



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

**December 14, 2022**

**LADIES DAY!**

SONS IN RETIREMENT, INC.

STATE PRESIDENT

*Richard Kindle 209/652-8608*

Region 4 Director

*Patrick Reed 209/289-3314*

Area 14 Governor

*Bill Ackerknecht 831/458-0312*

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Big Sir	Steve Tedesco	408-810-0578
Little Sir	Ray Blute	464-7901
Secretary	Jeff Boisen	239-1708
Asst Sec.	Jeff Ustick	419-4577
Treasurer	Mike Fuson	510-299-7675
Asst. Treas	Jesse DeGennaro	426-0149
Director	James Baker	423-7429
Director	Ed Bush	408-997-1836
Director	Jim Healey	685-3829
Director	Don Hershberger	227-4326
Director	Dave Hodgin	239-5122
Director	Mike Kopp	535-6308
Director	Ken Maus	854-2303
Director	Joe Mingione	650-279-2830
Director	Hank Pearce	588-8098
Director	Les Yeffa	475-9481

HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS

Vern Lillehaugen

PAST BIG SIRs

Les Yeffa	2020-21
Tom Duncanson	2019
Joe Mingione	2018
Dick Doubrava	2017
Norm Gruzcelak	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 Booklet



DECEMBER LUNCH MENU

Chopped Caesar Salad  
Honey mustard glazed ham  
Yukon gold smashed potatoes  
Bacon and onion brussels sprouts  
Lemonade/coffee/ice tea  
Dessert  
(alternative meal for non ham eaters)

PROGRAM

For our December meeting, SIRs and guests will be entertained by the one and only ‘SURFING MAGICIAN’ Doug Hofkins. He is trained in the art of Thaumaturgy and is a Professor of Prestigation. He has entertained thousands at the Beach Boardwalk- we guarantee he will amaze and amuse!

BIG SIR STEVE TEDESCO SEZ:



Happy Holidays to all SIRs and your families. This truly is the most Wonderful Time of the year to spend with family and friends. I am very grateful and thankful for all the support and friendship from our Board of Directors and members.

You have all made this a very successful year in Sirs. Though our membership is down in numbers we are strong in activities and getting better. We have a wonderful Ladies day program scheduled that I hope many wives will be able to attend. I wish everyone a safe ,healthy and delightful Holiday season.

Next year I do hope that you all will bring, encourage, find others to share this great branch and our activities. So on to 2023 with a Bang!  
Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays

Steve

P.S. Remember to reply to the Punchbowl and indicate if you are bringing a guest.

## COMMITTEES for 2022

Audio Arrangements	Dick Bemis	408-353-2829
	Ray Blute	464-7901
	Jesse DeGennaro	426-0149
	Mel Ferreira	408-353-2107
Badge Mgr.	Ken Maus	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
Fishing	Ed Bush	408-997-1836
Poker	JJ Justice	464-2387
	Ken Maus	854-2303
Historian	Hank Pearce	429-5441
Membership Program	Don Hershberger	227-4326
	Jim Healey	685-3829
Recruitment	Steve Tedesco	408-810-0578
Roster	Ken Jenkins	458-0478
Song Leader	OPEN	
Sunshine	OPEN	
Travel	Ed Bush	408-997-1836
Webmaster	Bob Hogan	334-6707

## TELEPHONE CALLERS

### **Non-email**

Jesse DeGennaro	426-0149
Mel Ferreira	408-353-2107

### **Punchbowl email**

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

Chair: Jim Riss & Mike Almgren

James Sadler	Roger Kissinger
Ed Bush	Jeff Ustick



**Reminder- Branch 20 will be charging \$25 dues per year, starting January 1, 2023. This fee was due by November 15, 2022.** We will be dropping past members that we have not heard from this past year. Please reach out to friends, neighbors, relatives and other organizations you belong to and spread our story of active involvement for MEN. Help us thrive and grow in the future!

All can join or rejoin at any time by paying the \$25 dues (NO prorating). You can pay at our monthly meeting— drop off a check payable to SIRs Branch 20 at the sign in table, or mail your check to:

Elks Lodge  
Attn: Les Yeffa  
150 Jewell St.

## LITTLE SIR RAY BLUTE SEZ



I joined Sirs way back when to meet and interact with other retired folk. It seemed exactly what I was looking for at the time. No fund raising, nice lunch, interesting programs, and great fellowship. I wasn't interested in any leadership role. I was approached to be the Little Sir. I accepted under duress. My commitment was to show up for every meeting and fulfill my duties. I made it clear I would not be attending state functions or serving on state committees. I didn't have the time or inclination to get involved at that level. Although of some value I wasn't willing to make the commitment.

In the coming months I will be sharing with you, in this section of the newsletter, my Little Sir perspective on the uniqueness of our local organization and how things have changed for me.

## TREASURERS REPORT

Mike Fuson reporting

Beginning balance as of November 1, 2022: \$3758.27

(note: final balance for November is not recorded until after the newsletter is published)

## MEMBERSHIP REPORT (as of November 30)

Don Hershberger Chair

55 ACTIVE  
7 APPLICATIONS ON FILE

### **\*\*NOTICE TO ALL MEMBERS\*\***

If your address, phone number, or email has changed, notify SIR Don Hershberger, 118 Fife Lane, Aptos, 831/227-4326 or email to [donhershberger@gmail.com](mailto:donhershberger@gmail.com)

## **EARN A FREE LUNCH— BRING IN A NEW MEMBER!**

Don't forget to peruse the Book Exchange at our monthly meeting. Take a book, bring a book (or more).



Why don't Aliens visit our Planet?  
Terrible ratings, only 1 Star.

I want to be 14 again and ruin my life differently-  
I have new ideas...

## SIRS NIGHT AT THE SANTA CRUZ WARRIORS

SIRs Branch 20 will be attending the Santa Cruz Warriors game on Wednesday, February 15th, 2023. Our seats will be about where they were last year. Price is \$17 per person. This is open to spouses/partners and friends. Please bring your check payable to the Santa Cruz Warriors to our SIRs meeting December 14. We need to pay for our seats ASAP. If you can't make the SIRs meeting, please mail your check to Les Yeffa, 6057 Thurber Land, Santa Cruz, 95065. Questions? Call me at 831/475-9471 or email [lescruz@aol.com](mailto:lescruz@aol.com)



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### ACTIVITIES REPORTS

**GOLF-** Ben Gikis, the Area 13 Chairman has asked us if we would like to have interclub scramble competitions and possibly individual participation in some of their events. A few of them would like to participate in some of our events, such as Crazy Horse and Monterey Pines. Area 13 is comprised of a number of branches in the San Jose area. They play twice a week, on Mondays and Thursdays. They play at some private clubs, San Jose CC, Boulder Ridge CC, Castlewood CC, great courses like Wentz, Poppy Ridge and some of the courses we play like Spring Hills and Salinas. Castlewood is a little pricey at \$115 but the other private courses are \$75, not bad for a Country Club. The Country Clubs are the most popular so only a few openings are available. I ran this by Mike Banks, our coordinator, and he thought it was a good idea. We look forward to some interclub competitions in the Spring. Jerry Zanzinger, Branch 20 Chairman  
Hit them long and straight!

Jerry Zanzinger. [jzanzinger@gmail.com](mailto:jzanzinger@gmail.com) (831)704-7092



**WINE CLUB-** Our November meeting theme was Zinfandel. There were 9 SIRs in attendance. We tasted a number of excellent Zins. To my unsophisticated palate the only disappointing pour was a very sweet White Zin, it just didn't provide much flavor profile beyond the sweet. We wholeheartedly agreed that there wasn't any other pour that failed to find great favor. Now that we are a few months into this new activity, everyone seems to have found it a comfortable environment (perhaps the wine helps, just a bit). Personally it was nice to join in a number of interesting conversations with fellow SIRs who we don't get to spend much time with outside of our regular meetings. Many thanks go to SIR Jeff Ustick for creating this club and letting us invade his "man cave".



**SPECIAL NOTE; No Wine Club meeting in December.** See you all next year!

**CRIBBAGE-** Games are played before the monthly Luncheon meeting at the Elks Lodge, in the Bar area. Games begin at approximately 11 am. For more information, contact Mike Kopp at 831/535-6308, or Les Yeffa at 831/475-9481.



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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 went Line Dancing last night. OK, it was a roadside sobriety test...same thing.

I wanted to be a Monk, but never got the chants.

When I ask for directions, please don't use words like "east".

## ACTIVITIES REPORTS

**POKER-** Poker continues to be very popular in Branch 20 SIRs. Players have 2 choices for games! Every Tuesday at 1pm is a game for experienced players. There may be a few seats available. For more information, contact JJ Justice at 464-2387, [jjsurfman@aol.com](mailto:jjsurfman@aol.com).

The beginners game– Poker Pals-meets the 2nd and 4th Thursday at 1pm. For more information contact Ken Maus at 854-2303, [kenrrjo@gmail.com](mailto:kenrrjo@gmail.com). **Note: No Poker Pals game on Dec. 22**

Both games are played at the Tradewinds Mobile Home Park, 4160 Jade St. Capitola.



**BOCCE-** Winter weather is always iffy, but when conditions allow we will continue our twice monthly games. With the games scheduled to begin at **11:30 am**, the morning chill has usually dissipated and the sun warms old bones. We usually have a dozen or more competitors. Most players opt to enjoy a group lunch at Jeffrey's Restaurant after the match. If you would like to join us, just show up at Felt St. Park, 1904 Felt St. (off 17th) on the **1st and 3rd Wednesday each month**. No experience necessary!

For more information contact Ray Blute 464-7901, [r-cblute@att.net](mailto:r-cblute@att.net) or Joe Mingione 650-279-2830, [jamingione@yahoo.com](mailto:jamingione@yahoo.com)



**FISHING-** SIR Ed Bush, Captain of the Miss Molly, is taking some time off for the Holiday season. Fishing excursions will resume in the Spring. For more information contact:

[edbush24@gmail.com](mailto:edbush24@gmail.com)

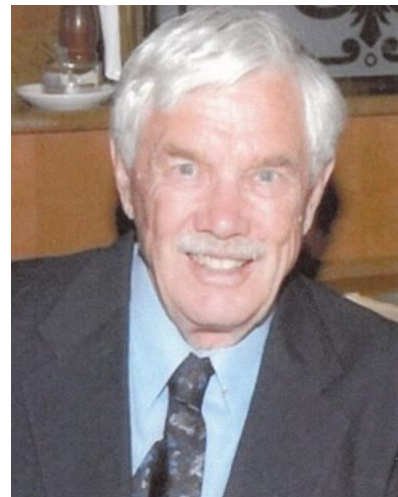


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### Vern Lillihaugen

12/22/1934-1/05/2022

It is with great sadness that we report the passing of Vern Lillihaugen. He was very active in the community and leaves behind many friends in Santa Cruz. For several years Vern volunteered at the Santa Cruz County Fair in the Home Arts Dept, setting up displays and hanging quilts to get ready for the Fair's opening- a volunteer job that he loved. Vern was also a member of the Elks, Moose, and SIRs. He went through all the positions in SIRs including Big Sir and holds the esteemed title of "Honorary Life Member". Vern was also known as a cut-throat Cribbage player. Vern leaves behind his loving wife of 55 years, Linda, daughter Paige Lynd and two grandchildren, plus numerous siblings, close relatives, and friends. He will be missed by all who had the pleasure to know him.



## STATE SIRS RV CAMPING?

Attention all SIRS with a Motor Home, Travel Trailer, Fifth Wheel, or Camper. We are trying to revive the State SIRS Activity Group.

If you are interested in joining fellow SIRS on an RV trip to a location where we can meet to swap stories around the campfire, let me know.

We can have our first meeting on Zoom to find what the choices of locations to meet are and how often to meet.

For further information contact Bob Lucido, Branch 146 Activity Chair/ State Activity Chair, and Keeper of the Secrets of the Mystical SIRS.

[bobwendy3@comcast.net](mailto:bobwendy3@comcast.net)



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## DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Dell Elliott 12/13  
Ken Maus 12/14



Ward Schuyler 12/06  
Mike Ulwelling 12/02

