

# The Pathfinder

Branch 59 Fremont

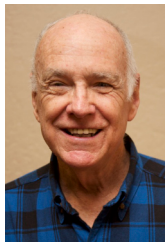
**Forty-Sixth Year**

**April 2021**

**Bulletin No. 4**

**All Close contact MEETINGS-Cancelled until further notice**

## Musings of Big Sir Larry Jett



Ask Google "What do you love about spring and why is it the best season?" and you will find 2.4 billion responses. (!! ) A representable cross-section of these include: heaps of sunshine, perfect temperatures, more sunny hours per day, the cutest baby animals, flowers, flowers everywhere, trees putting on fresh new clothes, lightly scented breezes, working outside, improved moods, and singing birds if we will just slow down and listen. These bullet points are proof that whoever controls these things is doing it once more.

If spring is a metaphor for rebirth and regeneration, then my inner man chooses to use this re-emergence type of thought to begin to work for throwing off the weight of the past winter troubles, a.k.a. covid 19, social distancing, fear of strangers, shelter-in-place, et.al. , that we have passed through and focus on the "greater achievements of the future". Thanks again to The Optimist Creed for this footnote. The light at the end of the tunnel phrase has been so overused that I suggest returning to the new-old normal as crooned by The Carpenters in "Yesterday Once More". Last week I attended a worship service in a sanctuary and will be hosting a poker game in April that has been on hold for 13 months by beloved gents of an advanced age. (None of these gamblers are Sirs so our corporate attorneys need not fret). Trying to remember if 3 of a kind beats 2 pair....

With IMMUNE IN JUNE being the State SIR goal and starting to look doable, the reopening of golf and shortly bowling as well as our new Wednesday Walkers and more. I see with my Humble Telescope on NASA's space station set to SUMMER, that we are well on our way to normal. If it doesn't happen here, impeach me.

Larry Jett, Big Sir-.[larrywjett@gmail.com](mailto:larrywjett@gmail.com)  
510 794 7911

## April Guest Speaker Alan Baker



Alan has been a SIR for 12 years. He helps branch webmasters around the state and created the new [State SIR website](#). Before retirement he was a Senior Information Technology Specialist at IBM. Earlier he was a [USAF pilot](#) in Vietnam and ran a small business. Nowadays he does education through AARP Fraud Watch and helps nonprofits with technology.

Alan has spoken about internet security with many SIR branches and other community groups. You can see him in a TV interview on this topic at [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S4rn8Z\\_afB4](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S4rn8Z_afB4)

Alan spends the cool months in California and the warm months in Vermont. Here he helps seniors with income taxes through AARP Tax-Aide and in Vermont he builds trails and plays Pickleball.

## Staying Safe on the Internet



Fraud Watch Team



Alan Baker

**Anyone that is interest in joining the BEC meeting on Wednesday, April 17 is welcome. The BEC meeting begins at 11:30 a.m. The regular meeting begins at 1:00 p.m. and we will have a speaker.**

Join Zoom Meeting  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/955020906>

Meeting ID: 955 020 906

## SIR Branch 59 BEC Minutes, March 17, 2020

### Branch 59 Officers

#### Big Sir

Larry Jett  
510-794-7911

#### Little Sir

Bob Marshall  
(310) 502-7295

#### Secretary

David Nelsen  
(510) 673-5042

#### Asst. Secretary

Rob Ingebretson  
(510) 657-7828

#### Treasurer

Larry Lardie  
510) 579-5934

#### Asst. Treasurer

James Vermazen  
(563) 920-6908

#### Directors

Jerry Halligan  
Richard Henry  
Sammy Lum  
Dave Shideler  
Hugh Twomey

#### RAMP

Jim Ulam-Recruitment  
Larry Lardie/Jerry Halligan-  
Activities  
Rob Ingebretson-Membership  
Sammy Lum-Publicity

#### Branch 59

Meets at Fremont Elks  
38991 Farwell Drive,  
Fremont CA on the 3rd  
Wednesday of each  
month  
9:30 AM

Executive Board Meeting  
11AM Social Hour  
12 Noon Lunch



Our meeting was held on the ZOOM platform, hosted by Jerry Sabo.

The meeting was called to order by Big Sir Larry Jett at 11:30am. All BEC members were present except Rick Henry and Dave Shideler, both excused.

The February 17, 2021 meeting minutes were approved as presented.

Treasurer, Larry Lardie reported the balance of the general fund on Feb 17 was \$2,796.65.

Little Sir, Bob Marshall reported our scheduled speaker is ill due to her covid vaccine shot. He is actively engaging with other possible speakers, but if none pan out, he has offered to present his life experience with us.

Membership; Rob Ingebretson reported our current membership stands at 153. As reported earlier, several gentlemen were on the verge of becoming members prior to the pandemic shutting everything down. Rob has stayed in touch with these men and two have decided to join our ranks. The board voted, unanimously, and approve Mike Marzano, badge number 88, and Henry Romero, badge number 111, as members of Sir Branch 59. Photos will be taken to include in the April Pathfinder with a short bio of our new members.

Attendance; Ed Guthrie reported attendance during our Feb 17 zoom meeting was 32 members.

Activities - Jerry Halligan and Larry Lardie; Wednesday walking group is well attended with about 8 members each week. They are considering making this a co-ed activity. Also considering a different tier of walkers, one more advanced or with steeper terrain. Dublin Bowl plans to reopen in April. This may be our new venue for bowling.

Jerry Halligan referred to the survey sent by SIR State regarding covid19 vaccinations. 60% of our membership responded and two requested assistance. We will send an email to those who did not respond to ensure no other members need assistance obtaining their vaccinations.

Jerry Sabo and Sammy Lum have both incurred expenses for software related to our branch operations. The BEC approved reimbursement of these expenses in an amount not to exceed \$100 each.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:20pm.

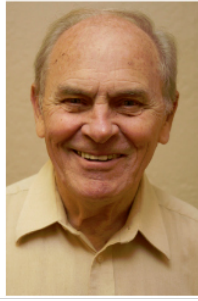
Dave Nelsen, Secretary



# April Birthdays



**Tom Federico**  
Age 87



**Kenneth Peterson**  
Age 87



**Miguel Ferras**  
Age 84



**Ken Brunskill**  
Age 82



**William Anderson**  
Age 81



**Theodore Bresler**  
Age 79



**Larry Roberts**  
Age 76



**Jay Wagner**  
Age 76



**Robert McCauley**  
Age 75



**Philip Keller**  
Age 73



**Larry Lardie**  
Age 72



**James Vermazen**  
Age 72



**Loren Lookabill**  
Age 71



**Wen Shih**  
Age 70



**Randy Patterson**  
Age 67



**Sir Sammy Lum**  
Birthday  
Chairman







Cyber Geezers usually meet on the Tuesday following our monthly SIR Luncheon. Our next meeting will be held on April 27th. We will again include Seniors of the Greater Niles Village, and any SIR Member wanting to join us. The meeting will begin at 1:00 pm. Login information is given below.

**Cyber Geezer Meeting**

At our March meeting we compared on-line conferencing apps such as Zoom, Go to Meeting, Google Meets and Webex. We also spent time looking at Microsoft One Note—a free and awesome app for taking notes and organizing things such as future travel.

Jerry is hoping that members will submit questions regarding technology: such as Smart TVs, WiFi, home networks, computer usage, iPhone or iPad usage. We will be able to develop Screenflow videos for presentation or for your use. The next Screenflow session will involve working with photographs including editing and organizing and perhaps scanning photo negatives. Please send requests to Jerry at [jlsabo3@comcast.net](mailto:jlsabo3@comcast.net).

Join the next Zoom Cyber Geezer Meeting  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/96358532596>

Meeting ID: 963 5853 2596

*Lots of Zoom information on the [sirinc.org](http://sirinc.org) website*

<https://sirinc.org/zoom/>

**SIR Happenings is published 4 time a year—the next issue will be published for May 2021.**



**Deadline for submitting articles is April 15th.**

**You can find past issues on our website:**

<https://sirbranch59.org/>

**Send news and questions to:**

**Jerry Sabo,  
Executive Editor  
[jlsabo3@comcast.net](mailto:jlsabo3@comcast.net)  
Sammy Lum,  
Assistant Editor  
[lumsam@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lumsam@sbcglobal.net)**

Call: Victor at 510-557-2687  
Harvey at 510-441-3803

**Can't Put a Name to a Face?**

Visit our branch website at  
[www.sirbranch59.org](http://www.sirbranch59.org)

Click on the Member Gallery tab on the website and then enter the password: SIR59

**You can get your Pathfinder**

<https://sirbranch59.org/newsletters-2021/>

Comments, photos for site etc. email to:

[sirbranch59@gmail.com](mailto:sirbranch59@gmail.com)

**Branch 59 Bowling Update**

Sirs Victor Okumura and Harvey McAninch have been actively pressing for our Branch 59 bowling to commence. Harvey has attended the State Bowling meetings to find out what COVID precautions must exist for the activity and Victor has set up our league to tentatively begin at Earl Anthony Bowl in Dublin. Starting date has been set for April 19, 2021 and our league will be on Mondays at 11:00 am.

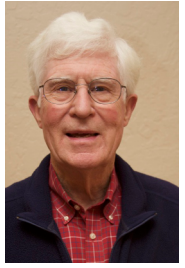
Sirs Harvey McAninch, Charles Bailey (Sunnyvale), Miguel Ferras, and Jerry Sabo are going bowling in Carson City on April 12<sup>th</sup>. This is not a SIR sponsored event, but most of the attendees are SIR members.





## Are You SIRious? By Carl Blincoe

Bruce Roberts Editor



I haven't spent much time out of the United States. But my one big exception occurred many years ago when our children were young. I was working for a computer consulting company, and had the opportunity to move my wife and three young children to Kuwait for a year to test and install a new computer system for a bank. I worked with people from over 20 different countries, but fortunately all spoke English. The adjustments for us were huge. We were presented with customs and culture and dress that was very new to us. And the heat! Every day for six months the temperature exceeded 100 degrees - the highest was 121 degrees. Fortunately our apartment and our car and my workplace were all air conditioned. I can't imagine how people lived there prior to air conditioning.

Ramadan was a new experience for us, and that year it occurred in June. I saw many construction laborers working outdoors in 100+ degree weather with nothing to eat during the very long periods of daylight.

Our families in the US were concerned for our safety, although we never felt threatened in spite of the ongoing war between Iran and Iraq only 200 miles away. At that time Saddam Hussein was the good guy! There was very little concern over street crime, due to the severe penalties. Once a month one of us carried the money from the bank to distribute to the project team members, over \$20,000 in cash - not a concern.

We thought we were safe right up until the week we were scheduled to leave the country, when a bomb exploded at the US Embassy. But that's a story for another time.

Carl



### OUR NEWEST MEMBERS INTRODUCTION

**MIKE MARZANO** --- Born December 13, 1954 in Woodland Heights in the San Fernando Valley of California. Graduated from Sequoia High School in Redwood City. Joined the Navy in 1973 and discharged in 1985 with the rank of E7. Served during the Viet Nam War. Started work as a Safety Manager in San Mateo and finished his career as a Safety Manager for the Union Sanitation Department for the TriCity area. He lives with his wife Teri in Newark. His interests are antique cars, bocce ball, wine tasting and veterans.



**HENRY ROMERO** --- Born June 17, 1948 in Pueblo, Colorado. Graduated from Newark High School and then went on to College at Cal State East Bay in Hayward. Worked 30 years for the California Highway Patrol. Lives in Fremont. His interests are golf, travel and wine tasting.





## Wednesday Walkers The Journeys Continue



## Africa Safari –Part 3–

**The Lufupa Camp** rested at the confluence of the Kafue and Lufupa Rivers: An ideal site for animals and fishing.



We flew out of Banoka Camp, got onto a bus and drove to the crossing point of the Zambezi River. There is no bridge to cross! Evidently the bridge will be built eventually, but for now we saw trucks lined up for what seemed to be miles waiting for the ferry to take them from Botswana to Zambia. We were told that some of the trucks had been waiting in line for three months. Photo taking is not allowed at the border, but essentially we left the bus in Botswana, got onto a boat that crossed the river, landed in Zambia where we waded thru dozens of street vendors

wanting to part with their wares, got onto another bus, went to the border crossing headquarters and presented passports and visas to the agents. I know that we were much more fortunate than many others entering Zambia. For sure we didn't have to wait in line with the truckers. We then drove to the Livingston Airport, and caught another small plane (two planes for 13 of us) that took us to the Kafue region of Zambzi and as usual were greeted by our guides–Golden and John.







The Lufupa camp was the most scenic of the four Safari sites that we visited. The main lodge and all of our tent cabins were on the edge of the Kafue River, and adjacent to the Lufupa River. As usual, when we first arrived at camp there was a welcoming group with nice wash cloths to refresh us. We then went into the main lodge for a brief orientation period—where the bug spray was located, given locking bags for our valuables, had refreshments, were warned about not leaving our cabins at night without an escort. All the usual stuff.

When we first went to our cabin, a large warthog was just outside the screened window. I'm sure that I

mentioned it before, but we didn't get any exercise on the trip because it really wasn't safe going out of our cabins without an escort (often armed with a high powered rifle) nor at any time at night. Most of the time during the day we were either resting, eating, or on the lookout for animals



(Safari). At this site, we were not only able to go out in four wheel drive vehicles, but four of us opted to go fishing one morning, and another group went in a larger covered boat. We also had one of our Sundowners in the larger boat.



Editors Note: When I don't always get photos or other news from Branch 59 Members, but I have to insert something. Hope that an adventure from 3-4 years ago will be of interest. Slide show are available on my web site. Part 3. <https://jsabo.info/lufupa-camp/>

## PATHFINDER BRANCH 59

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Return Service Requested

**FIRST  
CLASS  
POSTAGE**

## FIRST CLASS MAIL

**April 2021**

### COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN AND ASSISTANTS

#### ACTIVITIES

Larry Lardie/Jerry Halligan  
Co-Chairmen

#### ATTENDANCE

Ed Guthrie - Chairman  
Bill Leake - Assistant  
Bill Pruner - Assistant  
John Williams - Assistant  
Bruce Hevelin - Assistant

#### AUDIO-VISUAL

Carl Nordling - Audio  
Sammy Lum/Jerry Sabo - Video

#### AUDIT

Carl Nordling - Chairman  
Ron Brutvan - Assistant

#### BIRTHDAYS

Sammy Lum - Chairman  
Art Winkley - Assistant

#### BOWLING

Harvey McAninch - Chairman

#### BRIDGE

Arnold George - Chairman

#### CAPS & EMBLEMS

Nat Lord - Chairman

#### CHAPLAINS

Howard Thompson

Ted Bresler

#### CIRCULATION

Bill Briscoe - Chairman  
Sterling Strickland - Assistant

#### COUPLES DINING OUT

Jim Ulam - Chairman

#### COUPLES WINE TASTING

Open - Chairman

#### CYBER GEEZERS

Jerry Sabo - Chairman

#### DATABASE

Hugh Twomey - Manager  
Jerry Sabo - Assistant

#### GOLF

Larry Lardie/Jim Ulam  
Co-Chairmen

#### LIBRARIAN

Richard Holley/Rick Henry  
Co-Chairmen

#### MEMBERSHIP

Rob Ingebretson - Chairman  
Carl Nordling - Assistant

#### NOMINATING

Richard Henry - Chairman  
Arnold George - Assistant

#### PATHFINDER

Editor - Jerry Sabo  
Assistant - Sammy Lum

#### PHOTOGRAPHER

Bruce Roberts

#### POKER

Bob Marshall - Co-Chair

Larry Jett - Co-Chair

#### PUBLICITY

Sammy Lum - Chairman

Jim Ulam - Assistant

#### RECRUITMENT

Jim Ulam - Chairman

Alan Weiner - Assistant

#### ROLLIE REFEREE

Dino Mostardi - Head Ref

#### SOCIAL

Rob Ingebretson - Chairman

#### SONG LEADER

Bob Benya - Chairman

#### SPEAKER RECRUITMENT

Bob Marshall

#### SPORTS

Bill Leake - Chairman

Nat Lord - Assistant

#### SUNSHINE

Art Winkley - Chairman

#### WEBSITE

[Sirbranch59.org](http://Sirbranch59.org)  
Sammy Lum - Webmaster

### PAST BIG Sirs

#### STATE OFFICERS

STATE PRESIDENT  
Stuart Williams

VICE-PRESIDENT  
Rick Kindle

STATE SECRETARY  
Ronald Flegal

STATE TREASURER  
Roy Hodgkinson

#### Chief Administrator

Dwight Sale

DIRECTOR, REGION 5  
Bill Holly

#### GOVERNOR, AREA 15

John Haffner

#### SENIOR HONORARY LIFE

##### MEMBERS

Nat Lord

#### HONORARY LIFE MEMBER

Hugh Twomey

Arthur Winkley

Rob Ingebretson

1976 Peter Clark\*

1977 Karl Heine\*

1978 Harry Cooper\*

1979 Kenneth Foster\*

1980 Larry Varblow\*

1981 Guido Milano\*

1982 Alex Fulton\*

1983 Stephen Epler\*

1984 George Herman\*

1985 Ray Crosby\*

1986 Loran Coburn\*

1987 Robert Davis\*

1988 Robert Klindt\*

1989 Martin Annen\*

1990 Lee Updegraff\*

1991 Fred W. Fretter\*

1992 Lyle Kingery\*

1993 LeRoy J. King\*

1994 George Hubach\*

1995 Clyde Killion\*

1996 Bill Schwan\*

1997 Nat Lord

1998 John Buchanan\*

1999 Art Lampert\*

2000 Harry Heyen\*

2001 Bob Beam

2002 Rollin Cunningham\*

2003 Don Henry

2004 Tom Sherba\*

2005 Howard Thompson

2006 Les Addison

2007 Ted Bresler

2008 Richard Holley

2009 Don Gillis\*

2010 Frank R. Thomas

2011 Hugh Twomey

2012 James Ferenz\*

2013 Skip Mugford\*

2014 Rob Ingebretson

2015 Skip Mugford\*

2016 Jim Ulam

2017 Jim Ulam

2018 Harvey McAninch

2019 Harvey McAninch

2019 Richard Henry

2020 Richard Henry

\*(deceased)

### PATHFINDER DEADLINE

Copy deadline for the next issue of the Pathfinder  
will be Wednesday, a week after the regularly  
scheduled Monthly Luncheon Meeting.