



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

JANUARY 10, 2024

SIR INC.
STATE PRESIDENT

Dave Gonzales 916/587-3538

AREA 14 REPRESENTATIVE

Bill Ackerknecht 831/458-0312

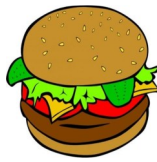
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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	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

Ray Blute	2023
Steve Tedesco	2022
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



JANUARY LUNCH MENU

- Chopped Caesar Salad
- Osso Bucco
- Blue cheese infused polenta
- Chef's choice dessert
- Lemonade, Ice tea, Water, Coffee

PROGRAM

Our January Speaker will be Sean Venus of Venus Spirits. Sean Venus is the founder and distiller of Venus Spirits, located in Santa Cruz, California. Over the last 14 years he has helped develop and bring to market over 150 craft beers, organic and natural foods and beverages. In 2014 Sean founded Venus Spirits, a craft distillery focusing on small-batch organic whiskies, gins and agave spirits. Venus Spirits has been recognized with over 40 awards for their Wayward Whiskey, Venus Gin, and El Ladrón Agave Spirit. Most recently Venus launched a line of ready-to-drink cocktails. Sean is the current president of the California Artisanal Spirits Guild.



BIG SIR JEFF USTICK SEZ:

Happy New Year. I hope your Holiday Season was filled with family, friends and new memories– and that the New Year will bring wonderful opportunities and adventure. In looking back on the previous year, I am thankful for the times spent with fellow SIRs, and getting to better know some truly

remarkable and interesting gentlemen. This is what I believe is the core value of our organization. Having said that, I welcome any suggestions on how to enhance your “SIRs experience.”

As this is my first official “BIG SIR SEZ” entry, I want to lay out a few things that your Board of Directors and I plan working on this year. Most importantly, your Board will continue to look for ways to provide you with tasty lunches, interesting speakers, and opportunities for relaxation. Although we have regularly scheduled activities, among them Golf, Bocce, Poker, Wine tasting, Cornhole and Cribbage, we also have had other “stand alone” activities. We are currently working on an opportunity to attend a Santa Cruz Warriors game in March. We would like to poll members on whether they may be interested in other “occasional activities”, perhaps bird watching visits at local sites, lunch gatherings or other opportunities to spend time together. If you have suggestions, please share them.

Our chapter has been so fortunate to have a long list of dedicated officers who work to support our members. To them, many thanks.

I close with a lesson I learned from my parents. Simply stated “Leave things better than when you found them”. That will be my attempt. And with that, it is an honor to be your BIG SIR and I look forward to serving you.

COMMITTEES for 2024

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	Jeff Ustick	419-4577
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!

MEMBERSHIP REPORT (as of Dec. 31, 2023)

SIR Don Hershberger, Chair

58 active members

9 applications on file

****NOTICE TO ALL MEMBERS****

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

TREASURERS REPORT

SIR Mike Fuson reporting:

Beginning balance Dec 1: \$3881.21

Balance on Dec 31: \$3962.12

A message from our new Treasurer

Hi guys, I'm your new treasurer for the 2024 year. I'm taking over for Mike Fuson, who served as the 2022/23 treasurer. Mike did a great job. All SIRS money transactions go thru me. If you incur an approved expense for SIRS, send me the receipt or info and I will reimburse you. Sorry, Beer is not an approved expense. Wine, maybe.

LUNCHESES - The Board of Directors approved leaving the cost of a lunch for the 2024 year at \$25. YEA! We are working with the caterer, Mark, on upgrading the meals served at our monthly meetings. The cost per meal, may increase a little, but the BD is OK with that, as it should still be within our budget. At a luncheon you can pay for it with a check, made out to "SIRS Branch 20" or pay in cash. Yes we still take Greenbacks, but we don't have the means to take Credit Cards

ANNUAL DUES

Annual Dues of \$25.00 are payable Jan 1st of each year. The Board set this amount last year, instead of everyone paying \$2 at a luncheon. Once again, you can send me a check or pay at a monthly luncheon. At a luncheon, you can pay with a check or in cash. I like cash, as it's easier for me while I'm living in Mexico on the SIRS money. Anyone want to join me? HAHA Thanks.

SIRS Branch 20
C/O Mike Kennedy
222 Columbia St #C305
Santa Cruz, Ca. 95060
904-501-3323 mrkennedy6284@gmail.com

I bought my wife a beautiful bracelet for Christmas

It's engraved "Do Not resuscitate"

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Jim Baker
David Biancalana
Jesse De Gennaro



Mel Ferreira
Mike Kennedy
Larry McAdams
Rich Schwank

ACTIVITIES REPORTS

GOLF– jzanzinger@gmail.com . Tee times: sirgolfsantacruz@gmail.com

Golf is the most popular of all Activities in Branch 20. We play every Monday at courses in Santa Cruz and Monterey Counties.

Golfers, please make sure you send in your dues for 2024 before January 15,2024. \$46 for NCGA and \$14 for SIRs for a total of \$60. Checks should be made out to SIRGC. Send your check to Don Schmitz at 42 Loma Ave. La Selva Beach CA 95076

We also have a new member that has joined Branch 20 and SIRs Golf. Dave Allenbaugh is looking forward to his 80th Birthday in 4 years so he can play from the reds!



BRANCH 20 GOLF SCHEDULE 2024 IS POSTED ON PAGE 5

WINE TASTING– jeffustick@gmail.com Join us on Thursday, January 18 from 2-4:30 pm to sample "Wines of Central California: from Monterey and the Santa Lucia Highlands to Paso Robles". Bring a bottle to share at Jeff Ustick's home at 475 McEnergy Rd. in Felton. We will celebrate the new year as we taste a variety of regional wines, enjoy light refreshments and chat with fellow SIRs. Hope to see you there. Cheers.



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 jmkopp186@hotmail.com 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.

It's a 5 minute walk from my house to the local Bar, but a 45 minute walk from the Bar to my house-
The difference is staggering.

I just did a weeks worth of cardio after walking
into a Spider Web.

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, kenrjo@gmail.com

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



BOCCE- Nothing like a good day of Bocce with your fellow SIRs! Weather permitting, our January matches will take place on Wednesday Jan. 3 and Wednesday Jan. 17. The place– FELT STREET PARK. The time 11:30 am. Team Rosters are posted on the last page of this newsletter. Need more information? Contact: r-cblute@att.net or Joe Mingione: jamingione@yahoo.com

BOCCE 2024 SCHEDULE IS POSTED ON PAGE 6



FISHING- edbush@gmail.com Current fishing regulations can be confusing– when in doubt, refer to California Fish and Wildlife Ocean fishing regulations: <https://wildlife.ca.gov/Fishing/Ocean>. Winter conditions can also make scheduling a day trip difficult– finding that perfect day– light winds, minimum swell and shorter days can easily dissuade sport fishers. But Fear Not! SIR Captain Ed Bush of the Miss Molly has the know-how to find the fish. If you are interested in fishing this winter season for sanddabs, petrale Sole, flounder or other ground fish, have a chat with Captain Ed at any of our monthly meeting.

For us landlubbers who have “issues” (motion sickness) with boat fishing- This is the perfect time of year to get out to local beaches on the Monterey Bay and fish for Surf Perch!



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 up 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!



SANTA CRUZ SIRS 2024 SCHEDULE

JAN	2	TUESDAY	SPRING HILLS	JULY	1	MONDAY	PAJARO VALLEY
JAN	8	MONDAY	LAGUNA SECA	JULY	8	MONDAY	SPRING HILLS
JAN	15	MONDAY	DELAVEAGA	JULY	15	MONDAY	SALINAS FAIRWAYS
JAN	22	MONDAY	PAJARO VALLEY	JULY	22	MONDAY	PACIFIC GROVE 9:40
JAN	29	MONDAY	MONTEREY PINES	JULY	29	MONDAY	LAGUNA SECA
FEB	5	MONDAY	SALINAS FAIRWAYS	AUG	5	MONDAY	DELAVEAGA
FEB	12	MONDAY	MONTEREY PINES	AUG	12	MONDAY	SALINAS FAIRWAYS
FEB	20	TUESDAY	SPRING HILLS	AUG	19	MONDAY	PAJARO VALLEY
FEB	26	MONDAY	LAGUNA SECA	AUG	26	MONDAY	LAGUNA SECA
MAR	4	MONDAY	RIDGEMARK	SEPT	3	TUESDAY	SPRING HILLS
MAR	11	MONDAY	SALINAS FAIRWAYS	SEPT	9	MONDAY	PACIFIC GROVE
MAR	18	MONDAY	PAJARO VALLEY	SEPT	16	MONDAY	PAJARO VALLEY
MAR	25	MONDAY	MONTEREY PINES	SEPT	23	MONDAY	MONTEREY PINES
				SEPT	30	MONDAY	SALINAS FAIRWAYS
APRIL	1	MONDAY	SPRING HILLS	OCT	7	MONDAY	PACIFIC GROVE 9:40
APRIL	8	MONDAY	PACIFIC GROVE	OCT	14	MONDAY	SPRING HILLS
APRIL	15	MONDAY	DELAVEAGA	OCT	21	MONDAY	PAJARO VALLEY
APRIL	22	MONDAY	PAJARO VALLEY	OCT	28	MONDAY	RIDGEMARK
APRIL	29	MONDAY	LAGUNA SECA				
MAY	6	MONDAY	SALINAS FAIRWAYS	NOV	4	MONDAY	DELAVEAGA
MAY	13	MONDAY	PACIFIC GROVE	NOV	11	MONDAY	MONTEREY PINES
MAY	20	MONDAY	LAGUNA SECA	NOV	18	MONDAY	PAJARO VALLEY
MAY	28	TUESDAY	SPRING HILLS	NOV	25	MONDAY	SALINAS FAIRWAYS
JUNE	3	MONDAY	PAJARO VALLEY	DEC	2	MONDAY	MONTEREY PINES
JUNE	10	MONDAY	PACIFIC GROVE	DEC	9	MONDAY	SALINAS FAIRWAYS
JUNE	17	MONDAY	SPRING HILLS	DEC	16	MONDAY	LAGUNA SECA
JUNE	24	MONDAY	LAGUNA SECA	DEC	23	MONDAY	SPRING HILLS
				DEC	30	MONDAY	PAJARO VALLEY

TUESDAYS FOLLOWING MONDAY HOLIDAYS

CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP: SEPT 23 & SEPT 30 BBQ AND AWARDS ON OCT 14

START TIMES ARE 8:00 EXCEPT FOR OCT 14 8:30 SHOTGUN & PACIFIC GROVE 9:40 ON JULY 2, RIDGEMARK IS A 8:00 SHOTGUN START.

SIR BRANCH 20 BOCCE LEAGUE SCHEDULE- 2024

Date Lane 1 Lane 2

Jan 3 T vs N B vs C
Jan 17 N vs B C vs T

Feb 7 B vs T N vs C
Feb 21 N vs T B vs C

Mar 6 B vs N C vs T
Mar 20 C vs B T vs N

Apr 3 B vs N C vs T
Apr 17 C vs N B vs T

May 1 T vs B N vs C
May 15 B vs N T vs C

Jun 5 T vs N B vs C
Jun 19 N vs B C vs T

Jul 3 B vs T N vs C
Jul 17 N vs T B vs C

Aug 7 B vs N C vs T
Aug 21 C vs B T vs N

Sep 4 B vs N C vs T
Sep 18 C vs N B vs T

Oct 2 T vs B N vs C
Oct 16 B vs N T vs C

Nov 6 T vs N B vs C
Nov 20 N vs B C vs T

Dec 4 B vs T N vs C
Dec 18 N vs T B vs C

TEAMS-

B- **Beggars**- Captain Ray Blute, Dave Hodgin, Larry Bristow,
Larry McAdams, Chuck Elvert, Ken Maus

C- **Complainers**- Captain Steve Tedesco, Jeff Ustick,
Mike Kennedy, Les Yeffa, David Biancalana, Dave Herzog

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