



SIR BRANCH 20 NEWSLETTER

ROOSTER ROUNDUP – May 6, 2026

sirinc2.org/branch20

BIG SIR COMMENTS

Dear Fellow Members of Branch #20,

I hope you are well and have been enjoying April with your family, friends and fellow Sir members. May is almost here. In May we celebrate Cinco de Mayo, Mother's Day and Memorial day, enjoy!

Here are some activities for you to enjoy with your family, friends and fellow Sir members

- May 1 First Friday Santa Cruz
- Art galleries, Venues and Live Music
- May 9 Robert Ranch Vineyards Ben Lomond 3 PM
- Wine, Charcuterie, Crushpad Concert From: \$39.19
- May 9-10 Roaring Camp Railroads
- Mothers Day Brunch followed by a scenic train ride.
- May 16 beach boardwalk "Fireworks" Free show
- May 17 Spring Wine Walk 3 PM from \$33.85

May 6, 2026 BEC meeting at 10 AM. Luncheon at 12 PM

I hope to see you there as well as other Sir activities.

I would also like to thank all of our members who have volunteered hours every month to help with running our Sir Branch. Just to name a few Joseph Maggio, Jeff Ustick, Kent Madsen, Joe Minione, Ray Blute, Dave Schwengel, Jeff Boisen, Mike Kopp, Walt Heil, Andre Adema, Bill Fitzgerald.

Sincerely,

Larry Bristow

Big Sir 2026, SIR Branch #20

Cell: 650-771-2140

Announcements

[State SIR Newsletter](#) (← link)

Multi-Branch Travel —

Fall 2026 and 2027 trips · Contact: Glenn Breslin

Finance and Stats for March

	Checking	Savings	Petty Cash	Total
Beginning Balance:	\$2,994.96	9,000.00	200.00	12,194.96
Ending Balance	2,485.23	9,000.00	210.00	11,695.23
Active Members:				128
Pending:				0

Dave Schwengel, Treasurer

From the Big Sir:

PLEASE CARPOOL to the May 6 meeting if you can. It's now swimming pool weather, and the Elks Lodge rents out their pool in the mornings. This causes parking headaches when we arrive late morning for our meeting and luncheon. Carpooling will reduce the number of cars that need to be parked.



MAY: THE PACE WILDERNESS TRAILS PROJECT

Program: Mike Pruitt

Location: Elks Club, 150 Jewell Street, Santa Cruz

Mike Pruitt, Park Planner with the Santa Cruz County Parks Department, will describe his new project and provide an introduction to landscape architecture. Pruitt holds a Bachelor of Landscape Architecture from the University of Georgia. He spent 14 years designing parks for the City of San Jose and is an avid hiker, mountain biker, and trail volunteer.



The Pace Wilderness Trails Project will add approximately 2.5 miles of new hiking trails — including a 0.5-mile access trail and a 2-mile loop — to expand public access at Quail Hollow Ranch County Park into the adjacent 79.5 acre Pace Family Wilderness property.

Menu: Chicken Enchilada Bake; authentic Mexican rice; beans; Mexican 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.

May Birthdays

Name	Name
Bruce Bedayan	Kent Madsen
Harvey Lynn Behrendt	Jack McGrogan
Scott Bloom	George Milder
Arthur Blute	Tom Mullen
Andrew "Spike" Hall	Warren Penniman
Mike Hanlon	Ed Rimmer
Walter "Walt" Heil	Jonathan "Jon" Wright
Neville Loberg	



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

Congratulations Dave Herzog, April Drawing Winner!

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 704-7091

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

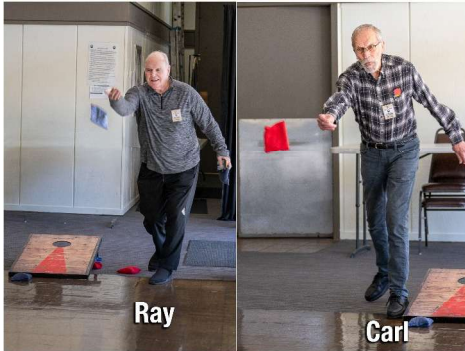
Bob Lewis chairs the Branch #20 Computer Club during regular monthly meetings (no meeting on Ladies Day luncheons). Bob also chairs a community computer "club" called the Felton Linux Users Group. Known as the Felton LUG for short, it is currently meeting semi-monthly using video conference software. 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

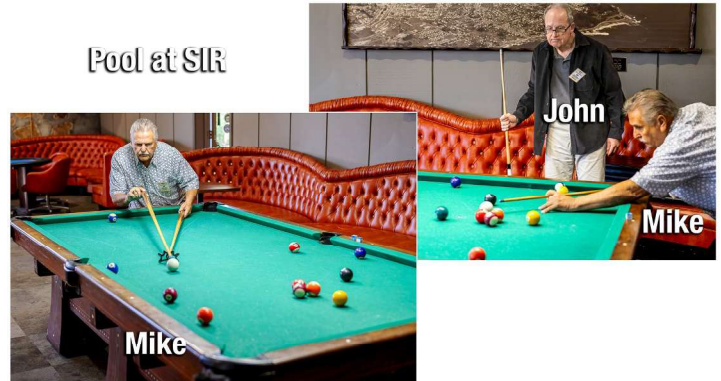
Cornhole is very popular lately. It's played much like horseshoes, with players tossing a beanbag at a target board that has a hole in it. Scoring rules are simple, 3 points for a bag that fall through the hole and 1 point for every bag that lands on the board. If both teams score, the low score team's 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.



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



"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"

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.

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.



The May golf schedule is as follows:

- May 4 Laguna Seca
- May 11 Pacific Grove
- May 18 San Juan Oaks
- May 26 Spring Hills

Branch 20 did very well at the recent State Tournament at Chardonnay and Eagle Vines Golf courses. We had one hundred players with 25 four-golfer teams. Owen Miller and Tony Ainsworth were in the foursome that got first place in the scramble at Chardonnay. Their foursome won \$400. Jeff Boisen and Jerry Zanzinger won closest to the pin and Jerry one first prize in the over 80 flight.

If you want to have a lot of fun meeting other golfers from Northern California come on out to the next tournament which will be in Fairfield May 20 and the 21. Contact Jerry at 831-704-7091 for more info or go to the State Golf website for the application.

Wine tasting

On a lovely Thursday afternoon on April 16, about 15 Sirs and guests enjoyed time spent at Hallcrest Winery in Felton. Accompanied by savory snacks and an assortment of wines (Chardonnay, Vionier, Cabernet Sauvignon, Pinot Noir, Malbec and Petite Syrah), great conversations and camaraderie were served up. It was great to see some of our newer Sirs gather with us. Our winemaker hosts provided a beautiful setting for our time together.



The exact date and location of the May wine gathering has yet to be set, but members will receive an update when plans are finalized. Cheers.

Contact Jeff Ustick at (831) 419-4577 with questions.



Hallcrest Winery, April 2026

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.

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What's a myth? A female moth.

I didn't fight my way to the top of the food chain to be a vegetarian.

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

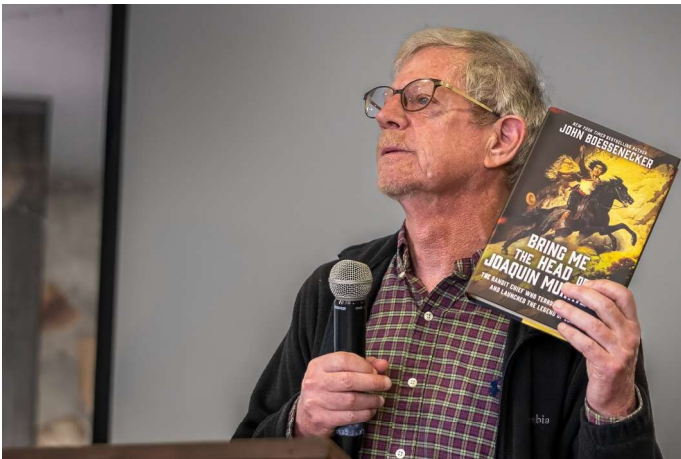
sir.ourproshop.com

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



"We are HAPPY!"

APRIL: JOHN BOESSENECKER ON JOAQUIN MURRIETA



Frank Todd



John Casey Traci



Tech Group

PHOTOS BY BILL BISHOFF

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Idle Thoughts

Whose idea was it to have a letter "s" in the word "lisp:?"

Judge to man "Are you the defense lawyer?" Man "No, I'm the guy who stole the chickens.

The Police station toilet has been stolen. The cops have nothing to go on.

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Memory

My ability to remember song lyrics from the 80's far exceeds my ability to remember why I walked into the kitchen.

Go With the Flow

Be careful when you follow the masses because sometimes the "m" is silent.