

Musings of Big Sir Larry Jett

My word processor doesn't have large enough letters to properly demonstrate my appreciation to the BEC, (both elected and appointed) and certainly the volunteered, that strove to pull off the reopening of Branch #59 for lunch in September. About 50% of the roster munched a bunch of lunch outdoors and enjoyed each other's society and "how ya beens". The main down-side might have been the weak Elks outdoor sound system but our newest member, Sir Marzano, is outsourcing a more powerful stack of equipment to rectify the audio. Come back to the Elks on October 20th for another outdoor *al fresco* experience like September's, only better.

Not a single member was without a vaccination certificate and we look forward to those yet to attend a sit-down lunch to bring a copy with them to the October lunch. Once you are on the Branch #59 data sheet as having shown proof of vaccination, you are a SIRtified OK guy.

Part of the goodness of the Pathfinder magazine each month is the column edited by Sir Bruce Roberts entitled "Are you SIRious?" It is designed to provide a peek into a fellow SIR's life or interests/hobby. Bruce would be pleased to have you raise your hand via email to him at bruceface386@yahoo.com. should you have a story line or profile of your life you are willing to share. Now that we can look into each other's eye, table talk can be more interesting based on the written word in the Pathfinder.

Our website now contains video files of speakers that were recorded during previous Zoom sessions.

<https://sirbranch59.org/speakers/>

October Guest Speaker???

Indeed there will be a speaker, but we will not divulge the information at this time. Everyone will not be able to attend the luncheon, because of limited outdoor seating, and we don't want anyone fighting for the right to be there..

October 20th Luncheon Menu

We will be served ;

**Pork Ribs, Chicken Scallopini,
Mashed Potatoes, Long grain rice,
Steamed Veggies,
Green Salad...Dinner Roll**

Desert Cake

Again- If you will not or can not make the luncheon, please, please, call

Ed Guthrie 510-659-0498

or

edguthrie@comcast.net

SIR Branch 59 BEC Minutes, September 15, 2021

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 in person at the Fremont Elk's Lodge.

The meeting was called to order by Big Sir Larry Jett at 9:40 am. All BEC members were present.

The August 18, 2021 meeting minutes were approved as presented. The minutes for our special BEC meeting held on August 25 were also approved.

Attendance; Dave relayed the report from Ed Guthrie who was unable to attend the meeting. It is his estimate that 49% of our membership will attend today's meeting, or 73 members. Using his +/- 10% equation we expect between 66 - 80 members.

Treasurer, Larry Lardie reported the balance of the general fund was \$3,564.40. This includes \$200 in contributions and expenses for printing supplies. The treasurer's report was approved.

Membership; Rob Ingebretson is concerned about several members we've been unable to get in touch with. 11 members have been removed from the database who we know have moved or indicated they would not be returning and one who passed away last year. Our current membership stands at 148. We expect one guest today, Russ Pennelly, brother of member Paul Pennelly. During our calls to all members last month, we realize there are a number of members unable to drive to our meetings. There is a new service known as "Ride On" connected with Lyft ride service and the city of Fremont providing low cost rides. It was suggested an article with details about this service be included in the Pathfinder.

Comments from Big Sir Larry Jett; We are looking for a new Sunshine chairman as Art Winkley has retired from many years of service at this role. We have contracts for the Elk's lodge and our caterer for two months. Both are willing to continue on a monthly basis for now, usually it's an annual contract. We need a couple of volunteers for taking meal tickets and counting plates and for determining the number of excused, unexcused and attending members for the luncheon today. Ed Guthrie keeps track of these via the name tags distributed and returned. It's time we firm up the BEC officers and directors for next year.

Publicity; Sammy Lum reminded us we discontinued our ad in the Tri-City-Voice. Do we want to start this up again? We will take this up next month.

Activities; Larry said 12 were present for golf on Tuesday. Sign-ups for the next bowling conference have begun.

Jerry Halligan indicated the number of walkers ranges from 4 to about 10.

Bowlers are discouraged by the distance they need to drive. Carpooling would help with this.

Hugh reminded us we usually begin selling tickets for the December holiday luncheon in October. After a brief discussion we came to the consensus that we not hold a holiday luncheon this year.

SIR State; Has hired a Branding Company to promote the SIR organization. Their work will begin in 2022.

Pathfinder; Our editor, Jerry Sabo, is also the editor of SIR Happenings. In this role he gets newsletters from all over the state and suggests we could improve our

Continued on Pg. 5

October Birthdays



John Ockes
Age 94



Harry Pearson
Age 87



Hugh Twomey
Age 86



Jerry Aguilar
Age 83



J. D. Smith
Age 79



Terry Dalziel
Age 79



Rob Perril
Age 74



Sir Sammy Lum
Birthday
Chairman

*Birthdays
of the
Month*

Happy Birthday



*I would say your were old,
But hell, you were old Last year.*



**"When you are
dissatisfied and would
like to go back
to youth, think of
Algebra."**

- Will Rogers



You know you're getting old
when the candles cost
more than the cake.

Bob Hope

www.wow4u.com



Cyber Geezers usually meet on the Tuesday following our monthly SIR Luncheon. Our next meeting will be held on **October 26th**. 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.



Since many of you are unable to attend our Zoom Cyber Geezer meetings, Jerry is going to record many of the old and new sessions and post them on YouTube so they may be watched at your leisure, and convenience. You will get an email notice once the videos are on the internet..

In the next ScreenFlow session we will probably discuss importing the photos into various photo programs such as Photos for PC and Mac, Adobe Elements, and Lightroom. Jerry is hoping that members will submit questions regarding technology: such as Smart TVs, WiFi, home networks, computer usage, iPhone or iPad usage.

YouTube links to Cyber Geezer sessions:

<https://youtu.be/rTT6g0INiXY>

<https://youtu.be/32dYgdx3A18>

Join the next Zoom Cyber Geezer Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/96358532596>

Meeting ID: 963 5853 2596

Scam or not?

I recently received a letter from the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) for a toll violation on some expressway in Florida. My first reaction is this must be some kind of scam. I did an internet search and indeed there was a warning from the FDOT that a company was sending fake toll violation invoices. They would only accept cash payments and that was the clue it was not legit. To check if this letter was a scam I went onto the FDOT website and the information on the letter matched what was on the website plus you could pay by credit card so it looked legit. They had a photo of the car but the photo was not clear enough to determine the make and model however the license plate numbers were correct. It was definitely not the same shape as my car and the color was different. On the website you could dispute the invoice by providing evidence. I submitted a photo of the back of my car and it was resolved in two days. Had I thrown this letter in the trash a collection agency would be after me. By the way the toll violation was for \$3.84. Also under closer examination I think the license plate reader mistook a Q for an O and that is how I received the toll violation.

From Sir Sammy Lum



Health Helper: By replacing your morning coffee with green tea, you can lose up to 87% of what little joy you still have left in your life...

You can get your Pathfinder

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

Comments, photos for site etc. email to:

sirbranch59@gmail.com

SIR Happenings is published 4 times a year—the next issue will be published for November 2021.

Deadline for submitting articles is October 15th.

You can find past issues on our website:

<https://sirbranch59.org/>



Send news and questions to:

Jerry Sabo,

Executive Editor

jlsabo3@comcast.net

Sammy Lum,

Assistant Editor

lumsam@sbcglobal.net

Pathfinder by adding more articles. He cited Bruce Roberts articles titled "Are you SIRious" as a great example of interesting content for our Pathfinder.

Speakers; Bob Marshall has lined up great speakers for October and November regarding law enforcement and sports. He will focus on our December speaker now that we've determined we will not hold a holiday luncheon. A suggestion was made to have someone speak to the issue of homelessness in Fremont.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:38am.
Dave Nelsen, Secretary

ATTENTION

During our recent calls made to our membership it was found that many of our SIR members can no longer drive, and therefore can no longer attend our monthly meeting. It was brought to my attention that there is a service provided by the city that can help with this problem. It is called RIDE-ON TRI-CITY. It is a program of the city of Fremont's Human Services Department. The program provides affordable transportation to and from destinations in Fremont, Newark, and Union City.

Assistance with transportation needs will be provided primarily by phone and email. If service cannot be provided by phone, staff will schedule an in-person appointment to provide needed assistance.

For more information, please contact Ride-On Tri-City at 510-574-2033 or RideOnTriCity@fremont.gov

Rob Ingebretson
Membership Chairman
510-657-7828



Wednesday Walkers Continue their ventures.



Can't Put a Name to a Face?
Visit our branch website at www.sirbranch59.org
Click on the Member Gallery tab on the website and then enter the password: SIR59

Winter Eagles in the Frozen North by Bruce Roberts



It all started in '17, 2017 that is. Alan and I made our first trip to Tule Lake in the February of '17. Man it was cold....but the good news was that we were restricted to my car at the Tule Lake Wildlife Refuge. Now, that meant that we had to “shoot,” that is photograph, Bald eagles from the car. There we were, gravel road or worse, telephoto lenses stuck out the window on each side of the car, clicking away at what-

ever we desired. For you walkers, we really did not get many steps in on these trips. That first year was the coldest of the four trips we made for the purpose of making Bald eagle images. We stayed warm with the heater blazing, trying to warm the whole outdoors.

If you haven't tried to find a place to sleep in Tule Lake in February, well, there aren't many places to lay your head. Fortunately, Alan found a B&B with great (meaning pretty-cheap) rates. The guy who ran it was an outdoorsman with many years of experience with hunters of all types. He knew all the places to find eagles and many other animals. Even though he gave us



great directions, we managed to get lost most of the time. That was mostly OK because we found Bald eagles, Tundra swans, Snow geese, White-fronted geese, Great blue herons, Common egrets, and the list goes on. It seems that the birds are not terribly afraid of a car moving along the road, but if you step out of the car they depart with dispatch.

February means cold in the Tule Lake country. Our B&B grew a very large and deadly icicle on the back porch each year. We watched birds land on icy lakes doing a great imitation of ice skaters. Once we saw a sea gull and an eagle fight over the carcass of a dead bird frozen into the ice. Believe it or not, the sea gull won. Once a Bald eagle sat on the ice facing us not 30 feet from a gaggle of geese; of course, the geese behind him were watching the eagle like a hawk (really bad image).





Because the place we stayed was a B&B we usually got a late start getting out in the refuge.....boy were those breakfasts delicious! Once out on the refuge we found, not only the birds, but deer and other four-footed creatures. Around a bend or over a road hump we saw surprising sights, four or five eagles tearing apart a creature we could not identify, five egrets in the middle of the road,

or deer sticking their noses through the snow so they could munch on the grasses below.

Late in the afternoon we started to see more geese flying in, like they were starting to get ready for the night. They would land in the shallow water of the mown fields, thousands of them, what a noise. One night, behind scudding clouds, the moon rose steadily, backlighting the flocks of white geese. Try as I might, because I

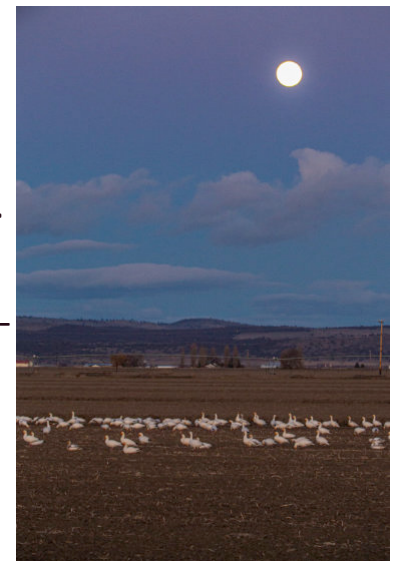


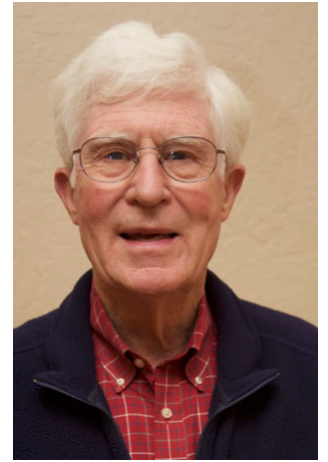
was on the wrong side of the car, I could not get a good angle for a photo. Then the moon disappeared behind the clouds. Sigh! Bald Eagles! Yes, that's what we came to photograph every year (2017 through 2020), and most of the time they disappointed us. They would sit on telephone poles, or fence posts, or in the gnarled branches of leafless trees, so nearly every photo had a power line, or fence post

or a tree branch in front of the eagle. Of course, eagles would fly with almost no notice; we always planned to be ready, and a few times we caught the Bald eagles in flight. Red-tailed and other hawks flew photogenically much more.

A word about the 1943 Japanese Internment Camp at Tule Lake. What a desolate place to put people! At 4000 feet altitude, and flat as a pancake, the winter cold must have chilled the people to the depths of their bones. Not much is left of the camp today, and it is fenced off.

Bruce Roberts





A photo collage
from Tule Lake
taken by Bruce
Roberts Feb 8,
2020





At last!! Our first luncheon since COVID-19 struck.





**Held at the Elk's Lodge on
September 15,
2021**

(Join us on October 20th)





Guest speaker MS. Judy Tokubo with Little Sir Robert Marshall



Above, Sir Bob Cooper receives his official SIR member certificate.



Above is guest Russ Pennelly. Russ has joined our Monday bowling group at Dublin lanes, and will join Branch 59 at our October meeting.



At Left, Sir Mike Marzano finally receives his official SIR member certificate from Big Sir Larry Jett.

<jlsabo3@comcast.net>

Return Service Requested

FIRST CLASS MAIL

October 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

Open

SOCIAL

Open- Chairman

SONG LEADER

Bob Benya - Chairman

SPEAKER RECRUITMENT

Bob Marshall

SPORTS

Bill Leake - Chairman
Nat Lord - Assistant

SUNSHINE

Open - Chairman

WEBSITE

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 HarveyMcAninch
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.