



Devoted to the Promotion of  
Independence and Dignity of Retirement

# ROOSTER ROUNDUP

Santa Cruz Branch No. 20

Meetings at Noon – Elks Club

Jewell Street-Santa Cruz

**OCTOBER 9, 2024**

SIR INC.

STATE PRESIDENT

*Dale Decker 209/573-0833*

AREA 14 REPRESENTATIVE

*Bill Ackerknecht 831/588-5038*

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Big Sir	Jeff Ustick	419-4577
Little Sir	Larry Bristow	650-771-2140
Secretary	Jeff Boisen	239-1708
Asst Sec.	Mike Kopp	535-6308
Treasurer	Mike Kennedy	904-501-3323
Asst.Treas	OPEN	
Director	James Baker	423-7429
Director	Ray Blute	464-7901
Director	Ed Bush	408-997-1836
Director	Jesse DeGennaro	426-0149
Director	Jim Healey	685-3829
Director	Dave Hodgins	239-5122
Director	Joe Mingione	650-279-2830
Director	Steve Tedesco	408-810-0578
Director	Les Yeffa	475-9481

PAST BIG SIRS

Ray Blute	2023
Steve Tedesco	2022
Les Yeffa	2020-21
Tom Duncanson	2019
Joe Mingione	2018
Dick Doubrava	2017
Norm Gruczelak	2016
Bruce Bentley	2016
Greg Horne	2015
Don Little	2014
Jim Bunker	2013
Sterling Frost	2012
Bill Neary	2011
Rich Dean	2010
Hank Pierce	2009

For complete listing of Past Big Sirs, refer to your  
SIRs Roster

OCTOBER LUNCH MENU



Pork Loin with mashed potatoes and gravy  
Tossed green salad  
Mixed vegetables  
Dessert

PROGRAM

Our guest speaker for October is Mr. Brian Woodward, Forest Advisor for Santa Cruz, San Mateo and Santa Clara Counties. Mr. Woodward has a Masters in Forest Service and a PHD in Ecology-both from Colorado State University. He has studied the effects of fire on Coastal Redwood Forests and will discuss the recent CZU fire that decimated over 86,000 acres in San Mateo and Santa Cruz Counties.

BIG SIR JEFF USTICK SEZ



Now that summer has ended, at least on the calendar, and as we enter fall, we need to celebrate those things old and new.

Summer brought many an opportunity to spend time with our younger families, perhaps a road trip or longer journey.

Regardless, the summer season is often filled with companionship and relaxation. Although our sea-side and mountain communities fill with visitors and the resulting congestion, it should remind us of the special place in which we live. The days of summer seem to pass so quickly, and as they do, we also need to look at the days to come.

To many, the approach of fall brings thoughts of cooler days, more clouds, and the eventual return of rain. Some of the summer wardrobe of shorts and short sleeve shirts are put away while sweaters and jackets appear. Fall, at least for me, brings hope of a favorite baseball team making the playoffs (sorry Giants and A's fans) and the optimistic hopes for a successful NFL season. Anticipated fall colors, many celebrations including Halloween and Thanksgiving are often linked to time with friends, neighbors and family.

What all the seasons have in common is a reminder that nothing stays the same. While we might mourn the passing of a favorite season, we should also embrace the potential of the season to come.

(continued on page 2)

## COMMITTEES for 2024

Audio Arrangements	OPEN	
	Ray Blute	464-7901
	Jesse DeGennaro	426-0149
	Mel Ferreira	408-353-2107
Badge Mgr.	OPEN	854-2303
Bulletin Ed.	Mike Kopp	535-6308
Chaplain	Jim Baker	423-7429
Golf	Jerry Zanzinger	423-1936
Bocce	Ray Blute	464-7901
	Joe Mingione	650-279-2830
Poker	Joe Mingione	650-279-2830
Historian	Jeff Ustick	419-4577
Membership Program	OPEN	
	Jim Healey	685-3829
Publicity	Joe Mingione	650-279-2830
Recruitment	Steve Tedesco	408-810-0578
Roster	Jeff Ustick	419-4577
Song Leader	OPEN	
Sunshine	OPEN	
Webmaster	Dave Herzog	650-690-6525

## TELEPHONE CALLERS

### **Non-email**

Jesse De Gennaro	426-0149
Mel Ferreira	408-353-2107

### **Punchbowl email**

Ray Blute	464-7901
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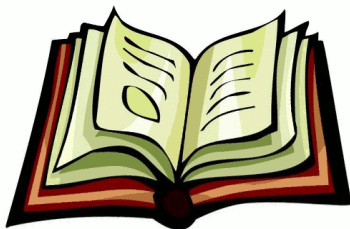
### **Greeters**

As assigned



## BOOK EXCHANGE

Don't forget to peruse the Book Exchange table at our monthly meetings! Lots of interesting titles to peak your interests: non-fiction, fiction, sports, biographies, history, humor, DVDs and jigsaw puzzles. Bring a book (or more) take a book (or more).



(continued from pg. 1)

While nothing remains the same, each season has so much in common: challenges, celebrations and change.

The biggest change is our SIR family recently occurred when fellow SIR, Membership chair, Bocce player and all around good guy, Don Hershberger passed away of September 16. For many, Don was the person that prospective Sirs first encountered. He was a kind, considerate gentleman who will be dearly missed. So, in celebration of Don, and other Sirs no longer with us- I say, keep them in your heart, live by the motto "carpe diem" and embrace the challenges and rewards of a new season.

## TREASURERS REPORT

Sir Mike Kennedy

Beginning balance, September 1, 2024

\$3570

No ending balance report, acct. is balanced after this newsletter is distributed.

Mike Kennedy, Treasurer. 904-501-3323 [mrkennedy6284@gmail.com](mailto:mrkennedy6284@gmail.com)

## MEMBERSHIP REPORT (as of Sept 30, 2024)

59 Active members

8 applications on file

## Our Branch Needs Your Assistance

With the Passing of our Membership chair, Sir Don Hershberger, and as we approach the merger of Branch 36 with us, we need a Sir to step up to oversee membership. Training will be provided. The time commitment varies from month to month, (usually 1-2 hours per month) depending on prospective members, a simple once-a-month online report, and the ability to attend our Board meeting on our luncheon days.

All that is needed is access to a computer/internet, and a willingness to help out our branch.

Please contact Jeff Ustick ([jeffustick@gmail.com](mailto:jeffustick@gmail.com)) 831/419-4577 if you have questions. Your fellow Sirs will thank you.

Definition: Khakis- What people in Boston use to start their cars.

Some days I wake up grumpy- other times I let her sleep.

**GOLF**– Golf is the most popular of all activities in Branch 20. We play every Monday at courses in Santa Cruz and Monterey Counties. October courses and dates are as follows: 10/7 Pacific Grove 9:40. 10/14 Spring Hills. 10/21 Pajaro Valley. 10/28 Ridgemark.

“There are two State championship tournaments left for this year. On October 3rd there will be an individual championship tournament at Haggin Oaks, Sacramento. On October 23rd and 24th, the Fall Classic will be held at Lincoln Hills and Turkey Creek in Lincoln. If you are interested in playing in these tournaments contact Jerry Zanzinger at [jzanzinger@gmail.com](mailto:jzanzinger@gmail.com) and he will send you an application.”



Definition Oxymoron: An easy par 3.

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**POKER**– Poker continues to be very popular in Branch 20 SIRs. Every Tuesday at 1pm is a game for experienced players. The venue is Tradewinds Mobile Home Park, 4160 Jade St., Capitola. For more information, contact Joe Mingione 650-279-2830, or [jamingione@yahoo.com](mailto:jamingione@yahoo.com)

Remember– playing Poker is fine-  
As long as you don't let things get out of hand.



**WINE TASTING**– [jeffustick@gmail.com](mailto:jeffustick@gmail.com)

Fellow Sirs gathered Thursday, September 19 at Hallcrest Winery in Felton. A lovely afternoon of sun and light breezes paired nicely with a selection of Pinot Noir, Zinfandel, Malbec and Chardonnays. Also enjoyed were the treats of cheeses, shrimp, crackers and other delectables. Lively conversation and camaraderie completed the afternoon.

Our next gathering is tentatively planned to take place on **Thursday, October 17** at Sir Buzz Little's home in Scotts Valley. Besides a lovely deck area, Buzz also has a bocce court...bocce and wine...who would have thought of that combination! Details about the event will come closer to the date. Please clear your calendar for this fun gathering!  
Cheers.

Our usual gathering is on the 3rd Thursday of each month. The meeting place is at Jeff Usticks home in Felton., the time 1:30 to 4ish... We gather to explore a different varietal, region and flavor profiles of wines from around the world– We strive to increase our knowledge, spend some quality time with our SIRs friends and just maybe tell a few stories. If interested in joining us, you can contact Jeff for more information and directions to his home. His email is listed at the top of this posting.

I enjoy a glass of wine each night for it's health benefits... The other glasses are for my witty comebacks and my flawless dance moves.



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**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.

I think the worst time to have a heart attack is during a game of charades.

Being a little older, I am very fortunate to have someone call and check on me every day. He is from India and is very concerned about my car warranty.

## ACTIVITIES REPORTS

**BOCCE-** Bocce guys, you wanted more playing time– so here it is! Starting now, **EVERY WEDNESDAY**, except for our monthly meeting the second Wednesday, we are scheduled to play! Starting NOW! The place– FELT STREET PARK. The time 11:15 am.

AND in addition, we are announcing Pot Luck Monday by playing a pick up game, each Monday at 11:15- Just show up if you want to play! (Don't forget to bring your game balls.)

Many Bocce players meet after our games at Jeffrys Restaurant for lunch and conversation.

Need more information? Contact: [r-cblute@att.net](mailto:r-cblute@att.net) or Joe Mingione: [jamingione@yahoo.com](mailto:jamingione@yahoo.com)



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**CORNHOLE-** There is a NEW ACTIVITY available to our Branch 20 members! Cornhole is a very popular game these days. It is played much like horseshoes, with players tossing bean bag at a target board that has a hole in it. Scoring rules are simple, 3 points for a bag that falls through the hole, and 1 point for any bag that lands on the board. If both teams score, the low score teams points are subtracted from the high score team. Simple enough! Meet up after 11 am on meeting Wednesdays, on the far side of the meeting room, near the door to the swimming pool. Sir Jim Healey will gladly give you some pointers!



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**CRIBBAGE-** Games are played before the monthly luncheon meeting at the Elks Lodge, in the bar area. Games begin at approximately 11am. For more information, contact Mike Kopp at [jmkopp186@hotmail](mailto:jmkopp186@hotmail)



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**POOL-** another opportunity to interact with your Sirs friends on meeting day– In the bar area is a regulation size pool table available for our use! A game of 8 ball anyone?



## OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

Tom Hansen  
George McCombie  
Robert Parker



Steve Tedesco  
Jerry Zanzinger

Monthly Birthday drawing for a free lunch– you must be present to win.

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Do you have photos of Branch 20 SIRs activities to share? Email them to Michael Kopp at [jmkopp186@hotmail.com](mailto:jmkopp186@hotmail.com), or send to my phone 831/295-9287 (**no pdfs please**)

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## **DRAWING FOR FISHING ROD AND HAND MADE QUILT!**

Both items were handcrafted by Sir Ed Bush and his wife Jessica.  
There will be a drawing at our December Meeting to determine the winners.  
Donation of \$5 per ticket– all proceeds go toward Branch 20 activities.  
See them both at our monthly Luncheon meetings!

