



SIR Monterey News

January, 2026

2026 SIR Leadership

SIR, Inc. President

Fred Serena

SIR Monterey Bay Area 14 Rep

John Hetz

SIR Monterey Branch 28

Chartered 1972

Branch Executive Committee (BEC)

Gary Parker, *President*

John Hetz, *Secretary*

Rob Dunne, *Treasurer*

Don Battles, *Asst. Treasurer & Webmaster*

Mike Hartter, *Activities & Recruitment Director*

Al Williams, *Membership Director*

Scott Van Tyle, *Special Events Director*

Membership Applications address:

Al Williams

25636 Creekview Circle

Salinas, CA 93908

SIRMontereyinfo@gmail.com

Luncheon & Dues payment address:

Rob Dunne

13 Wyndemere Vale

Monterey, CA 93940

dunnelaw6383@gmail.com

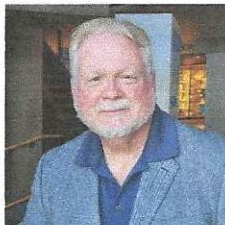
SIR, Inc. website:

<https://sirinc.org>

SIR Monterey website:

<https://sirinc2.org/branch/28>

President's Message



Fellow SIRs,

As your new Branch President, I would like to thank all the officers, directors and volunteers that made 2025 a great year for our Branch 28. A special thank you to John Hetz for having served three years as our Branch President. He has turned over the President position to me and will become our branch's Secretary for 2026.

The Branch Executive Committee has adopted a "Goals and Objectives" statement that will guide the leadership team in 2026. Stated briefly, we intend to:

- Make SIR 28 a fun organization
- Make SIR 28 a sustainable organization
- Make SIR 28 a compliant organization

Our policies and decisions in 2026 will all be geared towards these goals, and with any decision we make we will be thinking, "How does this help our members have more fun, how does this help us gain new members and insure financial stability, and how does this help us comply with the requirements laid on us from the state organization?"

I along with the other officers, look forward to serving the Branch 28 membership in 2026!

Prez Gary



January Program

"Make your voice heard"

At our Tuesday **January 8th** meeting, instead of a traditional guest speaker, we are going to turn things around a bit. After lunch and a few opening remarks, we are going to break down into smaller, informal groups to get comments and ideas from you members on how we can make Branch 28 better. We are particularly interested in ideas for new activities and special events for 2026. So, over the holidays think about what you'd like to do in the new year and bring your wish list to the luncheon.

December Guest Speaker



Howard Burnham as *Charles Dickens*

Recognition



Curt Parker (above) & Don Battles (below) receiving SIR *Distinguished Service Awards* from President John Hetz for their service above and beyond expectations

Calendar of Activities, Events & Meetings

1/5, 1/12, 1/19, 1/26 SIR Golf Club
Various Monterey Bay Courses
Contact: John Ecklund
jecklund@sbcglobal.net

1/6, 1/13, 1/20, 1/27 Geezer/SIR Golf
Tee times beginning 9:00am
Monterey Pines Golf Club
1250 Garden Road, Monterey
Contact: Jack Orchard
jojoorchard@gmail.com

1/6 SIR BEC Meeting
9:30am – 11:00am
Black Bear Diner
2450 N. Fremont Street, Monterey
Contact: Gary Parker
garywparker@msn.com

1/7, 1/14, 1/21, 1/28 SIR Bocce Ball
10am followed by optional lunch
Monterey Custom House Plaza
Contact: Mike Hartter
mhartter@gmail.com

1/8 SIR Luncheon Meeting
Check in begins – 11:30am
Monterey Elks Lodge
150 Mar Vista Drive, Monterey
Contact: Rob Dunne
dunnelaw6383@gmail.com

1/16 SIR Bowling
2:00 – 4:00pm
Monterey Lanes
2161 No. Fremont St, Monterey
Contact: Mike Hartter
mhartter@gmail.com

1/26 SIR Indoor Games
1:00 – 3:00pm
Asilomar Conference Center
800 Asilomar Blvd, Pacific Grove
Contact: Scott Van Tyle
gonzo7hunter@gmail.com

SIR Monterey Volunteers



Packing 768 "Air Chilled" Mary's organic frozen chickens into 384 bags was the task we successfully completed on Monday afternoon December 15th at the Food Bank in Salinas. Left to right are SIR baggers **Mike Hartter, Kim Parker** (our counter), **Gary Parker, Lee Beggs, Bob Evans** behind **John Hetz, Gari Soule** and **Kim Bambace**. Not pictured are **Marge Hartter** and **Noelle Hetz** who were busy packing protein bags and produce boxes. Our time there included a tour of this very impressive new modern warehouse and office facility plus large outdoor produce growing area. We plan to invite their CEO & Executive Director Melissa Kendrick as a guest speaker in 2026.

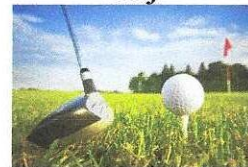
SIR Activities News

Our Activities Director **Mike Hartter** reports that there was no **Wine Tasting** event in December, and the group will next convene on Thursday, January 29th for breakfast/brunch at The Butter House in Seaside. In addition to enjoying the great breakfasts there, the group will discuss their next wine tasting event(s). Time tbd once we get an attendee count, but probably around 10:30am. Contact Mike if you can come.

Our Special Events Director and Indoor Games leader **Scott Van Tyle** reports that after re-visiting the PG Meeting House since it's remodelling, he's decided to continue meeting at the Asilomar Conference Center for our **Indoor Games** activity. That's because the remodel involved removing at least half of the tables and chairs, replacing them with an entertainment area for performers and a piano. So, the next and future meetings will be at the Asilomar Social Room on January 26th beginning at 1:00pm. Check us out!



Golf



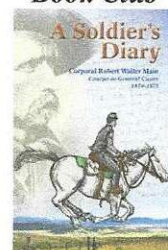
Mondays
SIR Golf Club of Monterey Bay
Tuesdays 9am
Monterey Pines GC

Bocce



Wednesdays 10am
Custom House Plaza Courts
Optional lunch after at local restaurants

Book Club



Thursday, January 15th
Zoom meeting 2:30-4:00pm
to discuss *A Soldier's Diary*

Bowling



Friday, January 16th
2:00 – 4:00pm
Open bowling at Monterey Lanes

Indoor Games



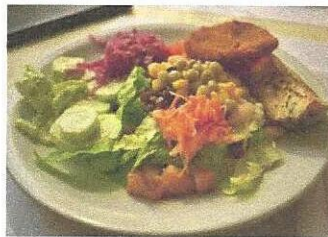
Monday, January 26th
1:00 – 3:00pm
Asilomar Conference Center
Bring your games



Monterey Branch 28
Monthly Luncheon Meeting
Thursday, January 8th at 11:30am

Program: *Member Discussion Groups*
"New Activities & Events for 2026"

Monterey Elks Lodge
150 Mar Vista Drive, Monterey
Salad Bar/Buffer



Luncheon Reservation

If paying by check:

Make check payable to: **SIR Branch 28**
Mail form and check for \$30 per attendee to:
Rob Dunne, Treasurer
13 Wyndemere Vale
Monterey, CA 93940

Member Name _____

Email or Phone # _____

Guest Name(s) _____

Email or Phone # _____

No. ____ @ \$30 each = ____ Total enclosed ____

If paying by credit card:

Click [Here](#) on the cover email to use a
credit card for payment

*Reservation(s) must be received by the date below
so we can notify the Elks Lodge of our luncheon
headcount:*

Monday, January 5th