

# Rooster's Tale

*Sons in Retirement* – Branch 110

Meeting July 26, 2021 1705 Manzanita Avenue, Chico, CA

Luncheon at 11:30 am – Executive Committee 9:30 am



**Program:** The topic for the July 26 luncheon will be about the Butte College Fish and Wildlife Program for training Wardens and the duties, responsibilities and experiences of the resulting graduates.

Our speaker will be **Barry Ceccon** who was a State and Nationally recognized educator in the Butte College Program where he taught academy classes. For a period he split his time between the academy and working in the field. Lieutenant Ceccon now serves as a full time successful Game Warden.



**Lunch:** There will **not** be a buffet luncheon the way it was in the past. The food will be plated and served as it was last month. There won't be any vegetables. We will be having a salad, entree, and a dessert. **The cost will be \$17.**

Lunch Menu	Attendance Communication
Stuffed Pork Loin	Since there is greater than normal uncertainty regarding the number of lunch attendees, it is important to communicate whether you will participate in the July 26 luncheon. There will be a survey but if you can't do the survey, <u>PLEASE</u> , <b>if you will NOT attend</b> , contact Craig Lindquist, at 898-8483 or <a href="mailto:c.lindquist@sbcglobal.net">c.lindquist@sbcglobal.net</a> <b>by Thursday, July 22.</b>

**Big Sir Message:** Happy 4th of July, I know it's late but that's OK. I hope that



everyone that traveled got home safely and didn't have any problems and enjoyed themselves.

It looks as if July is going to be a hot month and it is going to be a hot time at the SIRs meeting this month. I would like to know how everyone enjoyed the meeting and meal at the June meeting and if there are any changes that you would like to see. Just drop me a note or see me at the next meeting and let me know what you think.

The BEC has approved a number of activities coming up in Piscatology and for the Wine Club. Joe Navarro is looking for some Pinochle players. See him at the next meeting, if you are interested. The Web site is up to date with all the latest news on activities in SIRS.

You don't want to miss the July program. The person speaking is from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife. It should be very interesting.

Talk up SIRS with your friends and if you see any SIRs let them know that we are up and running again and to come out and join us.

## 2021 Officers and Directors

Big Sir: <b>Norm Stump</b>	Little Sir: <b>Jim Amis</b>	Secretary: <b>Bob Dinger</b>
Asst. Sec.: <b>Vacant</b>	Data Base Mgr: <b>Rocky Rockwell</b>	Treasurer: <b>Ed Matzdorff</b>
Asst. Treas.: <b>Steve Laird</b>	Asst. Treas.: <b>Vacant</b>	
Attendance Sec.: <b>Don Curtis</b> (a replacement is needed)		
Director: <b>Ken Tietz</b>	Director: <b>Dave Jones</b>	Director: <b>Jim Braziel</b>
Director: <b>Don Alger</b>	Director: <b>Jose Lopez</b>	Director: <b>Ken Edson</b>

**Branch 110 Website: <http://www.branch110.sirinc2.org>**  
**Webmaster: Ron Braziel**

## Health, Wisdom and Memorials

There has been an endeavor to include information about Branch 110 members who have health issues or have passed away. It is usually the case 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 provide the information to Don Alger. It is important to not miss acknowledging our fellow members.

**A society grows great when old men plant trees whose shade they know they shall never sit in. Greek Proverb**

**Keith Curtis Mussleman:** Keith passed away on June 27, 2021, at age 89. Keith was born in Chico and had been a member of Branch 110 since November 1994.

**Jim Kirks:** As has been previously noted, Jim passed away on April 9, but his service was postponed until this summer. His service is now set for Saturday, August 28<sup>th</sup>, at 2 pm at the Faith Lutheran Church on E. First Avenue, across from Bidwell Perk.



**July 9, 1971:** U.S. National Security Adviser Henry Kissinger made a secret trip to the People's Republic of China after boarding a jet in Pakistan, part of his itinerary for an official worldwide "fact finding trip" and diplomatic visit to Asian nations. On its flight to Pakistan, Kissinger's plane turned north and flew to Beijing, where he met with Chinese Prime Minister Zhou Enlai for three days. While Kissinger was in China, the international press in Pakistan was told that Kissinger was "temporarily incapacitated by a stomach ailment" and staying in "a mountain resort in the hills of northeast Pakistan" overnight. The visit was disclosed six days later by U.S. President Nixon.

**July 15, 1971:** U.S. President Nixon announced in a nationwide radio and television address that he had accepted an invitation to become the first U.S. President to visit the People's Republic of China, after being invited by China's Prime Minister Zhou Enlai. Nixon said that the visit would take place sometime before May 1972. The week-long visit, from February 21 to 28, 1972, allowed the American public to view images of China for the first time in over two decades.

# SIR 110 Activities

**Please remember that when activities resume, it is critical that approval be obtained from the BEC and have it entered into the minutes for insurance coverage.**

**Golf:** A **Scramble Tournament** was held at Rolling Hills on June 28.

**Flight 1 Winners (with Group Net Score of 60.1):**

**BENNY SOMMER; RAY QUINTO; LLOYD LEE; RICHARD NUSSBAUM**

**Flight 2 Winners (with Group Net Score of 59.7):**

**LARRY HILDENBRAND; ED MAIN; BOB WESSELS; DAVE BARNUM**

**Closest to the pin # 12: Dave Barnum-11' 4"; Dennis McNamara-20' 3"; Don Camy-28' 3"**

**Closest to the pin # 14: Bill Bingaman-5' 9"; Ray Quinto-13' 5"; Rich Nuaabaum-16' 4"**

A **2 man Scramble** was held in Willows on July 6 at the Country Club.

**Flight 1 Winners (with Group Net Score of 62.3): CRAIG HERMAN; DOUG SHOOK**

**Flight 2 Winners (with Group Net Score of 70.0): DAVE BARNUM; LARRY HILDENBRAND**

**Closest to pin # 16: David Harris-8' 9"; David Barnum-12' 8"; Jeff Day-13' 2";**

**Doug Shook-28' 0"**

**Dominoes:** We are going to disband the Mexican Train group due to loss of five regular players who moved out of state and no new interest shown from the current members. This group was started by Mac Martin many years ago and provided a lot of fun times and lasting friendships.

**Pinochle:** There has been interest shown and plans are being made to start soon. More news to come! These games are open to members, wives, significant others or guests. Please call me at 343-0832 or email at majcnav@att.net, if you are interested. Joe Navarro.

**Piscatology:** The fishing group has a trip to Fort Bragg scheduled for July 27.

The photo is of Vern Hartman from a prior trip to Fort Bragg. Looks like good fishing over there. An August 24 activity is planned for Lake Almanor. The September 28 trip will be to Bucks Lake. There are hopes that water will still be available for October.

We meet the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday each month at 7:00 am at the Cozy Diner's back room. Please join us. Call Bill Colvin 521-7269 or Bob Weckerle 864-6698 for more information.



**Woodworking:** There may not be much activity to report for the summer.

**Travel:** There are currently some tours available.

- **August 27 – September 7, 2021: Top of Switzerland and Oberammergau, Germany and the Passion Play.**
- **September 16-24, 2021: Louisville to Nashville - Featuring a tour of Churchill Downs and the UNESCO World Heritage site of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park**

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

**Vino 110:** Our "Summer Wine Time" event will have been held on July 13. Reservations were closed at 20 SIRs and their wives and guests. Five delicious wines from California were tasted and presented by SIR Don Kidd. Our winery trip for August has not been scheduled but like Wine Time it will be to an air-conditioned venue.

**OTL:** Branch 52 had discussions, including the Out To Lunch (OTL) program, and the possibility of it starting in September. SIRs 110 is invited to help plan and participate in a combined OTL program.

**History Club:** Museums are opening so activities may be possible. Please stay tuned.

## Persistence and Determination II

**Hiram** was born in Ohio on April 27, 1822 to a well established family. His father became a successful Galena, Illinois tanner and merchant. Hiram had a good early education. Not wanting work in the leather business. He was admitted to West Point, and graduated 21 out of 39 in 1843. He served in the Mexican–American War from 1846-1848.

In 1848, he married Julia Dent, and together they had four children over the years.

Hiram's first post-war assignments took him and Julia to Detroit. When the discovery of gold in California brought droves of prospectors and settlers to the territory, Hiram and the 4th infantry were ordered to reinforce a small garrison and in August 1849, Hiram arrived in San Francisco. Julia did not follow him..

His next assignment sent him north to Vancouver in the Oregon Territory.

While he was posted up north, Hiram tried his hand at farming in order to supplement his salary. But the melting snow and rising waters destroyed all his crops and he lost all he had invested.

Then he tried shipping chickens down to San Francisco. However, they all perished on route.

After that, Hiram had another idea of shipping ice blocks to San Francisco where ice was fetching unheard of prices. But when the ship was delayed with strong headwinds, all the ice melted.

Right after the ice fiasco, Hiram partnered with another officer opening a billiard room and a social club. But their manager disappeared with all the money they had made.

On August 5, 1853, he was promoted to captain and assigned to command a Company of the 4th Infantry, at Fort Humboldt in California. On January 5, 1854, Hiram arrived at Fort Humboldt which was commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Robert C. Buchanan.

Separated from his wife and family, and frustrated by his financial losses, Hiram began to drink.

Colonel Buchanan reprimanded Hiram for one drinking episode and told him to "resign or reform." He was subsequently found drunk at his company's pay table. He resigned effective July 31, 1854.

Homesick and tired of his Western experiences, he returned to St. Louis and reunited with his family, with no means of support and very uncertain about his future.

In White Haven, Missouri, Hiram decided to become a farmer on sixty acres loaned by Julia's father. Hiram worked hard to change his bad luck and prove himself. However, he experienced no financial success at farming and had to start selling wood on the street corners of St. Louis, which was another blow to his pride.

In 1856, they moved to land on Julia's father's nearby farm, and built a home called "Hardscrabble". The family had little money, clothes, and furniture, but always had enough food.

In 1858, Hiram rented out Hardscrabble and moved his family to Julia's father's 850-acre plantation. That fall, after suffering from malaria, he finally admitted, after years of failure, that he would never succeed as a farmer, and he sold all his farm equipment, stock, and crops.

He was then walking the streets of St. Louis looking for a job, any job at that point.

In 1859, thanks again to his father-in-law's intervention and influence, Hiram found himself a partner in a law firm. He had no skills or qualifications to bring to this enforced partnership. He was so broke that he could not even rent a house in St. Louis. He ended up taking refuge in a bare room in a house, since he had no money to bring his family to the city. As no surprise, this partnership did not work and it was soon dissolved.

Hiram then traded the house in White Haven for a new house in St. Louis so his family could now join him. He made \$3,000 off the house but he soon lost it to a swindler in another business deal.

His gullibility in business matters seemed to know no end.

Hiram then got hired as a clerk in the custom-house but he was soon fired.

He was again back on the streets of St. Louis looking for a job to feed his family of six.

In April 1860, he made another attempt to make money in the civilian world but one that broke his heart more than any other attempts in the past. He had to return to Galena, Illinois, to work at his father's leather store. At age 38, he had to swallow his pride and work under his younger brothers.

On April 12, 1861, the American Civil War began when Confederate troops attacked Fort Sumter.

On April 15, Lincoln called for 75,000 volunteers. Hiram joined the Union Army. Ready to fight, Hiram recalled with satisfaction, "I never went into our leather store again."

Although his early efforts to be recommissioned were rejected, Hiram was finally appointed military aide to the Governor and recruited ten regiments into the Illinois militia. On June 14, Hiram was promoted to Colonel and put in charge of the 21st Illinois Volunteer Infantry Regiment. His regiment was transferred to Missouri to dislodge Confederate forces.

Hiram rose to prominence after winning several early Union victories on the Western Theater. In 1863 he led the Vicksburg campaign, and gained control of the Mississippi River. President Abraham Lincoln promoted him to Lieutenant General after his victory at Chattanooga. For thirteen months, he fought Robert E. Lee. On April 9, 1865, Lee surrendered to Hiram at Appomattox.

You have perhaps concluded that this story about Hiram was about Ulysses Grant, a man whose full name was Hiram Ulysses S. Grant, who ultimately became the eighteenth President of the United States.

## MEMBERSHIP

**There are currently 166 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.

### June 2021 Guests

**Bill Dennison** guest of Chuck Priddy

**Marty Schroeder** guest of Bob Weckerle

**Bruce Trowson** guest of Greg Robertson

## Announcements

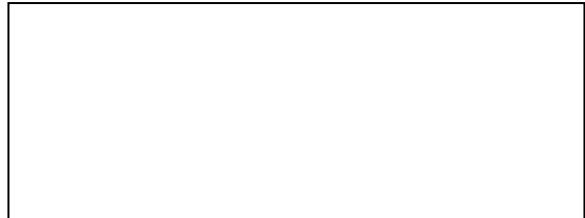
- **Editor's Note:** The deadline for the **August** Rooster's Tale is **Thursday, August 5**. Send your information by email: [dalger@csuchico.edu](mailto:dalger@csuchico.edu) or phone at (530) 894-2452.
- **Artistic Endeavors:** An idea has been presented by the Woodworking group that since there are several members who have wood shops at their home that it would be nice to offer them the opportunity to submit information and pictures (if appropriate) about their creations. The idea was quickly expanded to include "artistic endeavors" besides just woodworking projects such as ceramics or other art work. So, if you have produced something you would like to share, please consider submitting it for possible inclusion in the Rooster's Tale
- **Volunteers Needed:** **Branch 110 could still use your help.** Besides vacancies in the officer's positions, there are several other positions which still need to be filled. In the case of the Supper Club, the continuation of the activity is dependent on finding someone to serve as chair. If you are interested in helping, please contact Big SIR Norm Stump. His contact information is in the 2020 Membership Roster.
- **Future Programs:** The Program Committee has identified several possible programs for 2021. The currently scheduled program for August will be about Oil and Chemical Spill Control. It will be presented by John Amis. Yes, that would be Jim Amis's son. **As always, new ideas are welcome.**
- **Fall BBQ:** The date for the Fall BBQ has been set for Friday, October 8. **Jim Amis** is the Chair of the committee. Please save the date. More information will follow.
- **Christmas Party:** The date for the Christmas Party has been set for Monday, December 6. **Craig Lindquist** is the Chair of the committee. Please save the date. More information will follow.
- **State SIR Bulletin: ("Sir Happenings")** The latest edition is available for review at <https://sirinc.org/newsletters/>



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If you have a July Birthday, please join us at the July 26 luncheon and find out what you might win. **Perhaps a free lunch\*\***

Fred	Ciapponi	July	1	Russ	Melquist	July	11	Syl	Lucena	July	19
Rick	Giberson	July	3	Robert	Engelken	July	12	Sam	Smith	July	26
Ken	Shippen	July	7	Henry	Maas	July	13	Walt	Stile	July	29
Tony	Meith	July	9	Ed	Matzdorff	July	14			July	

**\*\* It is possible to get a free lunch card without being a Birthday Boy. There has been a free lunch winner at meetings from a name badge drawing. Also both the sponsor and his guest have received a free lunch when the guest joins and is inducted**

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