

Rooster's Tale



Sons in Retirement – Branch 110 **No April Meeting!!**

1705 Manzanita Avenue, Chico, CA—**No Luncheon –No Executive Committee Meeting**

SIR Luncheon and Program Update:

Plans are being pursued for a POSSIBLE May 24 luncheon meeting. However, having a luncheon is dependent on resolving a significant number of issues. More information will be available in the May Rooster's Tale.

IF it is possible to have a luncheon in May, the Program Committee has scheduled a speaker from the Butte County Public Health Department.



Big Sir Message: Things are looking good to be able to start our meetings again. The BEC is working at getting SIRS reorganized to start functioning again. One of the first things to get done is to get the RAMP committees working and start having activities. I am looking for members who are willing to help getting the committees back online. I have had many members ask me when things are going to start to happen. Well, they can happen and will happen with your help. If you are interested in any of the committees, please call me and I will help you get involved. If you have any ideas give me a call and let me know what they are.

The Elks are opening up for outside meetings, so we should be able to go back to the Lodge for our monthly meetings. I have asked Ken Jensen to talk with the Elks Lodge manager regarding having our meetings at the Elks Lodge. I will get back to everyone on what he found out.

The Program Committee is putting together programs for our meetings and the schedule looks great. The first program will be Dr. Robert Bernstein who is the Health Director for Butte County. He will talk about the pandemic among other COVID related things. I am open to all suggestions, ideas and comments. Call me.

2021 Officers & Directors

Big Sir –Norm, Stump	Little Sir – Jim Amis
Secretary – Bob Dinger	Asst. Sec. – Vacant
DB Mgr. – Rocky Rockwell	Treasurer – Ed Matzdorff
Asst.Treas.– Steve Laird	Asst.Treas – Vacant
Attend. Sec. – Don Curtis (replacement requested)	
Director – Ken Tietz	Director – Dave Jones
Director – Jim Braziel	Director – Don Alger
Director –Jose Lopez	Director – Ken Edson

Lunch Menu

**No Meeting
No Lunch
No Menu**

Attendance

**No Meeting
No Lunch
No Contact Necessary**

The BEC meetings held via ZOOM have resulted in the appointment of several officers and directors for 2021 as indicated above. There are still vacancies. This provides opportunities for members to volunteer for positions. Branch 110 could use your help.

Branch 110 Website: <http://www.branch110.sirinc2.org>

Webmaster: Ron Braziel

Chaplain's Corner: Health, Wisdom and Memorials

There has been an endeavor to include more information about Branch 110 members who have health issues or have passed away. It is often found that information of this sort is not known to those who would be responsible for informing the membership at large. Therefore, **everyone's assistance is requested**. If you know of a member who has or has had health issues or has recently died, please inform Don Alger. It is important to not miss acknowledging our fellow members.

Tom Shifflet: Because of family health issues it has been necessary for Tom to drop his membership in SIR Branch 110. His contributions to the Branch and his interesting stories preceding his blessings will certainly be missed.

John "Jack" Feder: Jack passed away on December 21, 2020, at the age of 96. He served for over 20 years as the President of the TM Duche' Nut Company of Orland until he retired in 1992. He was still listed as a member of Branch 110 in 2019.

The way I see it, if you want the rainbow, you gotta put up with the rain. Dolly Parton



April 5, 1971: A major eruption of Mount Etna in Sicily began. In the course of the eruption, lava buried the Etna Observatory (built in the late 19th century), destroyed the first generation of the Etna cable-car, and seriously threatened several small villages on Etna's east flank.

Mount Etna has been in the news recently with recent eruptions in February 2021.

Recently, the volcano has been more active than average, with 16 eruptions over the past five weeks. As of March 25, the latest explosion, which

occurred between March 23 and 24, lasted twice as long as usual and happened on the back of a brief four-day hiatus.

Located on the east coast of Sicily, Mount Etna is the highest and most active volcano in Europe. It has a long history of eruptions.

The first known record of eruption at Etna was in 396 BC.

A 1669 eruption, Etna's most destructive since 122 BC, started on March 11, 1669 and produced lava flows that destroyed at least 10 villages on its southern flank before reaching the city walls of the town of **Catania** five weeks later, on April 15.

Since 1750, seven of Etna's eruptions have had durations of more than 5 years, more than any other volcano except Vesuvius (according to Wikipedia).

A large lava flow from an eruption in 1928 led to the destruction of a population centre for the first time since the 1669 eruption.

Other major 20th-century eruptions occurred in 1949, 1979, 1981, 1983 and 1991–1993.

Major eruptions continued in 2002–2003, 2008, 2015, 2017, and 2018.

Anyone want to move to Catania in Sicily?



SIR 110 Activities

The State Leadership has reminded all branches that when its activities resume, it is critical that activities obtain BEC approval and have it entered into the minutes for insurance coverage.

Golf: Hey....WE'RE BACK !!!!! We received approval, had necessary items read into minutes, so we are allowed to play golf again! The first tournament is scheduled at Bidwell for April 26. Unfortunately, Bidwell is not offering our usual discount (because we are too busy) and the fee will be \$42 with cart. We are limited to 40 players, so first 40 to sign up play...send me an e-mail @ darrellhands@gmail.com to enter. Bidwell has strict COVID guidelines that we must follow. The worst is one person per cart and they may run out of carts. I must have your response by April 16 to let Bidwell know how many will play. There will be no signups the day of tournament!!!!

The 2nd tournament is at Table Mountain on May 10. There is a better fee @ \$33 with cart and they allow 2 people per cart if they agree to ride together. Please let me know by May 3 if you are going to play...Again...no signups day of tournament!!!

We will hold off on prize money \$5 ea. time until we figure out a way to collect, can't collect on site anymore....if everyone would mail me \$5 in currency in a well hidden paper inside envelope to: Darrell Hands 1009 Adlar Ct. Chico, CA. 95926. We will try this the first time until we come up with a better solution.

LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING EVERYONE AGAIN !!! DARRELL AND DOUG

Hiking: Nothing new on hiking. I am, however, trying to find out what the new protocols are for hiking activities. Jim Hertl. (Hiking Branch 84).

Piscatology: The fishing group received approval from the BEC to plan our first trip of the year. About 9 or 10 members plan to fish Davis Lake (near Portola) on April 27-29. Right now there's ice on the lake, but by then we hope for 45 degree water and that the wind doesn't blow us off the Lake. If anyone has a recommendation for a dinner in Blairsden (Tuesday and Wednesday night), call- Bill Colvin at 521-7269.

Woodworking: According to sources at high levels, the woodworking activity has been approved by the BEC to re-open for SIR members. State SIR pandemic requirements allude to SIR branches obeying local restrictions in activities.

New Improved - schedule announcement: Bill Gebhardt has said his shop will now be open every Thursday of the month. Same hours: 10 AM to 2 PM. Go through the wooden gate to the right of the big garage door and you'll see the backyard shop. We lunch at Bellachino's Cafe from 11:30 to 12:30. It's on Bruce Road opposite the California Park Drive entrance. Call Bill at 879-0429 or Craig Lindquist at 898-8483 for information.

Some of us stayed active in our shops during March. Bill sketched a design of a nightstand he is planning on building for his granddaughter (see image of his design). Craig Lindquist made two screen-bottom garden baskets for his daughter, who has a big garden at her home. They can pick veggies or fruit and wash them right in the basket (see photo). Michael Kobelt made five small finger-jointed trays for desktops or drawers (see photo). Woods used are ash, cherry, curly maple, walnut, and zebra.



Travel: Most tours have been canceled, but there are or were a couple available.

- **May 2-10, 2021, Columbia River Cruise aboard the American Empress**
- **July 11-19, 2021, Canadian Rockies by Train**

For information on tours, contact Jose Lopez at 891-6715 or 864-5978.

Persistence and Determination

On January 31, 1872, a boy was born in a small town in Ohio. For whatever reason, his parents named him **Pearl**. That name of Pearl would follow him into adulthood.

Perhaps in efforts to prove he was nothing like his name or perhaps related to his father's punishing him with severe beatings as a child, Pearl frequently engaged in violent brawls. Irrascible and antisocial, by age eleven, Pearl had become the leader of a gang of about ten boys who engaged in petty thefts which led to random vandalism where windows of occupied homes were smashed. This was the work of his gang who called themselves the "terrorist gang".

For unknown reasons, he tired of the gang activity and focused on his other interests of fishing, baseball and writing. Pearl wrote his first story (one about the gang), *Jim of the Cave*, when he was fifteen. Pearl's father, who was a dentist and part-time preacher, destroyed that manuscript upon discovering it. He tore it to shreds and beat Pearl.

Perhaps to avoid his father's further wrath, while he longed to express himself through writing, he channeled his interests into baseball. Pearl became a very accomplished player as a pitcher and hitter and played summer baseball for the Columbus Capitols, with aspirations of becoming a major leaguer. Eventually, he was spotted by a baseball scout and was offered scholarships to several universities. He chose to attend University of Pennsylvania which was known as an excellent training ground for major league baseball players. In addition, undoubtedly due to his father's influence; he was able to pursue a degree in dentistry at Penn.

He became a star on Penn's Baseball Team but was forced to give up the dream of playing major league baseball due to injuries.

After graduating, Pearl established his dental practice in New York City, in 1896. He began to write in the evening to offset the tedium of his dental practice.

He dabbled in semi-professional baseball and wrote his first stories and novels. They were not successful,

By 1905 at the age of 33 he had become tired and frustrated with his profession; he closed his dental office permanently and decided to leave dentistry to pursue his dream of writing.

In 1909, he wrote a new novel, describing the adventures of a western hunter and guide. Harper's editor Ripley Hitchcock rejected it. It was the fourth rejected work in a row. He was told, "I do not see anything in this to convince me you can write either narrative or fiction."

The man who had not proven to be successful in baseball or dentistry wrote dejectedly, "I don't know which way to turn. I cannot decide what to write next. That which I desire to write does not seem to be what the editors want ... I am full of stories and zeal and fire ... yet I am inhibited by doubt, by fear that my feeling for life is false."

With the birth of his first child pending, he felt compelled to complete his next novel. He wrote it in four months in 1910 (at the age of 38). It quickly became a bestseller. The successful author took his next work to Hitchcock again; and this time Harper published his book and continued publishing his next ninety or so works.

The retired dentist continued to write popular novels about Manifest Destiny, the conquest of the Old West, and the behavior of men in elemental conditions.

Oh yes by the way, when he had opened his dental practice in 1896 he dropped the name of **Pearl** and simply went by his middle name and became known as Zane.....Zane Grey.



MEMBERSHIP

There are currently 168 active members.

Membership brochures and applications are normally available at the membership table or you can call Don Levensaler at 891-1045 to get one via the postal service.

If anyone knows of SIR members that have moved or are otherwise not interested in continuing their membership please contact our membership chairman, Don Levensaler, at (530) 891-1045 or dlev29@comcast.net

Announcements

- **Editor's Note:** The deadline for the **May** Rooster's Tale is **Thursday, May 6**. Send your information by email: dalger@csuchico.edu or phone at: (530) 894-2452.
- **Volunteers Needed:** Besides the vacancies which need to be filled for some officer positions, past Big Sir **Dave Rush** is contacting people for a variety of other committee assignments. If you would be interested in providing some assistance for our Branch 110, please consult the front of the 2020 Membership Roster to see all the various potential assignments that may be needed. If you are interested in helping, please contact Dave Rush. His contact information is in the Membership Roster.
- **Future Programs:** The Program Committee has identified several possible programs for 2021. As indicated elsewhere, Dr. Robert Bernstein has agreed to speak for a POTENTIAL May 24 luncheon. **As always, new ideas are welcome.**
- **Annual Basket Collection (ABC):** The BEC has formalized a policy for 2021 ABC fees. The 2020 fees will carry over to 2021 so no fees will be collected this year and those who have not paid the 2020 fees will just be "excused".
- **State SIR Bulletin: ("Sir Happenings")** The latest edition is available for review at <https://sirinc.org/newsletters/>

Some Moon Photography

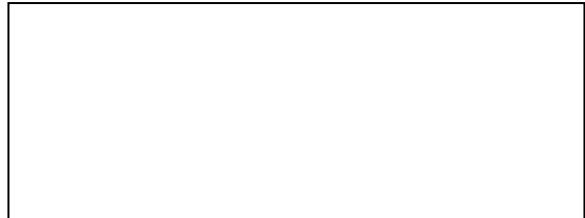




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If you have an April Birthday, we are sorry we will not be able to celebrate with you. Here's hoping you had or will have a great day.

Norman	Atkin	April	2	Mike	Wacker	April	7	Dick	Truesdell	April	22
Duff	Kandler	April	3	Jack	Lutz	April	9	Greg	Robertson	April	26
Norman	Atkin	April	4	Charlie	Carroll	April	15	Steve	Emmons	April	26

It was possible to get a free lunch card without being a Birthday Boy. There was a free lunch winner at every meeting from a name badge drawing. Also both the sponsor and his guest received a free lunch when the guest joins and is inducted. Perhaps that will continue when lunch opportunities return.

Please plan on bringing a friend to the next SIR meeting!