



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 13, 2023– Ladies Day!

SIR INC.
STATE PRESIDENT

Dave Gonzales 916/587-3538

AREA 14 REPRESENTATIVE

Bill Ackerknecht 831/458-0312

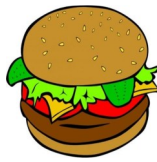
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Big Sir	Ray Blute	464-7901
Little Sir	Jeff Ustick	419-4577
Secretary	Jeff Boisen	239-1708
Asst Sec.	Mike Kopp	535-6308
Treasurer	Mike Fuson	510-299-7675
Asst.Treas	Mike Kennedy	904-501-3323
Director	James Baker	423-7429
Director	Ed Bush	408-997-1836
Director	Jesse DeGennaro	426-0149
Director	Jim Healey	685-3829
Director	Don Hershberger	227-4326
Director	Dave Hodgins	239-5122
Director	Ken Maus	854-2303
Director	Joe Mingione	650-279-2830
Director	Steve Tedesco	408-810-0578
Director	Les Yeffa	475-9481

PAST BIG SIRs

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



DECEMBER LUNCH MENU

- Chopped Caesar Salad
- Organic roasted vegetables Lasagna
- Marinated asparagus spears
- Garlic bread
- Chef's choice dessert
- Lemonade, Ice tea, Water, Coffee

PROGRAM

The **Stargeezers** are back by popular demand! This group has been entertaining folks since 2004 (before they were actual geezers). You'll hear 50s, 60s, bluegrass, jazz and Christmas tunes too. It's a foot tapping show for sure!



LITTLE SIR JEFF USTICK SEZ

Having recently celebrated Thanksgiving with family and with thoughts of friends, I am reminded about my fellow SIRs that I have, and continue to, become friends with. That, I believe, is the core benefit of being a SIR. It is my wish to get to better know all of our Chapter 20 members.

As we approach the end of 2023, it's time to both look back and look forward. First, I want to extend my thanks to Big SIR Ray Blute, Secretary Jeff Boisen and Treasurer Mike Fuson. as well to all members of the Board of Directors. These gentlemen give their time and consideration to assist our chapter remain strong and provide opportunities for all of our SIRs. I especially want to recognize our "do it all" guy, Mike Kopp. In addition to putting these news letters together, he also organizes the book table, plays poker and bocce ball and provides us with humorous stories and jokes...on occasion.

During this past year we have continued to look for ways to engage our members in activities that now also include corn hole/ bean bag toss and wine tastings. We are in the process of arranging a Santa Cruz Warriors SIRS night. It is our hope that if anyone has new activities they would like to have available, that they let your officers know. As the new year approaches, I am honored to serve as the 2024 Big SIR. Along with Little SIR Larry Bristow, continuing Secretary Jeff Boisen and Treasurer Mike Kennedy, we look for ways to serve our members. We look forward to serving you in the coming year. MERRY CHRISTMAS!

COMMITTEES for 2023

Audio Arrangements	OPEN	
	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
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
Greeters		
As assigned		



ASSISTANT TREASURER NEEDED!

Gentlemen, our Branch 20 is in need of an assistant Treasurer. Duties include: Attend monthly Board meetings, help Treasurer at the sign in table at our monthly luncheon meetings, and back up our Treasurer in case of illness or travel. It is not a difficult job, just requires a commitment of your time. If interested, please contact any of our officers (Big/Little SIR, Treasurer) You can make a difference!

SIRs- a gentle reminder that your \$25 dues for the calendar year 2024 are now payable. You can pay at the monthly meeting or send a check for that amount, payable to SIRs Branch 20 to:

SIRs Branch 20
Mike Kennedy
222 Columbia St. #C305
Santa Cruz, Ca. 95060

Don't forget to peruse the Book Exchange at our monthly meeting. Take a book, bring a book (or more). For December there will also be jigsaw puzzles available!



TREASURERS REPORT

SIR Mike Fuson reporting:
Beginning balance Nov. 1: \$3881.21
Balance on Nov. 30: \$3962.12
Paid 2024 dues \$250/10 members

The Santa at the shopping mall was quite surprised when he saw Martha, a woman in her mid-twenties, asking to sit on his lap. We all know Santa doesn't usually take requests from adults, but she smiled at him very nicely and he ended up asking her what she wanted for Christmas. "Something for my mother, please," she replied. "Something for your mother? That's very loving and thoughtful of you," smiled Santa. "What would you like me to bring her?" Martha answered quickly, "A son-in-law."

MEMBERSHIP REPORT (as of DEC 1, 2023)

SIR Don Hershberger Chair
58 active members
7 applications on file.
2 new members; Thomas Loudon, Richard Schwank

****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

EARN A FREE LUNCH- BRING IN A NEW MEMBER!

When I was a young lad, I loved to climb trees-
Until the time I fell out of one,
and smashed all the gifts.

What's the most popular Christmas wine?
"But I don't like brussels sprouts!"

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Dell Elliott

Ken Maus

Ward Schuyler



Mike Suska

Mike Ulwelling

ACTIVITIES REPORTS

GOLF- jzanzinger@gmail.com .

Branch 20 has a new golfing member, Tom Louden. Tom hails from Ohio and spends about six months in Santa Cruz and the other six months in Ohio. Say hello to Tom if you see him and welcome him into our Monday outings. Tom is a relatively low handicapper and qualifies for the reds, but doesn't always play them. Our members continue to bring in the bucks in tournaments. This month we get to play one of our favorite courses, Crazy Horse. The schedule for the rest of 2023 is listed on page 5.

WINE CLUB- On Thursday, November 16, a dozen or more SIRs gathered at Vino Cruz to taste and enjoy some local appellations, both red and white— covering the central coast and local mountain wineries. This event was graciously hosted by SIR Steven Edwards. The owners poured and described the wines, plus snacks were added to the table— roasted assorted nuts and several types of house marinated olives were shared. Vino Cruz is more than just wines (over 50 different wines offered by the glass) it also offers a large variety of beers and award winning cuisine. We certainly enjoyed our afternoon— you should stop in. Vino Cruz is located in Soquel Village at the corner of Main and Soquel.



Our host Steve Edwards



A good time was had by all!

NOTE- There will be **NO Wine Club meeting in December, due to the Holidays.** We will meet again in January.

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.



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 asked my wife what she wanted for Christmas. She told me
“Nothing would make me happier than a diamond bracelet.”
So I bought her nothing...

What did one snowman say to the other?
“Is it just me, or do you smell carrots?”

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. Game will be temporarily hosted by Joe Mingione or Jerry Clarke until JJ Justice recovers from his recent hospitalization. Players will be notified as to venue before each game day. For more information, contact Joe Mingione 650-279-2830

The beginners low stakes game– Poker Pals-meets the 2nd and 4th Thursday at 1pm. For more information contact Ken Maus at 854-2303, kenrrjo@gmail.com



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

NOTE: No beginners games in December– see you all in January 2024!

BOCCE- next BOCCE DAYS– Wednesday, December 6 and Wednesday December 20 (weather permitting) Team rosters and schedule through February are on page 5.

For more information: Joe Mingione jamingione@yahoo.com or Ray Blute r-cblute@att.net



FISHING- SIR Ed Bush, Captain of the Miss Molly, reports that for all intents and purposes the fishing season is over for this year. The early closing of inshore fishing and continuing rough seas and gusty winds offshore have combined with the increasing cost of fuel have forced most sport fisherman back to the docks.

For the true diehard Pescadores, there are several options– surfcasting for Stripped Bass and surf perch is generally good between storms when the sand on Monterey Bay beaches is pulled back just offshore. Also, starting January 1, Sand Dab trips are available from local Charter Companies– Sand Dabs are really good eats! Here’s looking forward to a more favorable season in 2024.

edbush@gmail.com



CORNHOLE– We have a NEW ACTIVITY for our Branch members! Cornhole is a very popular game these days. It’s played much like horseshoes with players tossing bean bags at a target board that has a hole in it. Scoring is 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 after 11am on meeting Wednesday on the far side of our meeting room (near the windows overlooking the swimming pool)

Our thanks go out to Sir Jesse De Gennaro for donating the game set to Branch 20!



up

**KRAZY GEORGE– World renowned Cheer Leader, and now...
FAMOUS AUTHOR!!**

Those of you who were fortunate enough to meet Krazy George Henderson and co-author/wife Patricia on Sunday, November 19 outside a small bar in Capitola were in for a real treat. For a “Very nominal fee” you could own a copy of George’s biography-Autographed by George himself (not some rubber stamped signature like other famous authors), and even get a photo op with the inventor of “The Wave” and Cheerleader to an entire generation of fans! Thank you George for not losing sight of your fan base in the Krazy world of Cheering!



George and SIR Doug Nakashima share a quiet moment of conversation

BOCCE SCHEDULE 12/23-02/24 (all games are weather permitting)

BOCCE TEAMS

	Date	Lane 1	Lane 2
B- Beggars - Captain Ray Blute, Dave Hodgin, Larry Bristow, Larry McAdams, Chuck Elvert, Ken Maus	12/06	T vs B	N vs C
	12/20	B vs N	T vs C
	1/03	T vs N	B vs C
C- Complainers - Captain Steve Tedesco, Jeff Ustick, MikeKennedy, Les Yeffa, David Biancalana	1/17	N vs B	C vs T
N- Noisemakers - Captain Jerry Clark, Krazy George, Joe Kelly, Jim Healey, Doug Nakashima, Steve Edwards			
T- Troublemakers - Captain Joe Mingione, Ed Bush, Mike Kopp, Mike Fuson, Dick Bemis, Bob Hogan			

SIR BRANCH 20 GOLF SCHEDULE 2023

Dec 04 MO Monterey Pines
 Dec 11 MO Pajaro Valley
 Dec 18 MO Salinas Fairways
 Dec 26 TU Spring Hills
 (Tuesdays following Holidays)

