

Sir Branch 146
Branch Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
Date: October 10, 2024
Venue: Boundary Oak Clubhouse

Branch 146 Executive Committee for 2024

		Present
Big Sir	John Klusener	Y
Little Sir	Bob Ford	Y
Secretary	Don Shaw	Y
Assistant Secretary	John Rexroat	Y
Treasurer	Mike Rothman	Y
Assistant Treasurer	Tom Amann	Y
Director 3 rd Term	Ed Brands	Y
Director	Mark Curtis	Y
Director 2 nd Term	Randy Graham	N
Director	John Alexander	Y
Director 3 rd Term	George Mon	Y
Director	Don Rhoads	Y

Other Attendees:

	Present
Ben Gleason	
Bill Holly*	Y
Bob Lucido	Y
Bob Spellman	Y
Bob Wilkenfeld	Y
Brad Hatcher*	
Brian McCarthy	Y
Bruce Borgman	Y
Carl Mason	Y
Dick DeVoe	
Doug Eisner*	Y
Frank Lucas	
Glenn Breslin	Y
Henry Thatcher	
Howard Goldsmith	
Jim Pope	Y
Ken Richter	Y
Mike Smith	
Paul Dubow	Y
Phil Lee	Y
Richard Hockenbrock	
Richard Lyon	Y
Ron Plachy	Y
Roy Hodgkinson	
Steve Oki	Y
Steve Ybarra	

Thom Degnan	Y
Vern Roohk	
Walt Busenius*	Y

The Big Sir noted that we have a quorum and the meeting commenced at 9:00.

I Standing Reports

1. Branch Secretary

The call for comments on the Meeting Minutes for September 12, 2024 resulted in a request to add the results of the election of officers and directors at the September luncheon, together with the list of 2025 Committee appointments, and no additions or deletions. A motion for approval with the additions was made by Don Shaw and seconded by John Rexroat. It was approved unanimously.

The approved Minutes were filed in the Branch records and sent to the Area Representative.

The Secretary reviewed various items from the Schedule of Branch Operations (SBO) and confirmed that all critical items were properly attended, except for the need to update Form 20 with changes in the Branch roster, which Secretary undertook to complete.

Treasurer: Confirmed that Form 28 was sent to AR and State SIR for last. month.

Membership Chair confirmed Form 27 was timely sent to State SIR last month.

2. Branch Treasurer

- a) Treasurer reviewed Form 28. Don Shaw moved to approve Form 28, John Rexroat seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved.
- b) Treasurer report -to be filed with the Minutes.
- c) Results of luncheon discussions with Boundary Oak: Representatives of Branches 8, 116, and 146 met with Mike Ash to discuss lunch options, including an option to offer a buffet every other month, which would entail a 10% cost reduction for members. After discussion, direction was given to de-emphasize the buffet idea and to concentrate on salad options, better quality, and themed meals (e..g. corned beef in March).
- d) As part of the budget approval, dues were set at \$35, luncheon costs were set at \$36 (against a cost of \$37), and annual lunch payers will pay \$288.
- e) Don Shaw moved approval of the 2025 SIR 146 Budget and Mark Curtis seconded. The budget was unanimously approved as submitted, with the correction of 2023 changed to 2025 in the Forecast Bank Balance section. See Treasurer’s attachment.

3. Membership Chairman

- (a) Form 27. George Mon reported on Form 27 that there were 3 new members in, bringing the total membership to 271. Don Shaw motioned to approve Form 27 and John Kklusener seconded. Approval was unanimous.
- (b) Membership Report
- (c) Vote to approve new members. George presented the membership applications of Albert Guzman, Ronald Stolz and Mark Raaberg. Don Shaw moved approval, Ed Brands seconded, and the applications were approved unanimously.
- (d) 2025 Dues letters. The dues letters will go out before the next meeting, with dues and luncheon costs as set forth in the approved budget.

II Old Business

- 1. **2025 BEC Members:** As noted above, the election of 2025 officers and directors in September will be documented in the September Minutes.
- 2. **Recognition of Sponsors of New Members:** Postponed until next month.
- 3. **Growing Growing Your Branch Training Course 10/16; 10-Noon** STATE SIR Zoom - Big Sir announced this event.
- 4. **Running Your Branch 11/8; 10-Noon** STATE SIR Zoom - Big Sir announced this event.

III New Business

- 1. **Election of New State Officers.** Big Sir reported on several topics covered in State SIR slides from the September 24 Way Forward meeting in Lafayette – see State SIR attachment
- 2. **SIR Branch Advisory Council** – contact Big Sir if interested.

IV Other Reports

- 1. **RAMP Committee** (Recruiting, Activities, Member Relations, Publicity)

A Recruiting- Randy Graham. No report

B Activities – Glenn Breslin

Glenn presented this summary of activities:

Activity Summary

Description	Totals
Total Activities	48
Total Co-Ed Activities	29
Percent Co-Ed Activities	60%
Total Unique Activities	28
BR146 activities shared with other branches	12
Other SIR Branch Groups Activities Shared with SIR146	15

SIR Theater

1. 46 people attended the Elton John and Billy Joel Tribute band show at Lesh
2. 18 people attended Arsenic and Old Lace
3. Next scheduled show is: The ABBA Concert Experience
 - a. Date: Sat 1/18 7:30 PM
 - b. Price: \$58 per ticket
 - c. The Abba Concert Experience reigns supreme as the eight-piece production performs all the greatest hits of one of the world's most beloved pop Super-Groups of the 70's. From the smash pop stage musical Mamma Mia to all the international pop chart favorites that made this ensemble famous, you'll hear (and see) all the costumes, and lights of the original ABBA shows, duplicated to near perfection.

C Member Relations - Ed Brands

No Report

D Publicity –

Recruiting brochures are available.

2 Luncheon Chair- Steve Oki

See Treasurer’s report for information.

3 Honoree Committee – Walt Busenius

6 Honorary Life Memberships at lucheon today.

4 Nomination Committee – Bob Wilkenfield

No report

As documented in the September minutes, the following officers and directors were elected in September.

These officers and directors were installed as officers and directors for 2025 in a brief ceremony following adjournment and each¹ took the requisite oath of office.

Elected Offices	2025 Candidate	Term #
Big Sir^	Bob Ford	1
Little Sir	Thom Degnan	1
Secretary	Don Shaw	2
Assistant Secretary	John Rexroat	2

¹ With the exception of Randy Graham, Jim Crites, and Mike Davidson, who were absent and who will be installed at a future date.

Treasurer	Mike Rothman	2
Assistant Treasurer	Tom Amann	2
Director*	Jim Crites	1
Director*	Mark Curtis	2
Director*	Randy Graham	2
Director*	John Alexander	2
Director*	Mike Davidson	1
Director*	Don Rhoads	2

5 SIR Call Editor – Clint Collier

No report

6 Travel – Glenn Breslin

SIR Travel

1. Here are the SIR Multi-Branch Travel Stats – related to the Travel Questionnaire
 - a. 45 people responded to the Travel Questionnaire
 - b. 57 different destinations were listed
2. Based upon questionnaire results, these below five short list destinations represent potential trips (e.g. more SIRs choose these destinations than other destinations)
 - a. Australia/New Zealand
 - b. England/Scotland/Ireland
 - c. Japan/Korea
 - d. USA/Canada Fall Colors
 - e. Vietnam
3. Next Steps is for me to contact SIRs that choose in-common destinations to:
 - a. Assess how they want to travel
 - b. Propose a land trip and a cruise trip to these destinations
4. 2-3 destinations will be selected from the above short list as the Fall 2025 and Spring 2026 periods Multi-Branch SIR trips

7 Sunshine Chair – Brian McCarthy

Name	Badge	Comments	Mention in Invocation
“Bud” Marshall Pearce	180	Bud has Guillain-Barre syndrome. His mobility continues to improve-no more walker or cane. However, he cannot drive yet. He sees the doctor again in November.	Yes
Pat O’Keefe	19	Pat has prostate cancer. He has completed chemo therapy but it has taken a toll on his health. It is a day-by-day process to recover.	Yes
Norm Baietti	172	Norm has inoperable esophageal cancer. He is still going through chemo therapy. The good news is that the tumor has shrunk and Norm is feeling better.	Yes
Richard Hockenbrock	279	Richard has a chronic lung condition. He is scheduled to have lung surgery later this month.	Yes

8 Branch Historian – Mark Curtis

Mark will provide a “catch up” report in November and an Annual Report in January.

V Little Sir – Bob Ford

October speaker Emily Boyd, Brookfield Development, Concord Naval Weapons Station development plans

November speaker Chuck Kohler, Pearl Harbor survivor

December Diablo Vista Chorus quartet

VI Big Sir – John Klusener

Recruiting recognition postponed.

VII Adjournment

Don Shaw motioned for the meeting to be adjourned, and John Rexroat seconded. Approval was unanimous, and the meeting adjourned at 10:22, followed by installation of officers.

TREASURER'S ATTACHMENT

Treasurer's Report

1/1/2024 through 9/30/2024 Using SIR #146 Budget

Category	Sept. 2024			1/1/2024	-	9/30/2024	Additional Activity to Dec. 31
	Actual	Budget	Difference	Actual	Budget	Difference	
Beginning Balance	11,640.92			40,485.07			9,910
1. BRANCH RECEIPTS	70.04	0.00	70.04	1,806.21	0.00	1,806.21	70
101.1 Dues Collection 2024	70.00	0.00	70.00	1,802.50	0.00	1,802.50	70
102.0 Interest	0.04	0.00	0.04	0.71	0.00	0.71	
103.0 Other	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.00	0.00	3.00	
2. BRANCH EXPENSES	548.89	160.84	-388.05	4,150.42	3,440.06	-710.36	1,614
201.0 Printing, Supplies, etc.	0.00	16.67	16.67	32.30	150.03	117.73	
202.1 Annual Dues Mailing	363.94	0.00	-363.94	363.94	0.00	-363.94	
203.1 Officers and Directors	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	30.00	30.00	
203.2 Computer Applications	0.00	16.67	16.67	0.00	150.03	150.03	200
204.0 Guest Expense	184.95	92.50	-92.45	1,442.79	832.50	-610.29	296
205.0 Pro Rata Assessment	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,867.50	1,867.50	0.00	623
206.0 Other	0.00	0.00	0.00	51.00	0.00	-51.00	
206.1 Birthday Boy	0.00	25.00	25.00	0.00	225.00	225.00	300
206.5 SirCall Expenses	0.00	0.00	0.00	19.99	20.00	0.01	
206.6 Recruiting Supplies	0.00	0.00	0.00	372.90	0.00	-372.90	
206.8 Sunshine Supplies	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	75.00	75.00	75
206.9 Photography	0.00	10.00	10.00	0.00	90.00	90.00	120
3. ACTIVITY RECEIPTS	6,294.00	0.00	6,294.00	49,113.00	0.00	49,113.00	200
301.1 Lunch Collected	2,304.00	0.00	2,304.00	19,422.00	0.00	19,422.00	
301.2 Missed Lunch Payments	0.00	0.00	0.00	288.00	0.00	288.00	200
301.3 Annual Payers 2024	0.00	0.00	0.00	864.00	0.00	864.00	
302.1 Ladies Day Lunch - May	0.00	0.00	0.00	5,460.00	0.00	5,460.00	
302.4 Branch Picnic	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,764.00	0.00	1,764.00	
307.1 Couples Dining Out	3,216.00	0.00	3,216.00	15,285.00	0.00	15,285.00	
307.2 Theater Group	774.00	0.00	774.00	5,966.00	0.00	5,966.00	
307.3 Explore and Dine	0.00	0.00	0.00	64.00	0.00	64.00	
4. ACTIVITY EXPENSES	7,546.38	174.08	-7,372.30	60,344.17	1,729.72	-58,614.45	3,641
401.1 Lunch - Boundry Oak	3,459.39	0.00	-3,459.39	30,206.48	0.00	-30,206.48	3,350
401.2 Lunch - Annual Payer Refund	0.00	0.00	0.00	288.00	0.00	-288.00	
401.3 Speaker expense	0.00	50.00	50.00	0.00	400.00	400.00	
401.5 Book Corner	60.00	87.08	27.08	621.00	783.72	162.72	180
401.6 Speaker Lunch	36.99	37.00	0.01	406.93	296.00	-110.93	111
402.1 Ladies Day Lunch - May	0.00	0.00	0.00	5,752.80	250.00	-5,502.80	
402.4 Branch Picnic	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,753.96	0.00	-1,753.96	
407.1 Couples Dining Out	3,216.00	0.00	-3,216.00	15,285.00	0.00	-15,285.00	
407.2 Theater Group	774.00	0.00	-774.00	5,966.00	0.00	-5,966.00	
407.3 Explore and Dine	0.00	0.00	0.00	64.00	0.00	-64.00	
Net Difference:	-1,731.23	-334.92	-1,396.31	-13,575.38	-5,169.78	-8,405.60	(4,985)
Transfers to Certificates of Deposit				(17,000.00)			17,600
Ending General Account Cash Balance	9,909.69			9,909.69			22,525

Notes

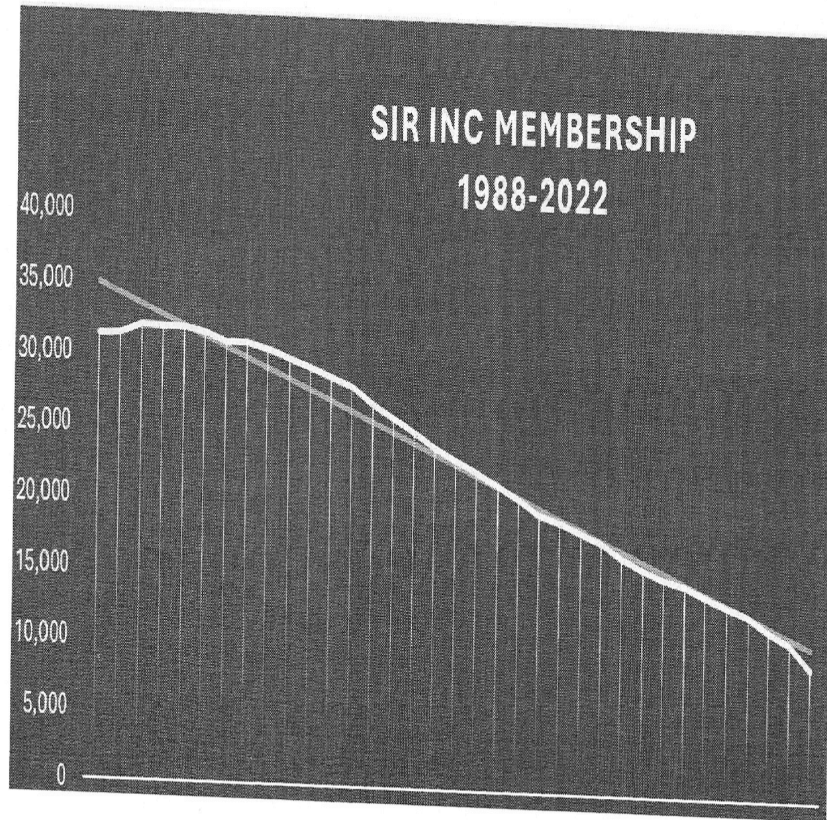
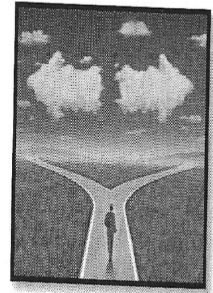
1. Projected Actual to Dec 31 column (far right) represents current best estimates of receipts and net expenses to Dec 31st
2. Cash balances include approximately \$1,580 in gifts received in late 2023.
3. Excludes year end receipts for 2025 dues and annual payer lunches

September 24 Way Forward Meeting Slides



So Where is SIR Inc Going?

How Long can Sir Survive the Loses



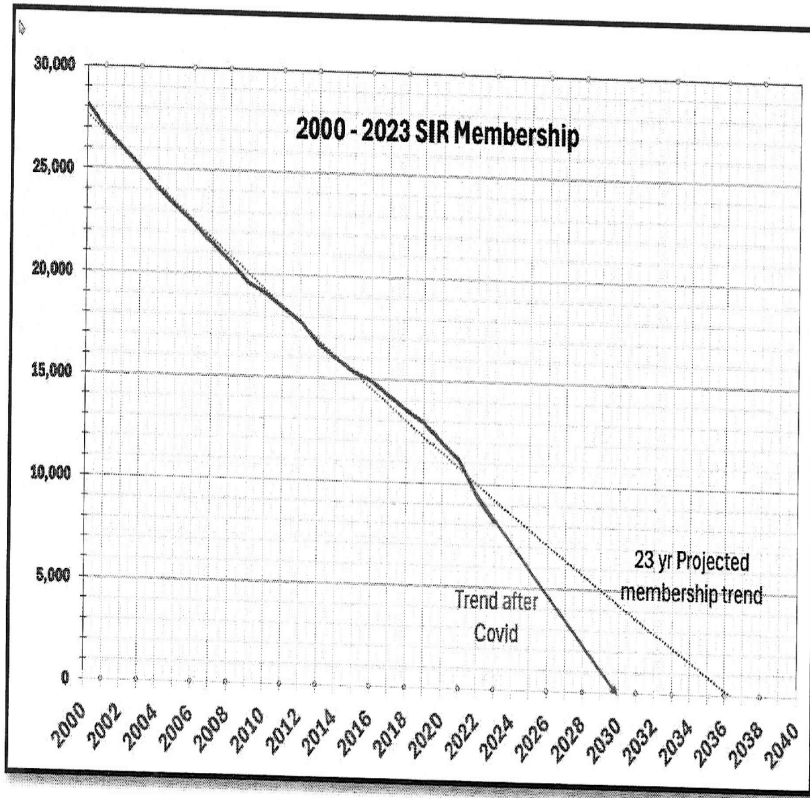
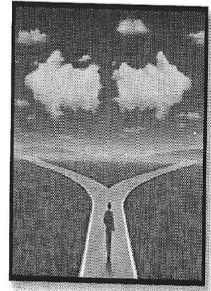
31,975 members in 1992
8,640 members in 2024

4% straight line decline



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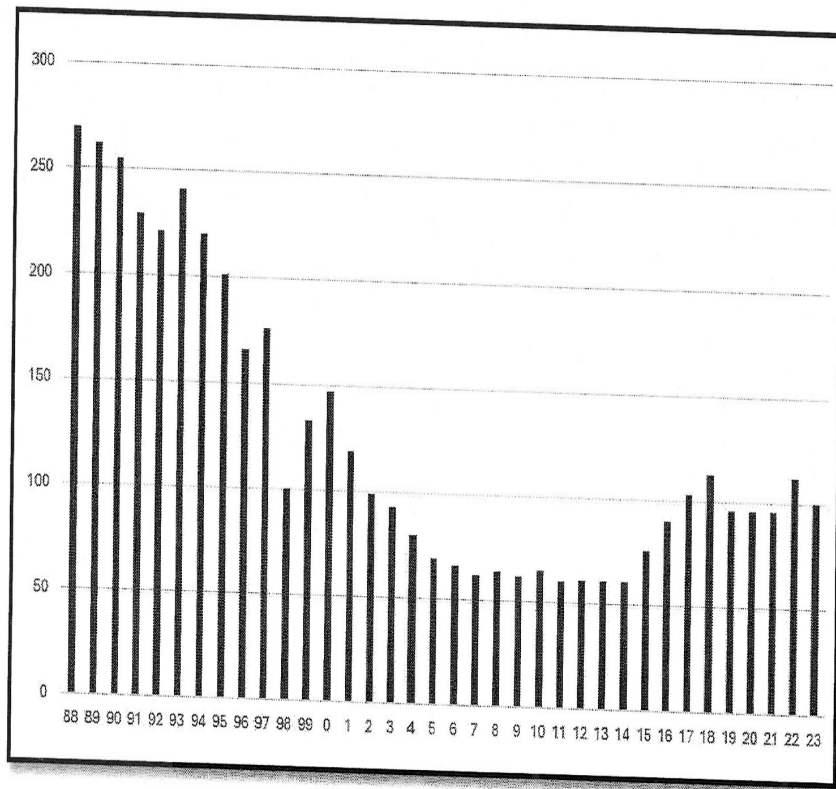
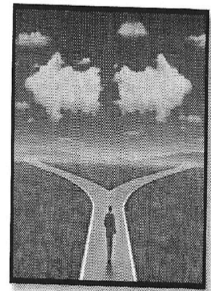


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Change in Membership Typical Branch



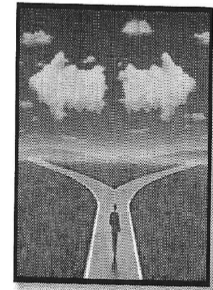
270 members in 1988

100 members in 2023

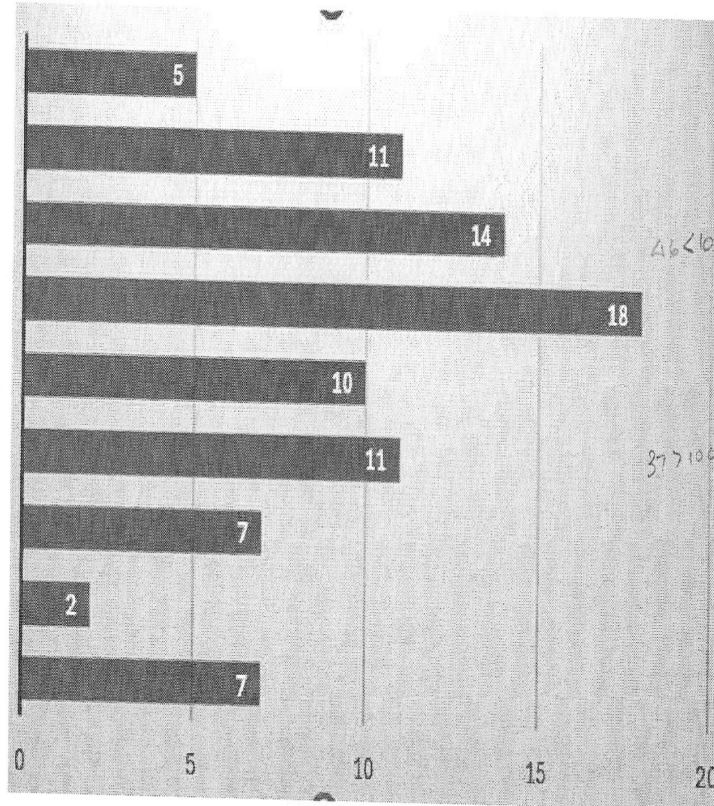


So Where is SIR Inc Going?

Branches by Size (Average = 106)



- 0 -> 24
- 25 -> 49
- 50 -> 74
- 75 -> 99
- 100 -> 124
- 125 -> 149
- 150 -> 174
- 175 -> 199
- 200 -> 336

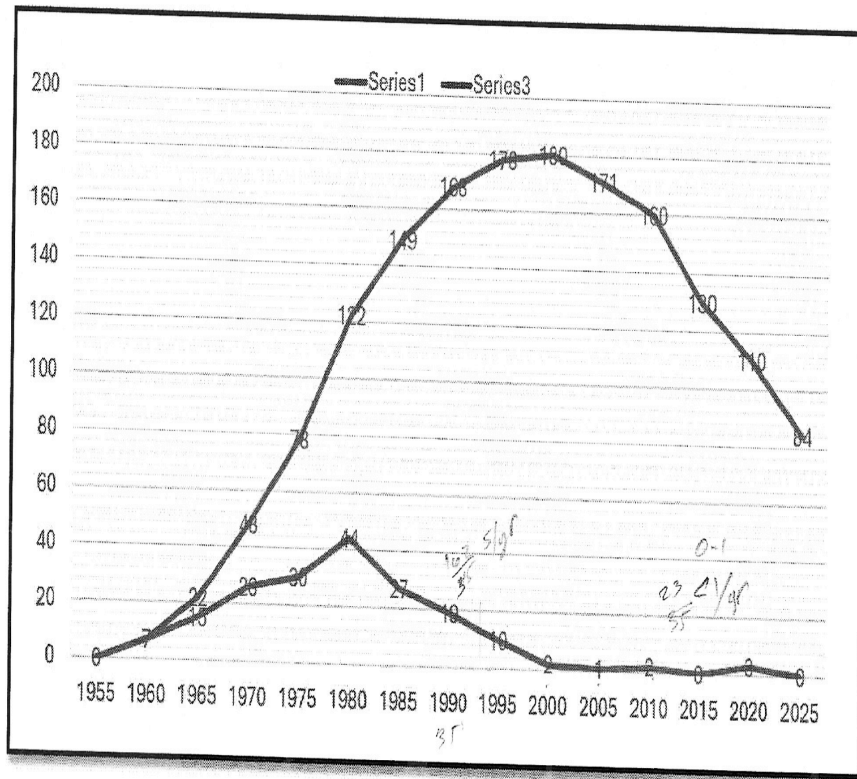
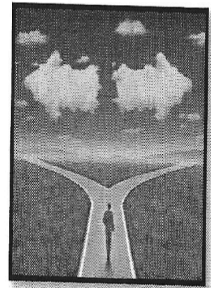


August 2024



So Where is SIR Inc Going?

Decline: 4 per year since 2000



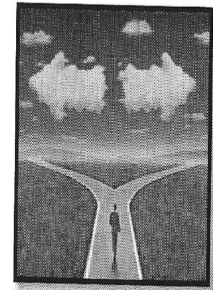
Total Branches

New Branches

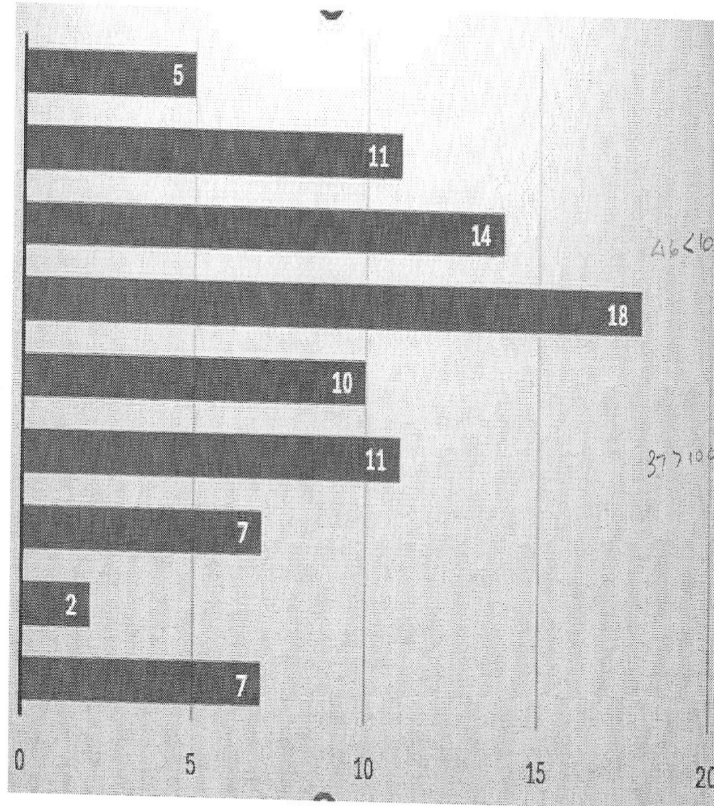


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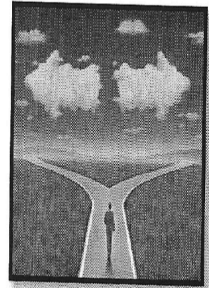


August 2024

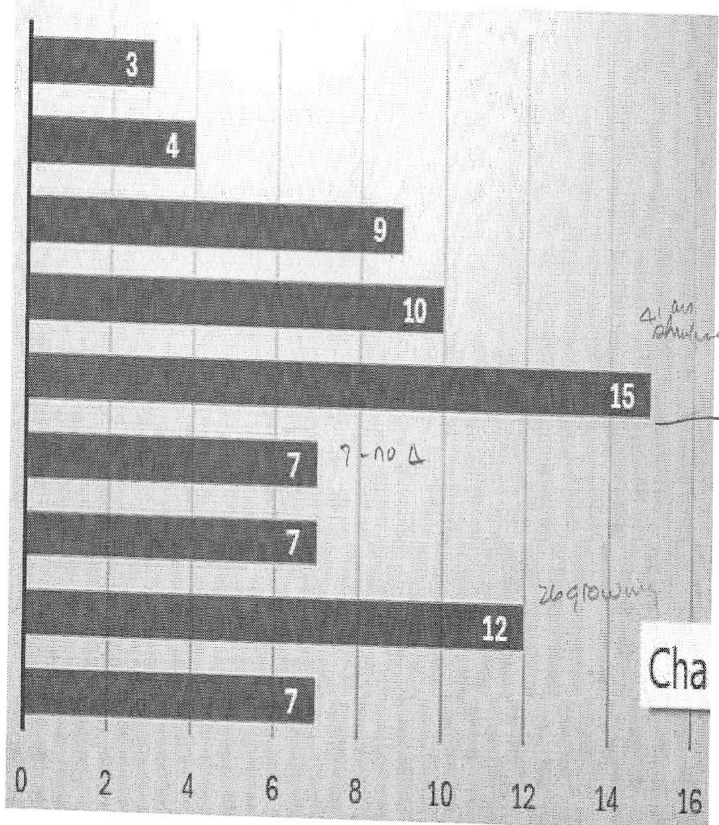


So Where is SIR Inc Going?

Branches by % Change in Membership



- 21 -> -25%
- 16 -> -20%
- 11 -> -15%
- 6 -> -10%
- 0 -> -5%
- No Change
- 0 -> 5%
- 5 -> 9%
- 10 -> 50%



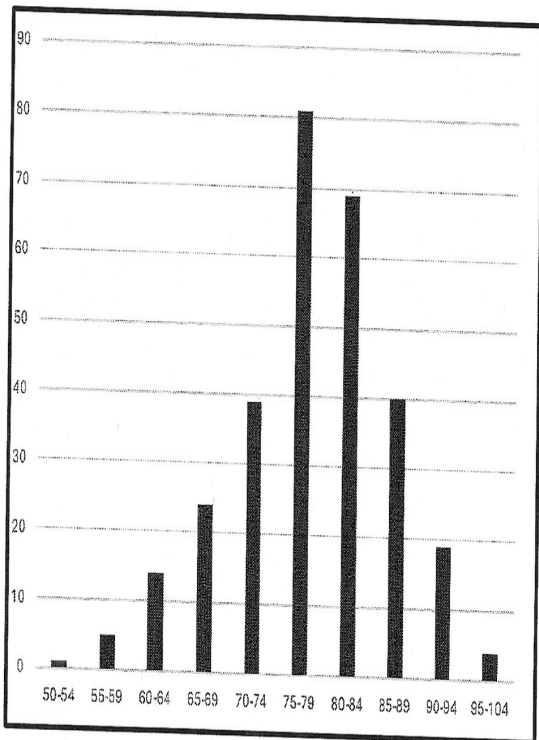
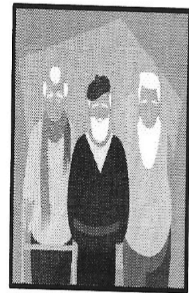
August 2023
To
August 2024

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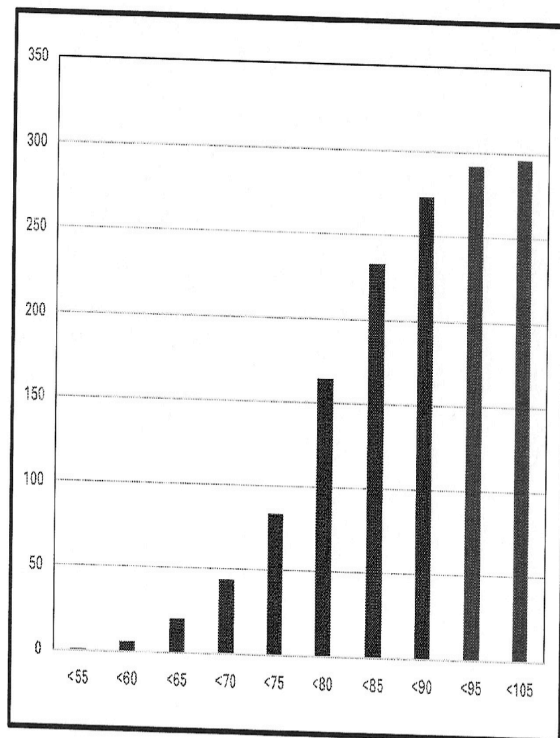


We're Getting Older?

(Branch 35 as an example on July 19, 2024)



Number of Members within an Age Range



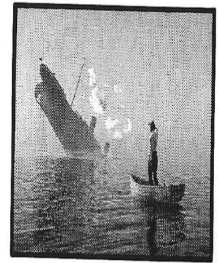
Number of Members Younger than an Age

~ 300 members

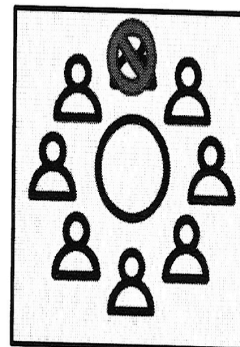
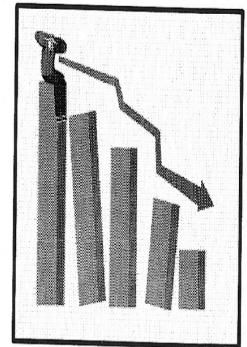
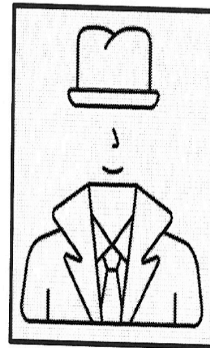
*130 > 80
80 > 75-80
80 > 74*



The reality is SIR is...

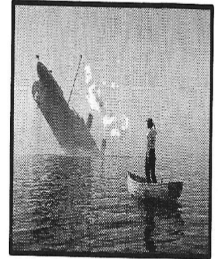


- Lacking energetic new leadership
- Understaffed and underfunded
- Invisible in our communities
- Members 'Aging Out' at 4-7% / year
- Losing 2-5 branches per year by merger or dissolution due to lack of leadership and/or membership





So what are SIR's Alternatives ?



1. Keep on the same declining path with fewer branches and members.
2. Aggressively promote a new image to improve visibility & attractiveness.
3. Find a new way to seek funding, hire leadership and promote SIR digitally and in local media to gain visibility and growth.

SIR RICH CARLSTON - FORM SIR BRANCH ADVISORY GROUP
TO AID SIR BOARD OF DIRECTORS
SET STRATEGIC DIRECTION & DEVELOP/
IMPLEMENT PLANS TO SUSTAIN SIR.

Questions Branches should be asking

- How visible is our branch in our community - do we care?
- What have we done lately to attract prospects - important to us?
- What is more important to our members: lunches, activities, events?
- How successful have we been attracting new BEC members?
- Do we have a succession plan for all key positions in our branch?
- For what do we look to State to provide - Anything?
- What if State was to go away - where would we get their services?