



SIR BRANCH 20 NEWSLETTER

ROOSTER ROUNDUP – April 1, 2026

sirinc2.org/branch20

BIG SIR COMMENTS

Dear Fellow Members of Branch #20,

I hope you and your family have been enjoying the beautiful weather this March, which we hope will continue in April. April is known for April Fools day, April 1st. A day of harmless pranks, jokes and humor with family and friends. April is also the month we celebrate Easter Sunday on April 5th.

Here are some activities for you, your family, your friends and fellow SIR members to enjoy together:

- The first Friday of April Art tours; Local artists.
- National beer Day April 7th. I didn't know we needed another special day to drink beer.
- Earth day April 22nd; Celebration at Abbott Square April 18th.
- Whale watching; I haven't seen very many whales this month.
- Tide pooling at Natural Bridges; great activity with your grandchildren.
- Sunset sail on the Chardonnay.

I would like to welcome our new members that were inducted to our branch at the March meeting:

John Blackman, Thomas Horn, Neville Lodgerg, Larry Mosley and John Piers

Please introduce yourself to the new members. make them feel welcome and invite them to activities you are participating in.

April 1, 2026 BEC meeting is at 10 AM. Luncheon at 12 PM. I look forward to seeing you there as well as other activities.

Sincerely,

Larry Bristow

Cell: 650-771-2140

Big Sir 2026, SIR Branch #20

Announcements

State SIR Newsletter (← link)

Multi-Branch Travel —

Fall 2026 and 2027 trips · Contact: Glenn Breslin

Finance and Stats for February

	Checking	Savings	Petty Cash	Total
Beginning Balance:	\$2,832.96	9,000.00	170.00	12,002.96
Ending Balance	2,994.96	9,000.00	200.00	12,194.96
Active Members:				125
Pending:				0

Dave Schwingel, Treasurer

April Birthdays

Name

Tony Ainsworth

Dave Herzog

Fred Molnar

Dennis Morris

Name

Edgar Ross

Greg Takahashi

Leslie Yeffa



You must be present to win the drawing for a free lunch. Did we miss your birthday? Let Jeff Ustick know.

Congratulations David Llamas, March Drawing Winner!

APRIL: BANDIT LEADER JOAQUIN MURRIETA

Program: John Boessenecker

Location: Elks Club, 150 Jewell Street, Santa Cruz

Bandit leader Joaquin Murrieta rampaged through California until brought to justice by Santa Cruzan Harry Love. Renowned historian John Boessenecker will come to Santa Cruz April 1 to discuss Murrieta at the Santa Cruz SIRs. Boessenecker has also written about other western outlaws, including Tiburcio Vasquez, who engaged in a gunfight near Pacific Avenue in Santa Cruz. His new book is *Bring Me the Head of Joaquin Murrieta*.



John Boessenecker, left, and Casey Tefertiller examine the recently located journals of Wells, Fargo detective Fred Dodge during a history conference in Reno.

John Boessenecker is the award-winning author of thirteen books, including the New York Times bestselling Texas Ranger: The Epic Life of Frank Hamer, the Man who Killed Bonnie and Clyde. In 2011, 2013, and 2018, True West magazine named Boessenecker Best Nonfiction Writer. He received a Spur award from Western Writers of America, the Best Book award from Westerners International, and an International Latino Book Award. He has appeared frequently as a historical commentator on PBS, The History Channel, A&E, Netflix, and other media. His latest book is *Bring Me the Head of Joaquin Murrieta: The Bandit Chief Who Terrorized California and Launched the Legend of Zorro*.

Menu: Meatloaf, mashed potatoes and gravy; salad; dessert; lemonade–iced tea–water–coffee.

To make your SIR lunch reservation please respond to your Punchbowl invitation sent via email; if not seen, check your Spam, Promotions, or similar folders.

Important Notes:

- Luncheon price is \$25.00.
- Your \$25 2026 SIR annual membership fee was due by December 31. If you haven't paid, contact Jeff Ustick. *Thank you to those who have already paid.*
- It is **very important** for the branch to have an accurate count for lunch. Please let us know you are attending; also tell us if your plans change.
- Proof of vaccination is no longer required for attendees; however, keeping current on vaccinations is highly recommended (i.e. Covid, flu and pneumonia). Masking is optional.
- In the event that the County of Santa Cruz Health Officer issues any vaccination, proof of vaccination and/or masking mandates, our SIR Branch will immediately incorporate such mandates for our attendees.
- If attendees are experiencing any potentially contagious virus symptoms, they need to voluntarily excuse themselves from attendance.
- Photos of each member attendee may be taken for inclusion in next year's pictorial directory.

State President

Fred Serena

Area Representative-Area 14

Andre Adema 239-6699

Branch Executive Committee

Larry Bristow, Big Sir (650) 771-2140
Joe Maggio, Little Sir (408) 656-2640
Jeff Boisen, Secretary 239-1708
Dave Schwingel, Treasurer 234-7429
Membership: Jeff Ustick 419-4577
Programs: Andre Adema 239-6699
Bill Fitzgerald 423-5102
Walt Heil 915-8457
Webmaster: Joe Maggio.....(408) 656-2640
Newsletter: Michael Kopp..... 535-6308
Kent Madsen (408) 812-1141

2026 Directors

Ray Blute 464-7901
Jim Healey 685-3829
Dave Hodgins 239-5122
Charles Johnson 594-8965
Bob Lewis (Computer Club) 335-7816
Joe Mingione (650) 279-2830
Steve Tedesco (408) 810-0578
Frank Turner 239-9664
Les Yeffa 588-1626
Jerry Zanzinger 423-1936

2026 Committees

Badges: Joe Maggio (408) 656-2640
Bocce: Joe Mingione (650) 279-2830
Book Exchange: Mike Kopp..... 535-6308
Branch Photographer: Bill Bishoff..... 854-2207
Computer & Tech Discussions: Bob Lewis 335-7816
Cribbage: Les Yeffa 588-1626
18-Hole Golf: Jerry Zanzinger 704-7091
Member Relations: Jeff Ustick 419-4577
Poker: Joe Mingione (650) 279-2830
Publicity: Joe Mingione (650) 279-2830
PunchBowl: Ray Blute..... 566-0029
Wine Tasting: Jeff Ustick:..... 419-4577

Honorary Life Members

Gary Allyne Bob Lewis

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State SIR Video



NON RESPONSIBILITY DECLARATION

All activities arranged for or by, or sponsored by Sons In Retirement Inc. and its branches, are for the convenience and pleasure of the members and their guests who desire to participate. SIRs Inc. and its Branches do not assume any responsibility for the well being or safety of the participants, passengers, or their property, in any matters pertaining to said tours, trips or other activities.

Living Past Big Sirs

Branch 36

Cliff Barrett 2001, 2002
John Lunden 2008
Al Telles..... 2012
Frank Turner 2014
Bill Schraft 2015
Les Austin 2013, 2016
Gary Allyne. 2010,2011,2017
Bill Landrum 2018
Bill Ackerknecht . 2019, 2020
Chuck Presto..... 2021
Charles Johnson..... 2022
Andre Adema..... 2023, 2024

Branch 20

Hank Pierce 2009
Rich Dean 2010
Bill Neary 2011
Sterling Frost 2012
Jim Bunker 2013
Don Little 2014
Greg Horne 2015
Bruce Bentley 2016
Dick Doubrava 2017
Joe Mingione 2018
Tom Duncanson 2019
Les Yeffa..... 2020, 2021
Steve Tedesco 2022
Ray Blute..... 2023
Jeff Ustick..... 2024
Andre Adema..... 2025

BRANCH 20 ACTIVITIES FOR 2025

Book Exchange

Don't forget to peruse the Book Exchange table at our monthly meetings! Lots of interesting titles to pique your interests: non-fiction, fiction, sports, biographies, history, and humor. There are also jigsaw puzzles and DVDs sure to entertain adults and children of all ages. We welcome donations of every genre. Bring a book (or more) & take a book (or more).



Bocce

We have eight teams playing on Wednesdays (except when we have a scheduled Luncheon meeting) at two different times. First game starts at 9:30 am with assembly time at 9:15 am. The second game starts at 11:45 am with assembly time at 11:35 am. All Sirs are invited, pick a time that fits your liking and show up! The venue- FELT STREET PARK.



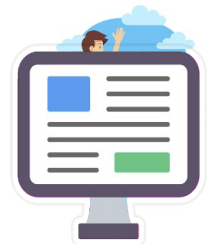
Watch for Joe Mingione's e-mail regarding the team assignments to lanes and playing times.

In addition, every Monday (weather permitting) we have Pot Luck pick up Bocce games, at 11:15 am at the Felt Street Courts — Just show up if you want to play! If you have a Bocce ball set please bring it!

For more information: Contact Joe Mingione

Computers and Technology Discussion

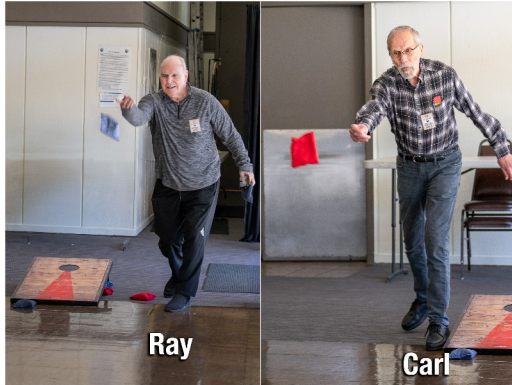
Bob Lewis chairs the Branch #20 Computer Club during regular monthly meetings (no meeting on Ladies Day luncheons). Bob also chairs a community computer "club" called the Felton Linux Users Group. Known as the Felton LUG for short, it is currently meeting semi-monthly using video conference software. Contact Bob Lewis to be added to either group. Virtual meetings are on the first and third Saturdays at 11:00 am. Either group usually has a lively discussion about current tech subjects or problems encountered and/or solved.



BRANCH 20 ACTIVITIES (CONTINUED)

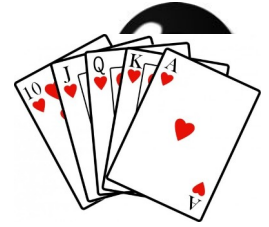
Cornhole

Cornhole is very popular lately. It's played much like horseshoes, with players tossing a beanbag at a target board that has a hole in it. Scoring rules are simple, 3 points for a bag that fall through the hole and 1 point for every bag that lands on the board. If both teams score, the low score team's points are subtracted from the high score team's points. Simple enough! Meet up after 11:00 am on our SIR Wednesday meetings – on the far side of the meeting room, near the doors to the swimming pool.



Poker

Poker continues to be very popular with Branch 20 SIR members. Every Tuesday at 1:00 pm is a game for experienced players. The venue is Tradewinds Mobile Home Park, 4160 Jade St., Capitola. Seating is limited to seven players, by invitation only. For more information, contact JJ Justice at (831) 464-2387.



Pool

Another way to interact with your SIR friends on meeting day: In the Bar area is a regulation size Pool Table available for our use! A game of 8 ball anyone?



Pool at SIR

Cribbage

Games are played before the monthly luncheon meeting at the Elks Lodge, in the Bar area. Games begin at approximately 11:00 am For more information, contact Mike Kopp.

"I consider that the hours I spend with a cue in my hand are golden. Help you cultivate horse sense and a cool head and a keen eye."
— Professor Harold Hill, "The Music Man"

Golf

Golf continues to be a very popular activity for SIR members. We play every Monday at one of 11 different courses in Monterey and Santa Cruz counties, including Delmonte, Crazy Horse, Monterey Pines, Pacific Grove, Laguna Seca and Delaveaga. Come on out and have a great time with your fellow SIR golfers. We presently have 39 eligible players in Branch 20. The Monday tournaments include two other SIR Branches. Typically, we get around 60 players every Monday. Cash prizes for the winners and closest to the pin.



Wine tasting

On Thursday, March 19, in preparation for Spring, ten Sirs gathered to sample white wines along with a tasty variety of cheeses, crackers and fruits. Several Chardonnays (from France, Arroyo Seco, Australia, and Monterey), a German Riesling, a Spanish Albarino, an Oregon Pinot Gris and a non (low) alcohol Sauvignon Blanc were sampled in addition to a lovely Cabernet from Paso Robles.



Our next wine gathering will take place on Thursday, April 16. The theme has yet to be set. However, there is a wonderful wine experience (The Perfect Pair) happening at Cabrillo College at the lovely grounds at the Sesnon House on Saturday, April 25 from noon until 4:00 pm. Local wineries are paired with Cabrillo culinary student to present "the perfect pair" of local wines and delicious student created culinary pairings.

The April golf schedule is as follows:

- April 6 Monterey Pines
- April 13 Deleavega
- April 20 Salinas
- April 27 Spring Hill

Please go to the SIR Golf State website for the latest tournament information or contact Jerry Zanzinger at (831) 704-7091.

Tickets go fast, so purchase now: [The Perfect Pair \(link\)](#). Cheers. Contact Jeff Ustick at (831) 419-4577 with questions.

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I came home yesterday and was greeted by my wife. She said she has good news and bad news about our car. I said "OK tell me the good news"

She replied "The good news is the Air Bag works"



Sirs, upgrade your wardrobe!

It's a New Year, time for a new look. Show our community that you are a proud member of SIR by wearing the great looking SIR garb available at

sir.ourproshop.com

Polo shirts, T shirts, hats and more! Many colors, and sizes available.



Santa Cruz Warriors

On Sunday, March 8th fourteen Sirs and guests attended the Santa Cruz Warriors matchup with the South Bay Lakers, featuring Broni James, LeBron's son. Despite a valiant effort, the Warriors fell to the Lakers. Even though they lost, when the Warriors score more than 100 points, all ticket holders are eligible for a free scoop of Penny ice cream the following day. An enjoyable evening of camaraderie and basketball followed by ice cream, not a bad combination!

Interested in a Book Club?

If so, **Sig Storz** would like to know. He is interested in forming a book club, with details to be worked out by the group once it forms. Contact Sig at (831) 266-9487.

MARCH: HEART HEALTH



PHOTOS BY BILL BISHOFF

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My wife never complained... until I got hearing aids.

I was filling out some legal paperwork. At the bottom where it said "Sign" ... I wrote "Pisces".

Is there another word for synonym?

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If a word in the dictionary were misspelled, how would we know?

A hungry termite walks into a bar and says "Is the bar tender here?"

What do you give a man who has everything? Antibiotics.