



**SIR- LAKE OF THE PINES, BRANCH 170
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
March 5, 2014**

Big SIR Dick Green called the monthly BEC meeting to order at 10:30 AM. A quorum was present. Attendees were: Richard Green, Elmer Curtis, Bob Chan, Lynden Laird, Dave Rosseau, Doug Wilson, Phil Jones, Al Cash, Don Miller, Steve Parks, Roger Pope, Larry Shelley, Verne Bagley, Rod Corvington, Phil Frank, Rich Hibbs, Gary Resnick, Mel Pimentel, and Craig Saunders. Absentees were: Chuck Mercer, Ed O'Reilly, Dale Zinck, and Glenn Delisle.

REPORTS:

Big SIR Dick Green made his opening remarks and welcomed Area Governor, Craig Saunders to today's meeting. Mr. Green reported 70 invitations for membership were sent out. Follow up for response was recommended. By the end of today, membership to Branch 170 should reach 108 members.

Craig Saunders made his comments on the critical issue of loss of membership. Seven branches have closed this past year. Four years ago, there were 165 branches with 23,000 members. On February 28, 2014, there were 179 branches with just over 22,000 members. Membership is continually declining. Mr. Saunders distributed a 2-page handout providing a possible solution to this problem. He commented that the State goal of 10% growth per year in most cases is not sufficient. Due to attrition from old age, death, member's change of location out of area, etc., an annual growth per branch of 15-20% is more realistic. The State organization has abandoned the proposed position of a growth coordinator for each of the branches. In its place, the plan is to have a Branch Recruiting Team or BRT. Each BRT will consist of: 1) a team leader, Branch LS 2) Branch membership chairman, 3) Recruiters, depending on the Branch size, each BRT may have from 2 to 10 members 4) All activity chairmen 5) Publicity person and 6) Use of empirical data/training documents for future training. This plan was approved yesterday by the State President. Area 33 is the charter chapter for the region. AG Saunders commended Branch 170 for its recruitment program, which can be used as a standard or guide for other branches to follow. (Kudos to our Big SIR).

Minutes of February BEC meeting: Secretary Bob Chan stated that Big SIR Dick Green made an addition to " Annual Audit Report" paragraph on page one of the minutes. Lynden Laird made a correction to David Taylor's name on page 2, regarding membership. The minutes were amended to reflect the above.

Little SIR, Speakers: Elmer Curtis announced today's luncheon speaker is LCdr. R. Nowatski, USN (ret). He will speak on his experiences on the USS Hornet during WWII. Other speakers have been scheduled: Chuck Stocker (April) on growing up on Alcatraz Island, Dick Green (May) on Coast Guard Training ship, Eagle; Jim Goetz (June). We have a break in July, so there is no luncheon speaker.

Treasurer's Report: Dave Rosseau on Form 28 for February. The treasury received \$234 in contributions. There was a disbursement of \$116 for supplies (picture frames). \$882 was collected at the monthly luncheon. However, the cost of the luncheon was \$979.58. There were 7 "free" lunches. Our ending cash balance was \$4097.

Membership: Form 27. Phil Jones reported we have 105 members. At today's luncheon, we will induct 2 new members: David Taylor (Lynden Laird) and Ronald Wolyn(Steve Michalak). Mr. Jones again commented on the problem regarding several members on our active roll who have not attended a luncheon for several months. **Discussion:** should they be taken off of our active members roster? Further comments were made concerning membership growth: LOP population doesn't change much. It is rather static. There is no significant inventory of available housing. And, there is an increasing number of young families moving into LOP, still in the working force.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Bulletin: Rich Hibbs had nothing to report. He has gone to a new program. AG Saunders reminded the chair a copy of our branch bulletin is to be sent to each of the area branches monthly.

LOP News: Phil Frank stated that items for the LOP news are due today. He reported an error on the date of the Beale AFB tour. It is March 7, not the 27th.

Info Tech/Website: Gary Resnick reported there is nothing new to report. He offered to help anyone who is having problems with his computer.

Food: Roger Pope stated he was wrong when he reported that coffee was included in the \$14 luncheon charge. It is NOT. A motion was made and seconded that we pay the \$300 for coffee out of the treasury. The motion carried. In honor of St. Patrick's Day, the menu for today's luncheon is corned beef and cabbage.

Golf: Rod Corvington announced the next tournament will be on March 24 at the Empire GC. It will be an 8 AM shot gun . The format is 2 man, best ball. It will cost \$46. Money is due one week before the tournament. Checks can be dropped off in the mail box at the LOP pro shop. All information on golf tournaments and venues have been sent out to our

golf members. Tournament results can be found on our website. Ken Hanson is the Area 33 golf coordinator.

Bocce Ball: Bob Chan reported the BB Summer Schedule will be underway on June 1st. Sign up forms are available on April 1st at the Sports Lounge or the Admin building. The deadline to sign up your team is April 30. The coveted position of team captain for LOP SIR Rooster team is open, as well as for the assistant captain position. Please contact Bob Chan if you are interested in filling either position,

Travel: Mel Pimentel reports he is still getting his feet wet in this position as travel chair. He was relieved to discover that his duties do not required for him to organize any of the travel venues. This is performed through a travel agency authorized by State SIR. He will update the BEC when and what trips are planned at the next meeting. One event is certain: A base ball game on Easter Sunday afternoon on April 20 with the Oakland Athletics against the Houston Astros. Mr. Pimentel will check to see where the seats are located in the stadium for that game. The cost for each ticket is \$11.

Health: Ed O'Reilly was absent. Big SIR reported that Bill Hagin had a mild stroke after attending a board meeting. He is reportedly doing well. Hal Garrett is also recovering well from his heart surgey.

Clothing: Elmer Curtis has purchased a dozen SIR ball caps. They are available to our members for \$11.

OLD BUSINESS

Beale AFB Tour, March 7: Bob Chan reported 30 people will participate in this tour. The car pool will form a caravan and leave at 7:40 AM from the guest parking lot near the tennis courts by the Marina. Maps and instructions have been given to all participants. The tour will last approximately 5 hours.

Fun Day, September 20 or 27: Al Cash and Roger Pope have not secured a definite date for this event. There has been no decision made where the dinner will be held either. Al Cash will follow up on the date and dinner location. He would prefer the dinner be at the Sports Lounge. He announced that the LOP golf pro is planning a "golf fest" on the same day as the annual Easter Egg Hunt. There will be activities promoting golf which possibly can be incorporated into our Fun Day.

Christmas Dinner Dance: John Brewer was not present to give a report. Gary Resnick will confer with Mr. Brewer regarding plans for this event and report back to BEC at our next meeting. Roger Pope mentioned the 2-man band at last year event was popular and not very expensive. Other band groups for less cost will also be considered.

Speakers: Since the informal 5-minutes talks by our new members were well received, it was decided to continue this program. LS will pass along a sign up sheet for volunteers to speak about themselves at future luncheons. The incentive would be a free lunch if one's

name is drawn. This is besides the regular drawing for the monthly free lunch and monthly birthday drawing.

NEW BUSINESS

Nominating Committee Status: Unfortunately, there has not been a meeting of the nominating committee and a chairman has not been selected. The 5-member committee will meet immediately after today's BEC meeting. Action will be taken.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 11:25 AM. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 2, 2014, at 10:30 AM at the Club House meeting room.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Chan