SIR Article for LOP News March 2016

**Sons in Retirement (SIR)**

**By Phil Frank **

March, March, March, the boys are marching. Many of our men will have morbid memories of their months in the military, but let’s leave them to muse over them at the March 9 meeting of the Military Bull Session @ Marina Lounge. But, I must mention, foremost, that back in February, we found fine food and fellowship at our fraternal foray at the front end of the month.

We welcomed Dennis Camarlinghi and Art Kusnick into our fold. They were welcome additions to our chorus trying to follow Larry Shelley singing “Happy Days Are Here Again” and “Ain’t She Sweet”!

That was a likely lead-in to the appearance at the podium of Firebelles Tina Scamardi and Christy Swider. They introduced us to their new program, “Bridge to Health”, to help LOP’s ailing and recuperating. They invite us to list with them: unused braces, canes, crutches, walkers, wheelchairs and do-dads of any sort that can be lent or given to others with a current need. Tina’s tele is 1 510 610-3540. Tell her what’s in your closet. Then Firebelles will call you if they find someone who needs it more than you do.

There’s also a helping hand for doting drivers down at DMV. Jerrod E. Sieberg, our speaker for the February Luncheon, explained with alacrity how his Senior Ombudsman Program is designed to keep seniors driving for as long as they can do so safely. There are four ombudsmen assigned to his program, located in various parts of California. Their primary function is to represent the interest of public safety for all Californians, with a special interest in addressing the concerns of senior drivers. They can assist as a "go-between" to ensure that senior drivers are treated fairly, consistent with laws and regulations, and with the dignity and respect they deserve. The ombudsmen are available to assist in individual cases, as well as participate in outreach seminars, as Jerrod did so ably. If you call him for assistance (916 657-6464), tell him we really enjoyed his upbeat presentation.

Our Food and Beverage segment: Free Lunches were won by February born Clark Phillips and just plain lucky Verne Bagby. Twenty imbibers followed Ray Tschirhart (396-9282) to our Beer Outing at Auburn Alehouse. He’ll lead another at Nevada City’s Ol’ Republic Brewery in March. Plus, Terry Eberhardt (268-3362) continues to plan alternating bi-monthly Wine Tastings. Hic!

LOP’s longtime luminary Mel Pimentel left us last January. He left a legacy of jolly times and travels well planned for our enjoyment. We’ll remember him well as he travels on.

Sunshine Chairman Ron Trimble(268-1917) suggests that we do as he does…keep in touch with shut-ins like strokey Larry Hardy and gall bladder ailer Al Cash. Ron also advises that the 1st blood drive of 2016 will be here on Sunday, April 3rd. Plan on it!

Sheriff Keith Royal will be joining us on Wednesday, March 2nd for our SIR luncheon.  He will provide an overview of law enforcement issues we're facing in Nevada County.  Members, incarcerate a guest!

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