Committee: Del Locke

Del announced there would be 18 tournaments during 2015 and asked for Board approval. M/S/A

Secretary Southern asked for a copy of the schedule, Advisor Dwight Sale suggested showing dates “on or about” instead of fixed dates to avoid any approval problems if dates have to change.

Golf Committee: Bill Wilhelm

Bill reminded all that the next tournament would be held at the Chardonnay course in April and noted that information about all State tournaments can be found on the golf website <http://www.golf.sirinc2.org> . The dates for 2016 will be available in June.

New Branches: Don Dill

Don stated that SIR needs an ongoing team to find and develop new locations for future growth. He proposed setting up ‘Strike Teams’ in each Region, headed by the RD assisted by his AGs plus other assistants as necessary, He will be the leader and will visit with each RD to seek out potential locations for new branches. He handed out his proposal Operation “New B’s” for consideration and asked G&M to consider their number one responsibility as putting together a Starter Kit for a new branch. The proposal is attached as Appendix . His first target areas will be Grass Valley and Nevada City, and in this proposal he listed the number of males over 55 in each area and compared the numbers for Auburn (8541 males over 55 and supports 3 branches; 37, 79, 138). He asked the RDs and AGs to consider this information.

Old Business

President Hairston reported he had found that the concept of Emeritus members in Rules 24(g), 55 and 55.1 (11/4/2014) was misunderstood at Branches. It is meant to exempt older members (80 years old with at least 10 years membership, or 75 with at least 15 years) from their attendance requirements if they cannot consistently attend monthly meetings for reasons of health, caregiving, or being unable to drive. Emeritus members should be considered as Active members and would therefore be eligible to participate in Branch activities. They count as active members for the State assessment. This status is not meant as an alternative status for a member seeking excused temporary absence, eg for snow-birds who go missing for half the year. Rule 55 was referred to the Rules Committee for rewriting with greater clarity.

New Business

Bocce ball: Don Dill’s contact was unable to volunteer as State chairman, Sir Gary Pelton (Branch 32) has volunteered separately and will be invited to the next Board meeting.

Annual meeting: President Hairston and VP Don Dill will create a flier with details about the arrangements. The Hilton has offered a special rate of \$111 (including taxes) per night for Sirs. Bob Hairston asked RDs to promote the idea of the Annual Meeting to their branches and to encourage Big Sirs to attend.

Area Governors at Board meetings: Secretary Southern suggested that AGs be invited to local Board meetings. Advisor Sale reminded the meeting that all AGs used to be invited to the April Board meeting (the last time this occurred was in 2011). If invited, AGs should have a role to play or they will wonder why they were invited.

Proposal that All AGs be invited to the April Board meeting **M/S/R**

Proposal to invite local AGs to local Board meetings **M/S/A**

Audit Committee

The audit committee will report to the April Board meeting.

President Hairston closed the meeting at 3:15 pm and reminded Board members the next meeting will be on Wednesday April 8 at Chez Shari, Manteca Golf Club in Manteca.

**REGION 1 BOARD REPORT\
January 13, 2015**

1. Region 1 – 2 Areas – Area 12 has 6 branches- Area 26 has 3 branches
2. Reports: Form 28s are current with only one exception (Branch 63, Chico) I assume they are sending the form to State, but the last one I received was July. I have met with them, but they still aren't sending me their reports. This high on the list that the Area Governor and I will resolve in the near future

Form 27s current except for the same branch

Big Sir Quarterly Report - About half are doing them –Have sent a model for them to follow
3. All 2015 Big Sirs elect attended the training session in Sacramento, with one exception. The new Area Governor in Area 12 and I conducted an area training meeting in December..
4. Statistically, Region 1 is down 32 members for this year as you can see on the reverse side. We have 1 branch showing an increase and 2 that are even for the year. Area 12 has lost 43 members and Area 26 is even, so Area 12 is the main problem. More than half of the loss in Area 12 is in Branch 52 which had some serious problems that are getting resolved. They had no additional loss in the last quarter and secured a new meeting place which will resolve a big part of their problems.
5. We have not had an Area Gov. in Area 12 for the last three years, but we now have one elected in August and he is from my own branch so we will be working together to improve things in 2015..
6. I visit every branch in my Region at least once a year and I have completed this year's in December..

Robert Roberts
Region 1 Director

Statistical report on other side

REGION 2 QUARTERLY REPORT

Highway 50 corridor from So. Lake Tahoe to Rancho Cordova.
Includes 5 branches in Area 31 and 4 branches in Area 19.
Russ Salazar, Region 2 Director
(530) 644-3809 * RCSALAZAR@AOL.COM

Finances: All branches appear to have adequate funds to sustain operations.
8 of 10 branches are current with Form 28 submittals.

Attendance: The average branch attendance for the 3rd quarter in Region 2 was 65% with two branches exceeding the 70% goal.

Membership: 7 of 10 branches are meeting or exceeding the 10% new member goal. The other three branches are at the 2%-7% new member level.

Activities: Five of ten branches in Region 2 offer only their monthly luncheons, summer picnic, and Christmas Party with no other activities. The other five offer additional activities and are generally more successful in recruiting and retaining new members. We are preparing an action plan at the regional/area level to promote more activities at the branch level. We currently promote inter-branch competitions among neighboring branches including bowling, horseshoes, 8-ball pool, and golf.

Goals and Action Plans: We are currently developing area and regional action plans to address recruitment (new members, officers, committee chairs), membership retention, and recreational activities. We anticipate completion of a draft plan in January 2015.

Meetings: All Region 2 branches conduct monthly BEC and general membership luncheon meetings (with guest speakers) in accordance with prepared and pre-distributed agendas. Minutes of all BEC meetings are prepared and distributed timely (generally), as required. Two branches are spotty in their distribution of BEC minutes.

Form 40 Speakers: There is no formal speakers' bureau in Region 10. There is an occasional referral of speakers between branches but there is no established process.

Travel: Most Region 2 branches do not have a travel chairman. State SIR travel offerings are published monthly in several branch newsletters and only occasionally in several others. There are two branches that have active RVrs that offer several RV group outings during the year.

Innovations: Branch 113 in Area 19 is aggressively implementing a recruiting plan that revolves around individual member involvement. All members have personalized business cards and at least one item of wearing apparel that has the SIR logo on it including caps, polo shirts, jackets, golf/bowling shirts, belt buckles. Each member can be a walking advertisement for SIR.

Branch Reporting: Most branches are current and timely. Two branches are usually late in their Forms 27 and 28 reporting but will submit with a phone reminder. We are focusing on these branches for training in January/February 2015.

Needs: More specific "How To" training for branches to also include subjects that are usually ignored in State training sessions: monthly newsletters, meeting minutes, planning and conducting recreational activities, inter-branch competitions, annual branch rosters, publicity, and others. Examples and downloadable templates could be included in the sirinc website....perhaps a whole section to include this stuff.

Other: We should reopen discussion of an annual convention/meeting in Reno or Las Vegas.

Region 3 Status Report: 1st Qtr 2015

Areas 3, 9, 14 and 27

Finances: All of the branches are in solid financial condition. One branch that was previously at a minimally sound position appears to be on the path to a more comfortable position.

Attendance: None of the branches are maintaining a 70% attendance, but a majority are in the 60's and appear to be doing OK. I have opted not to push this too hard and to concentrate my efforts in areas that would offer a greater positive result. Sort of "pick your battles".

Membership: A continuing uphill battle for all the branches. A couple of the branches are doing a reasonably good job and have had positive but minimal growth. Most branches are gradually declining. One thing I have noted though is that many branches appear to be more critical of the members and are willing to let non-contributing members leave.

Activities: There has been some effort in a couple branches to initiate new activities, but that effort does not seem to be pursued with a lot of vigor. I am hoping to put together a regional activities group in 2015 and see if some shared efforts might improve the attractiveness of our branches.

Goals & Action Plans: I have asked each of the 2015 Big Sirs to appoint a representative to a regional activities group. Once in place, this group will meet periodically and see if we cannot take advantage of the current efforts of the various branches instead of each branch reinventing the wheel. I would like to get the branches to start thinking regionally instead of branch. Now that Region 3 is essentially all of Sacramento, we have a unique opportunity to expand our member participation.

Meetings: I am not aware of any difficulties in this area. All branches that I have visited seemed to be effectively run.

Speakers: Sacramento has a very active and effective speakers bureau and has for a number of years. The last time I discussed this with the chairman, he stated

that he had had as many as 18-19 attendees and was concerned they may need new meeting space if this continued. Some of the attendee were from nearby communities and not necessarily in this region.

Travel: Most branches do not have formal travel programs. Those that do not are encouraged to make use of the state offerings. This is one of the areas that I think a regional approach might be an improvement.

Innovations: I have not seen any exciting things occurring in this area. Many of the branches have websites, but most are rudimentary and not kept current. There has been some effort to use local news publication to attract members as well as direct mail. I do not think that either effort has been very effective.

Branch Reporting: This has been an ongoing effort from back when I was an area governor. I have created an email account for all of the areas in the region and for the regional director. It is my goal that everyone will get used to sending the report to a fixed address so that they did not have to change their mailing list each year. As the individual holding the AG or RD position changes, they could just take over the email address and continue on. I need to develop a system to allow me to quickly monitor which reports I have received and which I have not.

Needs: I am anticipating the need for some support for G&M on meeting with the activity representatives and helping us put together a plan to take advantage of our sheared opportunities now that all the branches are in one local. I don't know when this will be, but most likely it will be Feb. or Mar. before I get all the representatives identified and a meeting location determined.

One third of the branches in Region 3 are new to the region due to the Nov. reorganization, and I have not have contact with all of the units, so I do not know what needs they may have, if any. I am anticipating that the first quarter is going to be one of getting to know these branches. Not to be minimized is that even though Region 3 has three areas, there is only one area governor. Also, there was talk of a new branch in woodland coming aboard and I have not heard anything new there.

Area 18

Branch 88, Vallejo

Jan, '13	131 Act. Mbrs,	6 INAs,	0 New Mbrs.	3 Guests	15 Out	Luncheon Att. 61%
Jan, '14	94 AMs,	4 INAs,	1 NMs	1 Gst	9 Out	LA 65%
Feb.	96 AMs	1 INAs	2 NMs	1 Gst	0 Out	LA 46%
Mar,	96 AMs	2 INAs	0 NMs	1 Gst	3 Out	LA 74%
Apr.	93 AMs,	1 INAs,	2 NMs	0 Gst	3 Out	LA 76%
May	91 AMs	0 INAs	1 NMs	0 Gst	2 Out	LA 74%
Jun.,	92 AMs	1 INAs	0 NMs	1 Gst	0 Out	LA 58%
Jul.	91 AMs,	3 INAs,	1 NMs	1 Gst	2 Out	LA 68%
Aug.	91 AMs	0 INAs	0 NMs	0 Gst	0 Out	LA 65%
Sept.	Ladies day	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Oct.	90 AMs,	6 INAs,	1 NMs	2 Gst	2 Out	LA 80%
Nov.	91 AMs	5 INAs	4 NMs	0 Gst	2 Out	LA 82%
Dec.	Ladies day	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

Though down by 3 members since January, membership in this branch has remained steady the past several months. They continually remind members to bring guests. They have a fine full slate of officers for 2015 that are dedicated to bringing in new members and activities.

Branch 99, Vacaville

Jan, '13	91 Act. Mbrs,	15 INAs,	0 New Mbrs.	Guests 1	3 Out	Luncheon Att. 77 %
Jan., '14.	88 AMs	16 INAs	1 NMs	2 Gst	1 Out	LA 76%
Feb.	88 AMs	12 INAs	1 NMs	1 Gst	1 Out	LA 82%
Mar,	89 AMs	8 INAs	3 NMs	2 Gst	2 Out	LA 79%
Apr.	90 AMs,	8 INAs,	1 NMs	0 Gst	1 Out	LA 82%
May	90 AMs	8 INAs	1 NMs	0 Gst	1 Out	LA 79%
Jun,	89 AMs	8 INAs	1 NMs	2 Gst	2 Out	LA 82%
Jul.	93 AMs,	8 INAs,	2 NMs	0 Gst	1 Out	LA 80%
Aug.	91 AMs	8 INAs	0 NMs	0 Gst	0 Out	LA 78%
Sept.	Ladies	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Oct.	87 AMs,	9 INAs,	0 NMs	2 Gst	3 Out	LA 79%
Nov.	93 AMs	8 INAs	7 NMs	6 Gst	1 Out	LA 75%
Dec.	Ladies day	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

Branch 99 is actively promoting SIR through occasional local media news releases, use of SIR canvas posters, brochures, table cover, business cards at Senior events, and at their own meetings. These factors are encouraging as evidenced by a recent surge of new members and guests. They continue to maintain excellent luncheon attendance. Activities are increasing and well attended, particularly "Dining Out" nights with their ladies every six weeks or so..

Branch 106, Fairfield

Jan, '13	149 Act. Mbrs,	16 INAs,	3 New Mbrs.	3 Guests	7 Out	Luncheon Att. 67 %
Jan, '14	147 AMs,	11 INAs,	0 NMs	1 Gst	5 Out	LA 70%
Feb.	146 AMs	11 INAs	0 NMs	0 Gst	2 Out	LA 66%
Mar,	145 AMs	11 INAs	1 NMs	1 Gst	2 Out	LA 70%

Apr.	145 AMs,	11 INAs,	0 NMs	0 Gst	2 Out	LA 66%
May	143 AMs	12 INAs	0 NMs	1 Gst	1 Out	LA 59%
Jun.	136 AMs	13 INAs	1 NMs	2 Gst	8 Out	LA 70%
Jul.	131 AMs	10 INAs,	3 NMs	0 Gst	8 Out	LA 66%
Aug.	130 AMs	11 INAs	0 NMs	5 Gst	1 Out	LA 60%
Sept.	133 AMs	10 INAs	2 NMs	2 Gst	0 Out	LA 62%
Oct.	134 AMs,	12 INAs,	3 NMs	5 Gst	3 Out	LA 69%
Nov.	136 AMs	14 INAs	4 NMs	1 Gst	3 Out	LA 71%
Dec.	Ladies day	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

Br. 106 is down 9 members since January, but the rate of loss has stabilized following the abrupt departure of 8 members from one table in July for violating house (venue) rules. They have a promising slate of officers for 2015. They will commence quickly on an a trial two-month promotion campaign with the Fairfield Republic newspaper. Interest in additional activities, particularly with ladies and guests is increasing. They will start the new year with a change of luncheon venue to the Marriott Courtyard Hotel in Fairfield..

Br. 123, Vallejo

Jan, '13	62 Act. Mbrs,	4 INAs,	0 New Mbrs.	1 Guests	1 Out	Luncheon Att. 63 %
Jan, '14	51 AMs,	8 INAs,	0 NMs	0 Gst	0 Out	LA 76%
Feb.	51 AMs	8 INAs	0 NMs	0 Gst	0 Out	LA 73%
Mar,	50 AMs	8 INAs	0 NMs	1 Gst	1 Out	LA 72%
Apr.	51 AMs,	8 INAs,	1 NMs	0 Gst	0 Out	LA 71%
May	51 AMs	8 INAs	0 NMs	0 Gst	0 Out	LA 57%
Jun.	49 AMs	7 INAs	0 NMs	0 Gst	2 Out	LA 67%
Jul.	49 AMs,	7 INAs,	0 NMs	0 Gst	0 Out	LA 73%
Aug.	49 AMs	7 INAs	0 NMs	1 Gst	0 Out	LA 73%
Sept.	48 AMs	7 INAs	1 NMs	0 Gst	2 Out	LA 56%
Oct.	48 AMs,	7 INAs,	0 NMs	0 Gst	0 Out	LA 75%
Nov.	47 AMs	7 INAs	0 NMs	0 Gst	1 Out	LA 66%
Dec.	Ladies day	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

I remained concerned for the health of this branch. The members seem complacent to stepping up to replace officers, and even their long-standing bulletin editor, who for most of the year has pleaded for someone to take his place. The Big Sir is carrying over to his second term, and to date (to my knowledge) they do not have a Little Sir for 2015. The medium age for the branch is probably near 80. The members definitely enjoy each others company at their luncheons, but unless there is a change of attitude in member participation and bringing guests, the branch is destined to fail or to merge with Br. 88.

SIR Area 17

Br. 65, Napa

Jan, '13	-----* I do not have January '13 data for branches in Areas 17 and 32. -----						-
Jan, '14	61 AMs,	8 INAs,	1 NMs	0 Gst	2 Out	LA 70%	
Feb.	61 AMs	8 INAs	0 NMs	1 Gst	0 Out	LA 63%	
Mar,	63 AMs	8 INAs	2 NMs	0 Gst	0 Out	LA 67%	
Apr.	62 AMs	8 INAs,	0 NMs	0 Gst	1 Out	LA 45%	
May	61 AMs	8 INAs	0 NMs	1 Gst	1 Out	LA 72%	
Jun.	61 AMs	8 INAs	1 NMs	0 Gst	1 Out	LA 74%	

Jul.	60 AMs,	8 INAs,	0 NMs	0 Gst	1 Out	LA 65%
Aug.	61 AMs	8 INAs	1 NMs	1 Gst	0 Out	LA 67%
Sept.	61 AMs	8 INAs	0 NMs	2 Gst	0 Out	LA 52%
Oct.	63 AMs,	8 INAs,	2 NMs	0 Gst	0 Out	LA 70%
Nov.	63 AMs	8 INAs	0 NMs	2 Gst	0 Out	LA 75%
Dec.	Ladies day	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

Branch 65 continues to stay the course in membership and attendance. They encourage members to bring a guest/s. They have a slate of new officers for 2105. I look for steady improvement in this branch..

Br. 105, Napa

Jan, '13	-----	----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Jan, '14	86 AMs,	1 INAs,	0 NMs	0 Gst	3 Out	LA 72%
Feb.	83 AMs	1 INAs	0 NMs	0 Gst	3 Out	LA 64%
Mar,	83 AMs	3 INAs	0 NMs	0 Gst	1 Out	LA 72%
Apr.	83 AMs	1 INAs,	0 NMs	0 Gst	0 Out	LA 83%
May	79 AMs	1 INAs	0 NMs	0 Gst	4 Out	LA 90%
Jun.	80 AMs	1 INAs	1 NMs	3 Gst	0 Out	LA 64%
Jul.	Ladies day	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Aug.	79 AMs,	1 INAs,	0 NMs	2 Gst	0 Out	LA 67%
Sept.	78 AMs	1 INAs	0 NMs	1 Gst	0 Out	LA 74%
Oct.	82 AMs,	0 INAs,	3 NMs	1 Gst	0 Out	LA 61%
Nov.	82 AMs	0 INAs	1 NMs	3 Gst	1 Out	LA 67%
Dec.	Ladies day	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

Branch 105 has seen a small surge of new members and guests in the 4th quarter. Most encouraging is the number of guests, beginning in June and progressing well through November following practically no action in this regard the first two quarters. Though the branch is down four members from January, I look for continued slow to moderate growth going into the new year.

Br. 149, Napa

Jan, '13	-----	----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Jan, '14	196 AMs,	4 INAs,	2 NMs	7 Gst	1 Out	LA 72%
Feb.	199 AMs	3 INAs	5 NMs	5 Gst	2 Out	LA 73%
Mar,	200 AMs	3 INAs	5 NMs	6 Gst	4 Out	LA 69%
Apr.	207 AMs	3 INAs,	1 NMs	2 Gst	0 Out	LA 68%
May	208 AMs	3 INAs	1 NMs	2 Gst	0 Out	LA 67%
Jun.	211 AMs	3 INAs	4 NMs	2 Gst	2 Out	LA 71%
Jul.	210 AMs,	3 INAs,	0 NMs	0 Gst	1 Out	LA 57%
Aug.	210 AMs	3 INAs	1 NMs	10 Gst	1 Out	LA 64%
Sept.	212 AMs	5 INAs	5 NMs	0 Gst	3 Out	LA 62%
Oct.	214 AMs,	4 INAs,	2 NMs	1 Gst	2 Out	LA 68%
Nov.	215 AMs	4 INAs	1 NMs	0 Gst	0 Out	LA 65%
Dec.	213 AMs	6 INAs	0 NMs	Ladies day	2 Out	Ladies day

This Flagship Branch of Reg. 4 has progressed admirably (no pun intended) through the year of 2014. Beginning in January with 196 active members, they finish the year with 213. Their full new slate of

officers should have little difficulty maintaining and building on the positive attributes of Branch 149. Their numerous and sundry activities, especially those involving their ladies, should make for a happy membership well into the foreseeable future.

SIR Area 132

Br. 133, Hidden Valley Lakes

Jan, '13	-----	----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-
Jan, '14	66 AMs,	8 INAs,	0 NMs	0 Gst	0 Out	LA 67%	
Feb.	68 AMs	6 INAs	0 NMs	1 Gst	0 Out	LA 71%	
Mar,	69 AMs	5 INAs	0 NMs	3 Gst	1 Out	LA 58%	
Apr.	69 AMs	5 INAs,	0 NMs	0 Gst	0 Out	LA 61%	
May	70 AMs	5 INAs	1 NMs	0 Gst	0 Out	LA 61%	
Jun.	70 AMs	4 INAs	1 NMs	0 Gst	1 Out	LA 64%	
Jul.	71 AMs,	4 INAs,	1 NMs	0 Gst	0 Out	LA 57%	
Aug.	70 AMs	5 INAs	0 NMs	0 Gst	1 Out	LA 64%	
Sept.	68 AMs	6 INAs	0 NMs	0 Gst	2 Out	LA 62%	
Oct.	66 AMs,	5 INAs,	0 NMs	1 Gst	0 Out	LA 57%	
Nov.	63 AMs	5 INAs	0 NMs	0 Gst	3 Out	LA 51%	
Dec.	Ladies day	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	

Through 2014, Branch 133's membership has fluctuated in the 60s, but there has been a year-end transfer of a few members out of the branch to Br. 168 in Lakeport. I understand this is primarily due to a food quality/price dissatisfaction among several members at their venue at Hidden Valley Lakes. Incoming Area Governor, Dean Faris, a member of Br. 168, will be looking into the situation at Br. 133 to help them make the best out of their current vulnerable situation. HVL is a small community in Lake County, a fair distance from the more populated Lakeport-Clearlake region to the north. We want to do all we can to preserve this branch and help it grow.

Br. 168, Lakeport

Jan, '13	-----	----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-
Jan, '14	88 AMs,	12 INAs,	0 NMs	2 Gst	1 Out	LA 56%	
Feb.	89 AMs	12 INAs	1 NMs	1 Gst	1 Out	Ladies	
Mar,	89 AMs	12 INAs	1 NMs	0 Gst	0 Out	LA 58%	
Apr.	90 AMs,	11 INAs,	3 NMs	3 Gst	3 Out	LA 63%	
May	93 AMs	10 INAs	2 NMs	0 Gst	0 Out	LA 58%	
Jun.	93 AMs	10 INAs	0 NMs	1 Gst	0 Out	LA 58%	
Jul.	91 AMs,	11 INAs,	0 NMs	1 Gst	2 Out	LA 56%	
Aug.	90 AMs	12 INAs	2 NMs	0 Gst	3 Out	LA 57%	
Sept.	91 AMs	7 INAs	0 NMs	1 Gst	1 Out	LA 47%	
Oct.	92 AMs,	3 INAs,	0 NMs	2 Gst	2 Out	Ladies	
Nov.	92 AMs	3 INAs	0 NMs	1 Gst	1 Out	LA 66%	
Dec.	Ladies day	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	

Branch 168 is holding its own in membership and guests' appearances. A big plus is pairing down their inactive list from 12 to 3 in the course of the year. It is hoped that their year-high luncheon attendance of 66% in November is a positive sign. The branch just changed their venue from a nearby casino to a

downtown Lakeport restaurant, the TNT, where they held their Christmas Party. Let's hope this is a good move.. The branch continues to do well in local and northern California-Nevada regional travel activities.

Personal Comment:

Gain / loss of each branch (as reported on Form 27) January through December, 2014 as follows:

Area 17 ... Br. 65, Plus 2; Br. 105, Down 4; Br. 149, Plus 17	Net Area gain / loss = +15
Area 18 ... Br. 88, Down 3; Br. 99, Plus 5; Br. 106, Down 9; Br. 123, Down 4	Net Area gain / loss = -11
Area 32 ... Br. 133, Down 3; Br. 168, Plus 4	Net Area gain / loss = +1
Net Gain for Region 4 = Plus 5	

All branches have been maintaining financial stability. There is a marked effort among each branch to increase guest attendance, especially in the last quarter. There is still reluctance in some branches for members to step up to the plate and fill officer and committee positions. This needs to be started early in the year to assure the branch have a full slate of positions filled for 2016---and beyond! It is important that the Branches regularly go over their Branch Assessment Form. This is a defining barometer to alert BECs when good or bad weather is on the horizon..

I am encouraged by improved overall luncheon attendance. If members put an extra effort into bringing guests and committing to their attendance obligations, this Region can enjoy a significant member gain in 2015. I am impressed with the upbeat attitude of the officers and committee personnel present at our early December Training Meeting. It was well attended and everyone seemingly left with a can do / will do air of assurance.

I'm asking the Area Governors and Big Sirs to see that Branches carry at least a modicum of promotional posters, table covers, etc., plus pamphlets and invitation (business) cards, and look into local advertising media opportunities for their own or shared benefit.

To our outgoing Area Governors and Big Sirs and to those carrying on , thank you for the assistance and cooperation you showed me during my first year as Regional Director. You made it fun, believe it or not!. Your area and branches remain in good hands.

Lastly, I welcome our two new Area Governors, Ed Suden, Area 17, Napa, and Dean Faris, Area 32, Lake County, and to our new Big Sirs, Little Sirs, and BECs--- I look forward to working with you. Please call or email me at anytime whenever you wish to discuss SIR business. AGs, I will be advising you on our format for the Quarterly Reports as we get into the first quarter of the new year.

Bob Staib
Director, Region 4

Region 5 Report – 1st Quarter 2015

Bob Fox – Regional Director

Area 1 is San Francisco and San Mateo

Area 16 is San Mateo and mid-Peninsula

- 1) Finance: All branches have adequate funds and are current with Form 28
- 2) Attendance: Branch attendance for the quarter was 59%, down 1% from last quarter. One branch has a 47% attendance and a lower member count. I am addressing these concerns with the new big SIR. None of the branches are exceeding 65%. A SAT evaluation with action steps with each branch is in place to achieve the goal. I believe creating a speakers form to improve the quality of speakers may help increase the attendance. Additionally doing things to make the new members feel important is being addressed.
- 3) Membership: 4 branches have been flat in attendance. One branch has grown by 4, another by 8. Of the remaining three branches one has decreased by 15, two by 2, and one by 1. There have been 5 of the nine branches that have been remiss in letting members go that have had over 4 months of non-attendance. The branch that lost 15 was due largely to letting non-attendees go.
- 4) Activities: One branch has added a new activity. However, our Region has a combined activity list shared with the members that can join an activity from another branch. Each branch with 5 or less activities has a goal to reach 7 or more. One branch has one activity, golf. I have requested all branches to provide a short survey at the lunch tables to include any interest in creating a new activity for that branch.
- 5) Goals and Action Plans: I have completed a second visit to the nine branches to include reviewing branch improvement goals. Commitments vary but generally there is positive progress. My commitment is to visit each branch a minimum of three times yearly to continue to reinforce branch improvement activity.
- 6) Meetings: All branches have a BEC and lunch agenda they follow. BEC meeting minutes are published.
- 7) Speakers: Each branch recruits lunch speakers independently. When attending lunches I find most speakers have good delivery and content. I have created an evaluation form that I recommend each branch completes where I will store the forms and make it available to the branches. In the bi-monthly big SIR meeting I will introduce the possibility of setting up a speakers forum with a representative from each branch to exchange speaker information.
- 8) Travel: State travel needs more emphasis by the branches. I recommend they publish it in the monthly bulletin.
- 9) Innovations: 3 branches have gone together to host a summer picnic to cut costs and compete in bocci. Four branches are proactive in advertising in local papers. Two branches are folding in wives in some activities. Six branches now have issued SIR business cards to all members encouraging them to issue them. Six branches are putting a colorful sticker on new member badges and encouraging existing members to welcome them. More work needs to be done here.

- 10) Branch reporting: All branches are now completing monthly reports timely.
- 11) Needs: Work must continue in most branches to actively recruit new members. Additionally, directors should take on committee activity.
- 12) Other: Last quarter I was concerned with a branch lacking leadership and a full slate of officers. The new Big SIR has taken a take charge role and the new officers are more motivated. I reviewed possible actions for branch improvement and they are in the process of establishing recruitment committee to address membership count improvement. I will continue to monitor progress. I host a bi-monthly lunch with Big SIR's to allow them to exchange ideas and both problem areas as well as success stories. This allows them to extend thinking beyond their own branch and be part of a team that they can bring back good ideas to their own branch. I see more positive energy from the new Big SIR's I believe is the result of big SIR training last year. A training course is planned in one week for new Treasurer's on how to complete Form 28.

**Region 6 Quarterly Report for Jan. 13, 2015 Board Meeting-
Submitted by Dick DeVoe, Regional Director**

1. **Finances:** All 19 Branches have adequate funds and are generally current with Form 28's.
2. **Attendance:** Most branches are doing ok on attendance. Some need to focus on why their percentage is low and take steps to increase it.
3. **Membership:** Preliminary data indicates year-end will show 5-7 Branches out of 19 retaining or increasing membership, The 9 with losses above 3% is disturbing, in light of the emphasis placed upon recruitment in Region 6. Some of it is due to roster purging of Inactive members.
4. **Activities:** Many branches are not creating as many activities as they would like to have. At least two branches have over 30 activities each and continually work toward increasing new activity startups and increasing numbers of the same activity- e.g. more bridge and poker groups, dining groups, wine-tasting groups. Co-ed groups continue to increase, especially in Area 2 where there are more than twenty choices.
5. **Goals & Action Plans:** All have adopted the +1 goal for membership and activities but several are not making the goals.
6. **Meetings:** Branches use agendas, are reasonably well run, and publish minutes.
7. **Speakers:** Only Area 2 Branches has a Speakers Exchange, using a Dropbox application to facilitate exchange of Speaker information. See Innovations for plans to expand this important program.
8. **Travel:** State Travel information is posted in most newsletters along with local Branch Travel opportunities. Area 2 Travel Chair is now the State Travel Chair.
9. **Innovations:**
 - a. **A Regional Support Chairman** has been created, with current Area 2 Support Co-Chair Walt Schick accepting the position. He supports the RD on a plethora of regional issues including training needs, branch health improvement programs, meeting planning/preparation/presentations, the Region 6 new Form 27 implementation, Area Rosters development, promotion/publicity ideas; as well as working with AG's in developing their Area Support teams.
 - b. **A revised Form 27** has been used by Area 2, which has now been expanded and will be used by all 19 Region 6 branches for improved branch and AG/RD analysis. There are now three columns providing past 3 years membership data; a median age (quarterly) line item; number of activities line item, and number of 1st time guests line item (some guests come more than once prior to applying).
 - c. **A Partners TriFold** has been developed by Regional Support Chairman Walt Schick and circulated with examples and testimonials. Samples are to be passed out at the January State Board Meeting with a request to purchase for promotional ordering on Form 21.
 - d. **A Region 6 Speakers Exchange** is a work-in-progress project. One of 3 Areas has a Speakers Exchange, and AG Ron Saltgaver has offered to develop one Exchange for all 19 branches' use.
 - e. **A Branch Leaders DVD Data File** is "hot off the press", developed by AG Ron Saltgaver. The DVD has about 59 Megabytes of material of interest to BEC leaders, and can be duplicated (burned) in about two minutes for a cost of less than 20 cents. It includes specific files for the Big Sir, Little Sir, Treasurer, Secretary and Directors; the latest SIR Manual; The latest State Roster; "Keys to Branch Success" program; Metrics for a Healthy Branch; the Branch Self-Assessment form; Area Contact Roster (developed by the Region 6 Support Team); and much more. The Region intends to provide this DVD to its branch leaders for their ongo-

ing use.

10. Branch Reporting: All Branches are current on Form 28. Form 27's are current except for two branches that are catching up.

11. Needs: The primary Regional focus will be on branch health improvement, particularly for branches with less than 100 members and those who suffered membership losses in 2014.

Examples: Goal-setting and review, branch self-assessment and action plans; branch surveys and follow-up; institution of the four functions in branches- Recruitment, Activities, Publicity, and Retention (Member Relations); speakers bureaus; branch websites; branch succession planning; activities expansion, including co-ed; local publicity/promotion.

12. Other: None.

Region 8 -
October-December, 2014 Quarterly Report

TO: Jerry Strain, Regional Director
FROM: Jerry Emery, Area Governor
DATE: January 8, 2015

1. Branch Finances

Branch finances for all four branches have turned very positive in the last quarter of the year. Branch 143 in Turlock was down to just \$69 in its checking account in the 2nd quarter, but through the efforts of Big Sir, Jim Mann, changes have been made to both structure and mindset to give an ending balance of about \$1,700. The other three chapters are in very good to excellent financial shape. Branch 103 in Modesto, by the way, is in such great financial shape the leadership was able to provide two free luncheons for membership. Both Branch 103 and 144 have ending balances of over \$4,000. With just over 50 members, and in only its second year of operation, Branch 164 in Manteca has a rising balance of about \$750.

2. Attendance

We eliminate attendance percentages in December for all branches in Area 22, due to the fact that all four branches have a Ladies' Day luncheon and accurate figures are impossible. Over November and December, though: Branch 103 averaged 67.5% attendance; Branch 143 averaged *58.5%; Branch 144 averaged 68.5%; and, our newest branch, Branch 164, in Manteca, averaged 73.5% attendance.

3. Membership

The opening of Branch 164 in Manteca created much flow and ebb within Area 22, resulting in mixed results from branch to branch. The great news is that 164 reached the required membership before its two-year time period and ended the quarter with 53 members, after starting its second year with 32 members. Big Sir, Jack Glenn, and his Executive Board, is to be commended for their successful and determined efforts. Both 103 and 144 in Modesto lost membership to Branch 164. Branch 103 recovered to have a 0 net gain/loss over the year. Big Sir Bob Kredit is to be commended for his dynamic leadership and energy exhibited in this endeavor. Branch 144, however, did not recoup its losses and has a membership loss of 8 members over the year. Like 103, Branch 143 maintained a 0 net gain/loss over the year.

4. Activities

Area 22 remains replete with activities for its membership. All four branches are actively engaged in golf, bowling, and travel groups. Branch 103 sponsored this Area 22's first summer picnic for all the branches. Each branch conducts at least one Ladies' Day luncheon during the year. Growing in popularity in Branch 144 is Pickle Ball, Dining Out groups, and Bocce Ball. 144 also sponsored an all-Area night out at the local minor league Baseball park. Branches 103, 143, and 144 honored war veterans, whether from WWII, Korea, or the Cold War. Great breadth of discussions was evident, from the array of speakers available at all four monthly meetings.

5. Goals and Action Plans

Big Sirs and specified members of each branch's executive boards, including the Treasurer, met with the Area Governor and Regional Director to learn how to format agendas, conduct effective meetings using Robert's Rules of Order, maintain the books

using acceptable business practices, and delegate responsibilities to the appropriate officers and members. This meeting, vital for men who may not have done these activities in their own career, provides the most important part of their goals and action plans. The other part is usually the growth of their membership. The Area Governor will stress this year, "Each One, Reach One" as an area-wide effort to increase membership. He used this motto during his term as Big Sir of 144; it was easily understood by membership and seemed to be a positive driving force in a successful recruitment year.

6. Meetings

As mentioned previously, each branch conducts its own monthly Executive Branch and general business meetings. Each branch invites authoritative presenters from around their communities to speak to its membership. The range of topics runs the gamut of possibilities and is always informative and entertaining.

7. Form 40 Speakers

Informality has reigned as the method of comparing and suggesting speakers between the branches, exhibited by personal conversations and e-mails between all the Little Sirs within the Area. Steps to formalize this process need emphasis this next year.

8. Travel

Sir Bill Stires, from Branch 143, is to be commended for offering a breadth of travel experiences for all Area 22 members and their families or friends. These experiences may last just an afternoon to the racetrack in the Bay Area, or touring the new Levi Stadium, to full cruise opportunities around the globe. Medium-length trips may entail Spring Training or weekend trips to the Reno area. Bill travels to most of the branch meetings to explain the various trips, deadlines, explorations, dress, etc.

9. Innovations

Branch 103 sponsored the Area's first Picnic Day at a park in Modesto and is scheduled to do so again this year. Branch 144 started a trip to the local ballpark last year and has expanded that to Area-wide this year. Pickle Ball started in Branch 144 last year and has expanded to very large numbers this year. Bocce Ball is attempting a comeback, also in Branch 144.

10. Branch Reporting.

All branches are getting better about sending Forms 27 and 28 to the needed officers. This will remain a stress point in 2015.

11. Needs

A. The most pressing need is to adapt a previously successful recruitment program, like "Each One, Reach One", area-wide. It is an easily understood concept and, when combined with simple incentives at each branch, will result in a successful program.

B. Form 40 needs to be implemented area-wide and forms 27 and 28 need continual stress from the Area Governor.

C. As we expand from 4 branches to 7, the Area Governor needs to meet and greet all branches and their officers. He also needs to exchange e-mail addresses to insure prompt communication about the required forms and further stress the need to utilize Forms 27, 28, and 40.

D. True success in the development of Branch 164 will be evidenced when a new Big Sir is elected, as Jack Glenn has been the Big Sir since its inception. Continued growth in numbers and checking account figures will also signify its success.

Region 9-Area 15 3 Q-14

Br: 13 Chet Whiton, Br: 45 Dennis Dempsey, Br: 98 Mark Stuart, Br: 109: Don Cochran.

Four Branches, 13,45,98,109 Roseville to Yuba City RD-9 Dill

Operational Areas Area Governor Gale Jeffers & Udo Huefner(elect)

1 Finances	All four branches of Area 15's well balanced and meet any criteria needed. Branch 98 may want to spend some of their surplus on member rewarding events like Christmas party's and barbeques or picnics
2 Attendance	Attendance at branch 109 started out at 80% and has dropped to the mid fifties. Attendance at branch 13 has dropped to 50% lunch, new location for lunch might revitalize. Branch 98 and 45 are both in the mid 60's to almost 70+ phone trees work The lunch attendance requirement is becoming a cost issue for senior members.
3 Membership Up 5% 714	Br 13 is at 92, down 10% on the year New location of Strikes may help plus new LS Br 45 is at 294, up 5% on the year, third largest in the organization. Br 98 is at 265, up 13%, fifth largest branch, a net increase of 36 members <u>Br109, from 59 to 63 members after mass exodus!</u> SAT visited and kept 109 open BIG SIR elect Blaine Henkison & LS Ken Scott have support Mark (RD) & UDO (AG).
4 Activities	The two large branches have plenty of activities and have assisted in some Area activities such as golf and Bocce ball. Branch 13 is predominately bridge and until this changes with new Big SIR this branch can't grow, and it should, challenge for Mark Stuart & UDO AG.
5 Goals/Action P	Our Action Plans are to build a second strong branch in Roseville/Rocklin either as Br13 or as a new Branch. We (SIR) deserve two 200 plus branches in this Area. Branch 13 presently meets 1.5 miles from branch 98 and is struggling because they have one dominant activity BRIDGE
6 Meetings Area 15 Up	I have attended all four branch meetings this year and found both the food and the speakers acceptable. Branch 45's lunch is almost too crowded and this should be Br 109's goal to win back some of the transferees and start to grow again.
7 Speakers	OK
8 Travel	Little to no Area Travel some serious travel in Branch 98, &45,opportunity to grow!
9 Innovations	Branch 98 & 45 are full of innovative, Branch 98 has done statistical analysis to determine what needs to be changed in recruiting to prevent SIR from sliding down the slope. I encourage RD Stuart to bring this analysis to the table.
10 Branch Reports	Gales Jeffers has got Area15 on track for 27 & 28's, Branch 109 is non-responsive other key <u>reports</u>
11 Needs	Mark Stuart's direction and management skills will work wonders in branch 13 and maybe even 109 as new BIG SIR's are allowed to do their job and not be bogged down by previous obstructionists.
12 Other	Out-look Bright

Region 9-Area 33 4 Q-14

Six Branches, Lake Wildwood to Auburn, 50 Miles Br 11,37,79,124,138,170

Operational Areas Area Governor Craig Saunders

1 Finances	All branches have adequate reserves averaging over \$15 per member and should be cocouraged to spend some mony on recruiting and retention efforts
2 Attendance	Area 33 luncheon attendance was at 61% over 3rd Q, held down by Branches 138, 11, 170, the others are all in the mid-60's. Our fastest growing Branch is only at 60%, lunch costs are a big issue and next year will be driving members away from SIR
3 Membership	Area 33 up 3% on the year,703 total, Br11 is the only serious problem with lunch location rebuild in this gated community. The two big Branches in Auburn, 37 & 79 are flat and 79 is to be congratulated for ending up at 182. Branch 170 Lake of the Pines is up 29 or 22.48% for the year.
4 Activities	All six Branches in Area 33 have their own personality and all are searching for new activities to attract new members, the BR170 is a gated community with hundreds of activities and yet they are up 24 % because of effort. Area & Region should will make Bocce grow.
5 Goals/Action P	Region 9 has had one key goal for 2014 and that was to build Branch BRT's that can sustain membership growth regardless who is Big SIR or who was in charg Branches 79, 170 and 124 paid attention and progress has been made, Br's 138,37 and 11 took a lets wait and see approach with no success
6 Meetings	All branches using the recommended agenda need to keep speakers to 25 minutes with 5 minutes for Q&A, members attention span limited.
7 Speakers	Branches are sharing information when ever possible, recommend more member presentation but BIG SIR must review presentation before hand.
8 Travel	Limited travel may try to revitalize with Area/Region travel in the future.
9 Innovations	Branch 170 should be used as a Area innovator specifically for BR 11, 124 New Branches in Grass Valley/Nevada City and a second strong branch in Roseville,
10 Branch Reports	All branches have been on schedule and Region-9 was recognized Area 33 has had a excellent compliance on form 27
11 Needs	AG and new RD need to work with Branch 11, use kid gloves but be persistent New BS in 138, 37,
12 Other	Region-9 will attempt to start a new branch in Grass Valley/Nevada City once prc as early as February of 2015 and then we will look at Davis/Woodland
Br11 Wildwood	Br124 Alta Sierra Br 170 L.O.P. Br 37, 79 & 138 all in Auburn

Area 10 Quarterly Report Area 10 consists of Areas 6,13 and 25. The Region goes from San Rafael to Healdsburg along Highway 101 and includes Sonoma all of Santa Rosa and Sebastopol.

Finances: All branches in Region appear to be Financially sound.

Attendance: Area 6 has 4 branches meeting or exceeding goal, 3 below at about an average of 67%.

Area 13 has 4 above goal and 3 below

Area 25 has 3 above and 2 below.

Need to work with lower attendance branches this next year for improvement.

Membership: Remains pretty much static. Have some very good additions at many branches, but again, attrition takes its Toll.

I see very good progress with many branches and an overall good attitude in recruiting.

Had a merger of branches 151 and 68 in Area 6. More on this at the end of this report.

Activities: I still see a need for an upgrade in activities in several branches. Trying to implement a program of sharing some outside activities on an Area and even a Regional Basis. Had some success this past year and it is a goal to do more in 2015. Have appointed a Regional Travel Director to promote travel events.

Meetings: All branches have a newsletter, publish events, minutes are orderly and lunches have varied agendas. A few branches in Area 6 have had to change luncheon this past year due to a failure in their current location. This had turned out well.

Speakers: Many very good and informative Speakers throughout. Branches are very good at sharing information with other branches. I also bring back information as I visit branches and share with the Region.

Travel: Hoping that the infusion of a Regional Travel Director will spark more interest in both domestic and international events.

Branch reporting: Need improvement. Still have branches that are late or delinquent in form 27s.. Might be time to review this form and offer a more simplified version? Same for 28?

Needs: As always more activities, more participation from members. When I visit branches I see a happy group of people just enjoying the company and the event. But not enough willing to participate. Need to figure out a way to make participating an enjoyable event as well trying at our branch to take a member at large each month as SIR of the month. Invite him to attend our executive Board meeting and sit him at the head table, maybe this will allow them to see just what we do and motivate him to be more active

Overall. Merger of Branches 151 and 68 was a notable event this year. Both Branches had difficulty in getting enough member to attend functions and maintain a stable membership count. Part of the problem is that both are in a small Geographically small area, Marin County, and the demand for new members was shared with 5 other branches. After a lot of meetings and dialog both my Area Governor and I concurred. Have one other branch in this area in trouble and am presently working with them on joint activities.

Training; As always an on going problem. All Areas have held a training session with new officers and we will follow up to see how it goes.

Appendix B

Proposals for the following Rules are submitted for State Board action. New text in bold. Deletions if any in ~~strike through~~. Notes in *[brackets and italicized]*.

Each rule change was voted on and recorded as either M/S/A or M/S/R
(Motion proposed/Seconded/Approved or Rejected)

RULE 130 (AREA GOVERNOR NOMINATIONS)

[Submitted by State Rules Committee Member Dwight Sale in collaboration with G&M Committee Member Walter Schick]

[Experience over the years has found that many branches don't focus adequately on their responsibility for submitting Area Governor nominations. This proposal addresses this issue by requiring Branch Nominating Committees to propose AG candidates to the BEC.]

RULE 130. Following his election and prior to the end of the year, the Big Sir-elect shall make appointments to all Branch Committees to serve at the pleasure of the Big Sir during his service year. In particular, the Big Sir-elect shall appoint a Nominating Committee of three or more members of his Branch, other than himself or the Little Sir elect, to select a slate of nominees to stand for election as Branch Officers in the coming year to serve during the calendar year following election. **In addition, the Nominating Committee shall propose to the BEC an Area Governor candidate to serve during the next calendar year, to assist the BEC in its AG nomination responsibility under Rules 155 and 796.** Refer to Rule 255 for the appointment of the Auditing Committee.
(Revised 6/6/06) (11/4/14)

M/S/A

RULE 131 (ELECTION OF OFFICERS)

[Submitted by State Rules Committee Member Dwight Sale in collaboration with G&M Committee Member Walter Schick]

[The proposal addresses the timing for submittal of a proposed slate. It also changes "should" to "shall" to strengthen qualifications for certain Branch Officer positions, while still allowing grandfathering. Lastly, it adds the Area Governor candidate to the Branch bulletin notification.]

RULE 131. Members appointed to the Nominating Committee shall have served at least one year as a member of the Branch Executive Committee or as chairman of any other committee. The Nominating Committee, by May 31, shall inform the Big Sir of the proposed slate of Branch Officers. **If the election of officers will not be held in August (per Rule 134) due to an August scheduled event, this May 31 date shall be changed to April 30.** Replacement candidates for incumbents in Secretary/Assistant Secretary and Treasurer/Assistant Treasurer positions ~~should~~ **shall** be capable of creating, storing, and transmitting data by electronic means. The names of all nominees **including the Area Governor candidate** shall be published in the July Branch bulletin or, if none, by written notice to each member. (Revised 6/5/07)(1/17/12) (11/4/14)

M/S/A

RULE 134 (ELECTION OF OFFICERS)

[Submitted by State Rules Committee Member Dwight Sale in collaboration with G&M Committee Member Walter Schick]

[This proposal addresses the timing of election of officers when there is an event conflict for the August meeting]

RULE 134. Election of the officers shall be held at the August luncheon meeting. **In the case of a scheduled event in August, the election should be moved to July.** Additional nominations may be made from the floor. A nominee from the floor must signify his agreement to accept the office if elected. Voting for Branch Officers shall be by secret ballot. However, for any office for which there is but one nominee, voting may be by voice or by a show of hands. (Revised 6/5/07)

M/S/A

RULE 155 (AREA GOVERNOR NOMINATIONS)

[Submitted by State Rules Committee Member Dwight Sale in collaboration with G&M Committee Member Walter Schick]

[The proposal conforms to changes in Rules 130 and 131 and clarifies the BEC reference]

RULE 155. The **Branch** Executive Committee (**BEC**) of each Branch in the Area shall nominate by July 31 of each year the member it proposes for Governor of its Area. **The nominee may be the candidate proposed by the Branch Nominating Committee or another candidate of the BEC's choosing.** A candidate for Area Governor must be willing to serve and must be or have been a member of the ~~Branch Executive Committee~~ (**BEC**) for at least two years at the time he assumes the office. A past or present Big Sir is the preferred qualification. The Regional Director may waive the preceding qualifications at his discretion. The nomination shall be made on Form 44 - Candidacy for Area Governor. The form shall be submitted to the current Area Governor by July 31. To formally document the election, the Area Governor-elect shall promptly execute Form 44A - Notification of Election.

(Revised 11/11/08, ~~Revised~~ 11/8/11) **(11/4/14)**

M/S/A

RULE 164, 169 (NEW), 171 (SUCCESSION PLANNING)

[Submitted by Branch 8; endorsed by Area 2 Governor Robbie Robinson and Region 6 Director Dean Steichen.]

[The purpose of these proposals is to improve the succession planning process at the Branch level.]

RULE 164. The Big Sir is an ex officio member of all committees except the ~~Nominating and~~ Travel Committees on which he shall not serve in any capacity. **(11/04/14)**

M/S/R

RULE 169. The Big Sir shall establish a Branch Succession Committee consisting of at least three branch members whose responsibility shall be to develop an on-going Branch Succession Plan that identifies qualified candidates for Little Sir, Branch Officers and BEC Members as well as provide opportunities for those named to gain experience(s) that will facilitate a smooth transition when

such positions need to be filled. It is expected that the Branch Nominating Committee will at least in part be selected from members of the Branch Succession Committee.

(New 11/04/14)

M/S/R

RULE 171. The Little Sir may be a member of any committee except the Nominating and Travel Committees, on which he shall not serve in any capacity. **Whoever is nominated for Big SIR may be invited to participate on the Nominating Committee for all other Branch nominations.** (11/04/14)

M/S/R

RULE 180 (CERTIFICATES- EFFECTIVE DATES OF CHANGE)

[Submitted by Rules Committee Member Dwight Sale]

[Effective date of change is needed for various certificates.]

RULE 180. The Secretary of the current Branch of an Honorary Life Member, Senior Honorary Life Member, Century Sir, Super Senior Sir and Senior Sir shall notify the State Certificates Chairman of the transfer, death, resignation and any change of address, telephone number or email address **including the effective date for the change** of the above.. (Revised 6/10/08-1/18/11-11/4/14)

M/S/A

Proposed Travel Rules Revisions

Submitted by Robert Spellman

President Hairston suggested that the Travel Committee's proposed rule changes be considered as a whole, so only one vote would be necessary to approve or reject all of them.

As a result, all travel rules were M/S/A (all approved)

[Changed "funds" to "Add Ons"]

RULE 369.

- a. To provide adequate funding for insurance coverage for each event involving travel outside the United States (including its Territories and Possessions), Canada and Puerto Rico, contracted by SIR, or any of its Branches, ~~the amount of a \$7.00 insurance add on~~ shall be included in the fare to be paid by each participant for events offered on or after July 1, 2013 (Revised 6/4/13)(1/13/15).
- b. The BTC/Branch or State Committee DM authorized to sign SIR contract Form 50 or 50B for the event, shall be responsible for notifying the Agency providing the goods or services that they shall collect, account for and remit **all insurance add ons** ~~such funds~~, by a separate check, made payable to the Branch or State Treasurer. The check should be issued no later than the event departure date. The Branch Treasurer shall remit such ~~funds~~ **insurance add ons** received from the Agency to the SIR State Treasurer with the SIR Report Form 51 within 7 days of receipt of the funds. (Revised 6/6/06)(1/13/15)

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[Many Sirs are grouping together for travel without using SIR Programs. We need to establish some reasonable ground rules for this.]

RULE 371. No member shall **use SIR facilities or publications to** promote or offer to other members, or solicit other members in connection with, a travel event that is not an authorized SIR travel event.

(Moved from Page 31 - 11/14/06) **(Revised 1/13/15)**

[Combination of original 374, 405 & 408. Combines the basic rules the BTC need to follow in one rule rather spread out over 3 rules.]

RULE374. Any event involving travel that is arranged by SIR must be approved by the BEC **on form 53 (Request for Approval of Branch Travel Event) with or without a Travel Agency. After Form 53 has been approved with affirmative vote of the BEC at a regular or special meeting it should be properly recorded in the minutes of the meeting with copy of the Form 53 Attached. Following approval of Form 53, if an Agency is used, the BEC, The BTC or DM must complete Form 50 Contract signed by the BTC and the Agency before any deposits or payment are accepted for the event or it is publicized or otherwise announced as being available to members of the Branch or their guests. Form 50 shall not be altered in any way other than filling in blanks as appropriate and it must be done on SIR Contract Form 50 with a SIR-Qualified Travel Agency. The contract executed by the Designated Member (DM) of a Branch and the Agency shall be signed by both him and the authorized representative of the Agency and kept on permanent file with the Branch Secretary. Distribution of Form 53 and 50 shall be in accordance with instructions of each form and shall be made within 7 days of their execution. (Revised 1/13/15)**

[The proposed new form 59 (information copy attached) is easier for the BTC and Big Sir to use. It covers the same points as the old one but does not require the BTC to look up each rule as the rule is included. If the new form is approved some of the rules on the form may have to be changed. This Rule 383 presupposes a new form 59.]

RULE 383. The BEC is responsible in every respect for the travel program of the Branch and, as part of this responsibility, shall require the BTC to use SIR Form 59 ~~Travel Event Checklist~~. **to insure all travel event requirements are followed.** Upon completion, ~~of the form 59 This form shall be completed and used by both the BTC and the Big Sir on behalf of the BEC at every step of the Branch Travel Event process.~~ it shall be submitted to the Branch Secretary for filing with the Form 52. (Revised 6/5/07)**(1/13/15)**

[Anticipates a change in name for form 59]

RULE 384. A BTC may be appointed by the Big Sir. The BTC, under the direction and supervision of the BEC, is responsible for the planning, promotion and conduct of duly authorized Branch travel events. The BTC shall use the SIR Form 59 - ~~Travel Event Checklist~~ - for all Branch Travel Events as specified in Rule 383. (Revised 6/5/07)**(1/13/15)**

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[Adds more flexibility for Branches to work together so that smaller branches can fill their events. Dwight Sale comment is that this is poorly thought out.]

RULE 388. A ~~Area~~ Travel Coordination Committee may be formed by two or more Branches ~~within an Area or two or more contiguous Areas~~ for the purpose of sponsoring and coordinating travel events. It shall be chaired by the BTC who arranges the event and who is responsible for getting approval from his BEC for the event, ~~an ATC appointed by an Area Governor with due consideration being given to the recommendation of a majority of the participating Branches.~~ **Publicity for the event shall be confined to the Branches participating. Multi Branch travel is encouraged.**
(Revised 1/13/15)

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[Rule 374 covers everything covered in 405. Delete 405]

RULE 405. ~~The BTC shall present to the BEC on a Form 53 Request for Approval of Branch Travel Event, all significant details of a Branch travel event, including but not limited to the dates, itinerary, meals, type of transportation, cost, services to be provided, accommodations and any items of personal gain that would be provided to any member of the Branch, including free passage or reduced fare for the GL. The approval shall not be effective unless it is effected by an affirmative vote of a majority of the BEC at a regular or special meeting and properly recorded in the minutes of the meeting with a copy of the Form 53 attached. Also refer to Rule 151.1. (Deleted 1/13/15)~~

=====
[c and d are more or less the same as a and b]

Rule 407. The DM of the sponsoring Branch or State Committee shall agree, in contracting with the Agency:

- a. To act as or provide a group leader(s) (GL) for the sponsoring Branch or State Committee in connection with a specified event. (Revised 11/14/06)
- b. To act on the behalf of the Agency in offering or selling all transportation and travel goods and services in connection therewith for the event **and sell no other travel goods or services in connection with the specified event. (Revised 1/13/15)**
- c. ~~To act only on behalf of the Agency with whom he has the written contract and sell no other travel goods or services in connection with the specified event.~~
- d. ~~That travel services are offered or sold pursuant to the Agency with whom he has a written contract. (c & d Deleted 1/13/15)~~
- e. Not to receive any consideration for travel services from any passenger.
- f. To require the event participants to pay all consideration for travel services as provided in Rule 420.
- g. To ensure that insurance fees are collected and remitted to the Branch or State Treasurer as required by Rule 369.

=====
[Covered in new 374]

RULE 408. ~~After the Form 53 has been approved by the BEC, the BTC or DM must complete a Form 50 contract to be signed by the BTC and the Agency before any deposits or payment is accepted for the event or it is publicized or otherwise announced as being available to members of the Branch or their guests. The Form 50 shall not be altered in any way other than filling in blanks as appropriate. Distribution of Forms 50 and 53 shall be in accordance with the instructions of each form and shall be made within 7 days of their execution.~~ **(Deleted 1/13/15)**

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[\$2.00 per day is difficult to administer. A flat \$5.00 is enough]

RULE 423. Upon termination of each travel event, all unencumbered travel funds that are subject to the control of the BTC shall either be expended as a refund to the participants in a proportionate manner, or expended on an appropriate activity that directly benefits the participants of that travel event, in a uniform manner. Any such funds remaining that amount to less than ~~\$2.00~~ **\$5.00** per participant ~~per day or a total of~~, shall be turned over to the Branch Treasurer as unencumbered surplus travel money. **(Revised 1/13/15)**

RULE 504, 554, 579, 785, 797 (TERM LIMITS FOR CERTAIN STATE POSITIONS)

*[Submitted by Vice President Bob Hairston and endorsed by President Maynard Rodland.]
[The proposed phrase is added to provide continuity for State Committee Chairmen, Regional Directors and Area Governors, when they reach stated term limits. This codifies the sentence in Rule 141 re installation.]*

These Term Limit rules changes were also considered as one: M/S/A (all approved)

RULE 504. The Committee Chairman shall not serve for more than three consecutive years, excluding any partial year immediately preceding the first such year. **He shall continue to serve until his successor is installed.** If he vacates the position for one or more calendar years, eligibility is reestablished. He may serve as a host at State Tournaments on a rotational basis with the balance of the Committee members. (Revised 9/13/05)**(11/4/14)**

RULE 554. A member shall not serve as Chairman of the Committee for more than three consecutive years, excluding any partial year immediately preceding the first such year. **He shall continue to serve until his successor is installed.** If he vacates the position for one or more calendar years, eligibility is reestablished. He shall not engage in the direct operation of bowling events during his tenure as Chairman. (Revised 6/3/03)**(11/4/14)**

RULE 579. A member shall not serve as Chairman of the Committee for more than three consecutive years, excluding any partial year immediately preceding the first such year. **He shall continue to serve until his successor is installed.** If he vacates the position for one or more calendar years, eligibility is reestablished. (Revised 6/3/03) **(11/4/14)**

RULE 785. Regional Directors shall serve one-year terms and be restricted to three consecutive terms, excluding any partial year immediately preceding the first such year. **He shall continue to serve until his successor is elected and installed.** If a Director vacates the position for one or more calendar years, eligibility is reestablished. (Revised 6/3/03) **(11/4/14)**

RULE 797. Area Governors shall serve one-year terms and be restricted to three consecutive terms, excluding any partial year immediately preceding the first such year. **He shall continue to serve until his successor is elected and installed.** If an Area Governor vacates the position for one or more calendar years, eligibility is reestablished. (Revised 6/3/03)(**11/4/14**)

M/S/A (all approved)

RULE 607 (RULES COMMITTEE)

*[Referred by Rules Committee Chairman Larry Powers and State Secretary Richard DeVoe.]
[Eleven Rules Committee Members are unnecessary as well as impractical. In recent years the actual number has ranged from 4-6 members.]*

RULE 607. The Rules Committee shall be composed of a Chairman and **at least three other** ~~ten~~ members. ~~Three of these members shall be chosen from the present elected or past Big Sirs of the member Branches. The remaining seven may be chosen~~ **Members shall be** from past or present Regional Directors, Area Governors, ~~and/or past~~ elected State Officers (President, Vice President, Secretary, ~~and Assistant~~ **Secretary**, ~~and~~ Treasurer, and Assistant **Treasurer**). **Also, at least one member shall be a past or present Big Sir.** Upon application from the Committee to the President ~~or at his discretion the numbers of members may be altered.~~ The Vice President shall serve as ex officio without vote.

(New 8/6/01, effective 1/1/02) (Moved from Page 43 - 11/14/06) (**Revised 11/4/14**)

M/S/A

RULE 609, 610 (RULES COMMITTEE)

(Changes in **bold**; omissions with ~~strikeouts~~)

[Submitted by State Secretary Dick DeVoe]

[The State Board approves Standing Rules, and approves Bylaws to be proposed at the Annual Meeting. However, any proposal submitted by an authorized referrer can be rejected at any level through channels to and including the President before reaching the State Board. For example, a proposal by a Branch BEC can be rejected at the Area Governor, Regional Director, or President level; a proposal by an Area Governor can be rejected by the Regional Director or President; a proposal by any other authorized referrer can be rejected by the President.

The proposed changes allow a Standing Rule/Bylaw proposal by an authorized referrer to reach the State Board for consideration, without affecting a higher authority's right to recommend approval or disapproval. Rule 610 also provides for any rule reviewer who takes issue with all or part of a proposal to advise the referrer so that a possible mutual agreement can be concluded.]

RULE 609. The Rules Committee ~~shall consider and~~ shall submit to the **State Board** ~~President for his consideration,~~ together with its recommendations, any proposal involving the Standing Rules or Bylaws that have been referred to the Rules Committee by the State Board, a State Officer, a State Committee Chairman, any member of the State Rules Committee, or a Branch Executive Committee. ~~through channels to the President.~~ **Such submittal shall be in the form of an addendum to the agenda of the next board meeting.**(Revised 11/11/08) (Revised 11/4/14)

M/S/A

RULE 610. The Rules Committee **and other rule reviewers of** ~~in considering~~ a proposal submitted under Rule 609 **shall contact the referrer if there is a recommended change, alternate proposal, or rejection-** to provide the opportunity for agreement with the referrer on a final proposal. ~~make~~

such changes therein as may be mutually agreed by the parties involved; **However, a proposal shall not change unless agreed to by the referrer(s). If such disagreement exists, the Rules Committee may comment on their position in the addendum presenting the rule to the board. The Rules Committee may recommend rejection of the proposal including its reasons and/or, if it desires, recommend an alternate proposal. The Rules Committee shall submit its reasons for such rejection or alternate proposal together with the original proposal to the President. (New 8/6/01 effective 1/1/02) (Revised 11/4/14)**

M/S/A

[In accordance 11/4/14 State Board presentation. By DB Sale 20141221]

RULE 780. The territory within the geographic boundaries of Sons In Retirement, Incorporated, shall consist of the following Regions:

- Region No. 1 Areas 12, and 26 (Revised 9/25/07)
- Region No. 2 Areas 19, ~~30~~, and ~~31~~ **27 (Revised 11/4/14)**
- Region No. 3 Areas 3, 9, ~~14~~ and ~~27~~ **31 (Revised 11/4/14)**
- Region No. 4 Areas 17, 18 and 32 (Revised 4/15/03)
- Region No. 5 Areas 1 and 16 (Revised 7/14/07)
- Region No. 6 Areas 2, ~~7~~, 8 and 24 (Revised 4/13/04)
- Region No. 7 Areas 5,10, 20 and 21
- Region No. 8 Areas ~~22~~, **and 29 and 34 (Revised 11/4/14)**
- Region No. 9 Areas 15 and 33 (Revised 11/14/06)
- Region No. 10 Areas 6, 13 and 25 (New 4/15/03)

(Revised 11/13/07, **1/13/15**)

M/S/A

New Rule proposed by President Maynard Rodland.

Rules 781-783 prescribe the method for electing Regional Directors. If the process fails to yield an elected RD, the new Rule provides the President with the authority to appoint a qualified candidate.

Rule 783.5

If after completion of the above selection process, a Regional Director is not selected, the President of SIRinc shall appoint a candidate who meets the qualifications stated in Rule 784 as Regional Director. **(New 01/13/15)**

M/S/A

Article 4 - Regional Director

RULE 781. Each Region shall have a Regional Director. The Area Governors in each Region shall meet by August 31 upon the call of the Regional Director and by majority vote elect a Regional Director for a one-year term to commence on January 1 of the following year. The Regional Director shall act as Chairman and shall have no vote except to break a tie in the balloting. Immediately following the election of the Regional

Director, the Regional Director-elect shall complete Form 44A - Notification of Election - and submit the form according to the distribution shown on the form.

(Revised 11/11/08)

RULE 782. In the absence or unavailability of the Regional Director, the Area Governor of the lowest numbered Area in the Region shall call the meeting and act as Chairman with the right to vote. In the case of a tie vote the State Vice President shall be notified, and after reviewing the applicants' qualifications he shall cast the deciding vote. (Revised 11/16/04)

RULE 783. If an Area Governor is absent or otherwise unable to participate in the election of the Regional Director, the Big Sirs and Little Sirs of the Branches in the Area shall, by majority vote at a meeting called by the Big Sir or Little Sir of the earliest Charter Date, designate one of their number to serve in the Area Governor's stead. (Revised 9/28/99)

RULE 784. A candidate for the office of Regional Director must be willing to serve and must be a past or present Area Governor, or must have held or is holding the office of Big Sir, Little Sir, Secretary or Treasurer of a Branch in that Region, singly or in combination, for at least two years at the time he assumes the office. A past or present Area Governor is the preferred qualification. The Office of a Regional Director shall be vacated upon his transfer to a Branch in a Region other than the one in which he was elected and the vacancy shall be filled at the earliest possible date in an election conducted as provided in Rules 781 and following. (Revised 9/13/05)

RULE 785. Regional Directors shall serve one-year terms and be restricted to three consecutive terms, excluding any partial year immediately preceding the first such year. If a Director vacates the position for one or more calendar years, eligibility is reestablished. (Revised 6/3/03)

RULE 786. Each Regional Director shall submit to the President by April 25, July 25, October 25 and January 25 of the following year a report on the status of Areas within his Region. Each report shall include recommendations for action to be taken to achieve the Form 27 goals not being met for branches in his Region. The January report shall be submitted to the new President as well as the previous President. (Revised 11/9/10)

RULE 868 (STATE FUNDS DISBURSEMENT)

[Submitted by President Maynard Rodland and Vice President Bob Hairston]

[The proposed changes improve control of expenditures, by including cumulative total amounts for approval, and by approval in some instances by the State Budget Oversight Committee instead of the State Board.]

RULE 868. The Treasurer shall disburse funds as specified below:

- a. Payment of Expense Claim Vouchers as specified in Rule 38.
- b. Payment of SIR products, services or activities that are supported by receipts and the cost of which does not exceed **a cumulative amount** of \$1,500.00.
- c. Payment of SIR products, services or activities in excess of \$1,500.00 that have received prior authorization in writing from the State ~~Board~~, **Budget Oversight Committee** or in the case of an urgent situation in writing from the State Executive Committee.
(Revised 11/13/12) **(11/04/14)**
- d. Regardless of the above, the State Treasurer has the authority to pay, upon presentation of invoices, insurance premiums in the amount annually negotiated by the SIR State Insurance Chairman even though it may exceed \$1,500.00.
(Revised 11/13/07)

M/S/A

Appendix C: Summary of 2015 SIR Inc budget

EXPENSES	2014	2015	% of total 2015 expenses	\$ change 2015-2014	% change 2015/2014
Insurance	\$40,189	\$40,913	45.6%	\$724	1.8%
State Board Meetings	\$7,220	\$9,430	10.5%	\$2,210	30.6%
Fall Training	\$7,831	\$8,850	9.9%	\$1,019	13.0%
Annual General Meeting	\$2,218	\$7,835	8.7%	\$5,617	253.2%
Admin	\$7,988	\$6,654	7.4%	(\$1,334)	-16.7%
R/A/B meetings	\$6,156	\$6,350	7.1%	\$194	3.2%
Committee expenses	\$2,944	\$3,697	4.1%	\$753	25.6%
Promotion	\$4,190	\$3,000	3.3%	(\$1,190)	-28.4%
General Travel	\$1,714	\$1,690	1.9%	(\$24)	-1.4%
Branch training	\$1,411	\$1,350	1.500%	(\$61)	-4.3%
Totals	\$81,861	\$89,769	100.0%	\$7,908	9.7%
REVENUE	82408	81322		(\$1086)	-1.3%

Chart of budgeted expenses for 2015

SIR Expense Budget: 2015

