



Bob's Blur

Greetings Fellow Sirs! As I write this, we are celebrating Memorial Day, the sun is out, I can go places without worrying about a "mask mandate", and I will thank God for all of those who gave the ultimate sacrifice so that we can be free to do all the wonderful things we do on this holiday weekend. The Warriors are in the Finals, and all is right with the world.

At our last meeting, I asked you to fill out a survey so that we (your Branch Executive Committee) might get some idea as to what your desires are for existing and new activities. We are, after all, an activities and social club, as charged by our state organization, and we are also going through our planning process, which includes goals for our chapter in the future.

The survey showed some interesting things. Of our current activities, the most popular proved to be bowling (#1) and golf (#2). On the survey sheet, we listed Digital Photography as a "proposed" activity. Well, it turns out that our Cybergazer group (tied for #2 with golf) ALREADY has segments dealing with digital photography! Mea culpa to your Big Sir for missing this. The Walkers group was #3, and Bridge and Poker came in at #'s 4 and 5.

As to the proposed activities, Bocce Ball proved to be the overwhelming favorite at #1. The rest were as follows; Stock Market Study Group (2); Gardening (3); Economic/Current Events (4); Books (5); Genealogy (6); and Tennis (7). Interestingly, we HAVE a genealogy and a pinochle group forming as I write this. We also had one volunteer to head up a Fly-Fishing group. All in all, the survey has provided some direction to your BEC. Thanks for participating!

We have a great speaker for June, and in July, we will be hearing from Newark's Mayor Alan Nagy. See you all at the luncheon!

June Guest
ERIC JONES A LOCAL HERO

Eric Jones was one of two recipients of the Medal of Valor from President Bush for his service to our country during the events of 9/11. His experience left him with mental health challenges, including PTSD. Eric used his passion for mental health to start a nonprofit with the purpose of improving the quality of life for those with mental health challenges through sailing. Come hear more!



Eric grew up in the Bay Area, his mother a social worker, and his father an Air Force Colonel. Eric felt compelled to help people from an early age and became an EMT as soon as he turned 18. That led to him joining the Prince George's County Fire Department where he received additional training in firefighting, search and rescue, hazardous materials, and rescue diving. Eric continued by earning his Paramedic certification, and in 1998 graduated from The George Washington University (GWU) with a BS in Health Sciences, with a focus on Emergency Medical Services with a minor in Psychology.



June 15th Luncheon Menu

We will be served: Chicken Parmesan and Sirloin Tip, Noodles, Rice, Steamed Veggies, Salad, Roll, Cake and Ice Cream

SIR Branch 59 BEC Minutes, May 18, 2022

Branch 59 Officers

Big Sir

Bob Marshall
(310) 502-7295

Little Sir

OPEN

Help Wanted

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
Jim Ulam

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
10:00 AM

Executive Board Meeting
11AM Social Hour
12 Noon Lunch



The meeting was called to order by Big Sir Bob Marshall at 10:00am. All BEC members were present.

The April 20, 2022 meeting minutes were approved as presented. Dave shared that as of today 109 members have paid their 2022 dues. Per the Schedule of Branch Operations the nominating committee should submit their proposed slate of BEC officers for 2023 by the end of May.

Treasurer, Larry Lardie reported the balance of the general fund as of May 18 was \$7,367.67. The treasure's report was approved.

Big Sir, Bob Marshall, mentioned correspondence from State President Rick Kindle regarding the May 2022 SIR Happenings newsletter. Everyone with email should have received the email from Rick inviting us to look at this latest newsletter. This quarterly publication is a compilation of many newsletters of Sir Branches across the state and is edited by Jerry Sabo with assistance from Sammy Lum.

Bob shared with the BEC that John Vennemeyer passed away last weekend.

He also shared news that Hugh Twomey has resigned as Director on the BEC. Hugh worked as our treasurer until 2020 and has chaired the Database committee as well for many years. We thank and appreciate Hugh's participation in the BEC.

Membership; In understanding our actual membership number, Rob suggests we call members in the database who have not yet paid their 2022 dues and discuss their situation. A new updated list will be sent following today's luncheon and a call list will be assigned to each BEC member.

Database; We discussed who might work on the database going forward. ACCESS software is used to hold our membership data and we wondered whether a simple spreadsheet would be adequate and more easy to use. Jerry Sabo pointed out ACCESS is capable of producing many valuable reports and suggests strongly we continue using it, adding it is not difficult to learn.

Activities; We discussed whether activity participants need to be SIR members and pay dues. Our conclusion is, we provide and lead activities as Sir members for Sir members and all activity participants must become members. Guests are always welcome to join an activity a few times before deciding to become a member of course.

Publicity; Sammy has created a Facebook page for our branch. You can find it by typing "SIR Branch 59, Fremont" in the Facebook search field. Sammy will administer the page, approving those who wish to join.

Bob announced that Ken Brunskill has offered to serve as a Director. We approved this unanimously and welcome him to the Branch Executive Committee.

Special meeting; We decided we will meet on June 16 at 2:00 at Bob Marshall's house. We will be filling out a branch assessment, discussing risks and goals for the coming year. We will put surveys out at each table today and request each member to fill one out. The data collected will be discussed at the meeting as well.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:05am.

Dave Nelsen, Secretary

June Birthdays



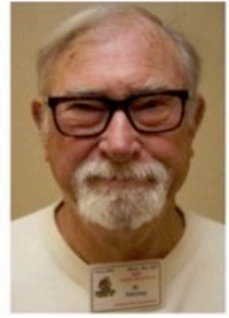
William Briscoe
Age 89



Willie Jackson
Age 87



Floyd Nesper
Age 86



Alan Kenney
Age 85



Jerry Sabo
Age 80



Bob Cooper
Age 77



Robert Doherty
Age 75



Charles Gebhardt
Age 75



Henry Romero
Age 74



Sir Sammy Lum Birthday Chairman

You may have noticed that our birthday procedure has changed. If it is your birthday month you are to pick up a lei in the box located next to the gentleman that gives you your badge when you enter. You are to wear it during the luncheon and you may sit anywhere you want as there will no longer be a birthday table. Sometime during the luncheon you will be given the opportunity to say your name and how old you are. After all the birthdays have been announced there will be a drawing for a bottle of wine given to one of the birthday members present. We ask that when you leave the luncheon that you please return your lei to the same box where you picked it up.



Cyber Geezers *usually* meet on the Tuesday following our monthly SIR Luncheon. Our next meeting will be held on **June 28th**. (Note that this is a week after the usual date) 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
Geezers**

In the last Zoom session we once again discussed scam prevention and more new scams that threaten our security and our pocket book.

Please send requests to Jerry at jlsabo3@comcast.net.

SIR Happenings is published 4 times a year—the next issue will be published for August 2022.



Deadline for submitting articles is July 15th.

You can find past issues on our website:

<https://sirbranch59.org/>

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

Meeting ID: 963 5853 2596

The “Dealer’s Lunch Bunch” meets for Poker every month on the Monday immediately following our monthly luncheon. We currently have about 10 members who routinely attend games. We have a seven-seat table, so space is limited to the first seven players who reserve. But don’t let that stop you from joining our group! We have had up to 10 players (lots of common card games) since the group started, and IF we consistently get more than 10 reservations, we will open a second table. The buy-in is \$10, with dime-quarter-half dollar chips, so it is within everyone’s means. If you have a desire to play, please contact Sir Larry Jett (larrywjett@gmail.com), or Sir Bob Marshall (hdog48@gmail.com).



Congratulations and thanks to Sir Miguel Ferras for stepping up as Branch 59 Bowling Chairman. Miguel has been the man to beat with his continuing high bowling average. He is also one of our regular tournament bowlers.

Miguel bowled with Jerry Sabo and another doubles team of Victor Okumura and Laverl Tomlinson at Paddock Bowl in Pacheco on May 25th. Laverl placed 2nd in B singles and Victor placed 3rd. Congratulations! (Unfortunately Jerry and Miguel – yech!)

Bowling Sirs are just beginning our summer league at Earl Anthony bowl in Dublin and there is always room for more SIR bowlers and their female friends. Just show up on Mondays at about 10:30. The cost is \$15 including a \$3 prize fund.

Another benefit of the SIR bowling league is the volunteer participation in any of the SIR tournaments listed on the SIR Bowling website: <http://www.sirinc3.org/sirBowling/index.html>

Jerry Sabo – Editor

Send news and questions to:

Jerry Sabo,
Executive Editor
jlsabo3@comcast.net
Sammy Lum,
Assistant Editor
lumsam@sbcglobal.net

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

Jim Ulam –Golf Co-Chair

Golf can best be defined as an endless series of tragedies obscured by the occasional miracle, followed by a good bottle of beer.

Golf! You hit down to make the ball go up. You swing left and the ball goes right. The lowest score wins. And on top of that, the winner buys the drinks.

Golf is harder than baseball. In golf, you have to play your foul balls.

If you find you do not mind playing golf in the rain, the snow, even during a hurricane, here's a valuable tip: your life is in trouble.

Golfers who try to make everything perfect before taking the shot rarely make a perfect shot.

The term 'mulligan' is really a contraction of the phrase 'maul it again.'

A 'gimme' can best be defined as an agreement between two golfers ...neither of whom can putt very well.

An interesting thing about golf is that no matter how badly you play; it is always possible to get worse.

Golf's a hard game to figure. One day you'll go out and slice it and shank it, hit into all the traps and miss every green. The next day you go out and for no reason at all you really stink.

If your best shots are the practice swing and the 'gimme putt', you might wish to reconsider this game.

Golf is the only sport where the most feared opponent is you.

Golf is like marriage: If you take yourself too seriously it won't work, and both are expensive.

The best wood in most amateurs' bags is the pencil.



We'll miss you RJ! Gary Bennett, Larry Lardie and Jim Ulam present a "going away" gift to our favorite golf pro at Spring Valley golf course



Some of the guys enjoying camaraderie after our golf game

You can get your Pathfinder

<https://sirbranch59.org/newsletters-2022/>

Comments, photos for site etc. email to:

sirbranch59@gmail.com

Attendance Report

Attendance Report
April 20, 2022

Total Membership 142

New Member Paul Parhilala #82

Members absent from luncheon 66

Members in attendance 76

Percent of membership in attendance 54%

Second time guest Ron Brazil

Total Attendance 77

Submitted by Rob Ingebretson
Membership Chairman

May 2022 Luncheon photos-Photographer Bruce Roberts





Song Master Bob Benya



Roster Editor Terry Pearson "CHILLIN OUT"



The wine drawing! Winner Jim Vermazen



Guest speaker Felicity Burdick-Palliative Care



Trivia winners receive their prizes from Big Sir and trivia master Bob Marshall



Membership Chair, Rob Ingebretson introducing guests

ARE YOU SIRIOUS?

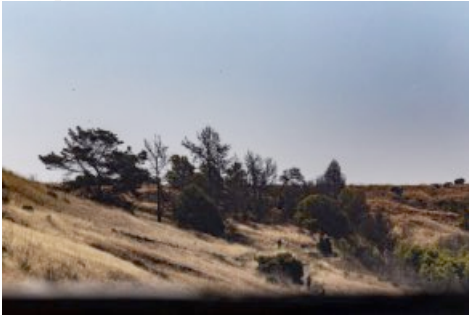
Dear SIRs,

Approaching this blank piece of paper today, I'm torn by the news of the past days, murder in Texas, the war in Ukraine, a missing person in the Bay area, and on and on and on.

For me to write something that is SIRious, I need a topic about which I know something. I could rehash some of the stories I've already written myself. I could replay some of the other stories you have already read. Or I could just babble on about something that you may not know anything about – or me either. I'll give it a try.



Editor
Bruce Roberts



The only thing I know a little bit about is photography, and not very much do I know. So, photography is a method of sharing, kind of like this piece you are reading. Is this the type of sharing where we exhibit beauty as we want to see it? Or, is this the kind of horror we endure that we must share? Do we etch it into your mind in stark, unreal black and white? Or, do we blame someone in glaring, blaring color.

Mostly I like to show scenes beauteous to me, a green tree on a (California) gold hillside. The image of stage performer singing her heart out means a lot to me in retrospect. How about just a single rose with petals looking like red-painted lips? Then there is the last of the afternoon sun on a winter's day just ready to dip into the horizon, reflected off some puffy clouds into a creek somewhere in the Sierras? With those images I feel content, or warm, or complete.

On the other hand, when a photographer captures the stillness of death on a distant battlefield, or in a familiar schoolyard, or on an local urban highway, it makes me flinch, it makes me care, it makes me sad. And what can I do about it, the pictures ask? Is that kind of sharing what I want to see? Or is it the sharing for which the photographer's editor wants me to react, react with indignation, or pity, or disgust?



The next time you see a photo in the local newspaper, the "Pathfinder," or on a friend's living room wall, or in a doctor's office, try to examine why it's there, what is being shared, be it for fun or education or for a different purpose. Maybe it's showing the fun we have at a SIR Meeting. Maybe it's to jolt you into action for political purposes. Maybe it's soothing to you.

~ Bruce Roberts

Come, make the effort to help me with this SIRious series by suggesting that I interview you, or, better yet, by writing your own "Are You SIRious?" piece. brucesface386@yahoo.com





*Wednesday Walker Photos
taken by Bruce Roberts*



Age and Life

When one door closes and another door opens, you're probably in prison.

Age 60 might be the new 40, but 9 pm is the new midnight.

It's the start of a new day, and I'm off like a herd of turtles.

The older I get, the earlier it gets late.

When I say, "The other day," I could be referring to any time between yesterday and 15 years ago.

I remember being able to get up without making sound effects.

I had my patience tested. I'm negative.

Remember, if you lose a sock in the dryer, it comes back as a Tupperware lid that doesn't fit any of your containers.

If you're sitting in public and a stranger takes the seat next to you, just stare straight ahead and say, "Did you bring the money?"

When you ask me what I'm doing today, and I say "nothing," it doesn't mean I'm free. It means I'm doing nothing.

I finally got eight hours of sleep. It took me three days, but whatever.

I run like the winded.

I hate when a couple argues in public, and I missed the beginning and don't know whose side I'm on.

When someone asks what I did over the weekend, I frown and ask, "Why, what did you hear?"

When you do squats, are your knees supposed to sound like a goat chewing on an aluminum can stuffed with celery?

I don't mean to interrupt people. I just randomly remember things and get really excited.

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

Don't bother walking a mile in my shoes. That would be boring. Spend 30 seconds in my head. That'll freak you out.

Sometimes, someone unexpected comes into your life out of nowhere, makes your heart race, and changes you forever. We call those people cops.

My luck is like a bald guy who just won a comb.

Shared by Larry Jett

If you ever feel a little bit stupid, just dig this up and read it again; you'll begin to think you're a genius.

~~~~~  
(On September 17, 1994, Alabama's Heather Whitestone was selected as Miss America 1995.)  
Question: If you could live forever, would you and why?

Answer: "I would not live forever, because we should not live forever, because if we were supposed to live forever, then we would live forever, but we cannot live forever, which is why I would not live forever."

--Miss Alabama in the 1994 Miss USA contest.

"Whenever I watch TV and see those poor starving kids all over the world, I can't help but cry. I mean I'd love to be skinny like that, but not with all those flies and death and stuff."

--Mariah Carey

"Smoking kills. If you're killed, you've lost a very important part of your life,"

-- Brooke Shields, during an interview to become spokesperson for federal anti-smoking campaign

"I've never had major knee surgery on any other part of my body,"

--Winston Bennett, University of Kentucky basketball forward.

"Outside of the killings, Washington has one of the lowest crime rates in the country,"

--Mayor Marion Barry, Washington, DC.

"That lowdown scoundrel deserves to be kicked to death by a jackass, and I'm just the one to do it,"

--A congressional candidate in Texas ..

"Half this game is ninety percent mental."

--Philadelphia Phillies manager, Danny Ozark

"It isn't pollution that's harming the environment. It's the impurities in our air and water that are doing it.."

--Al Gore, Vice President

"I love California. I practically grew up in Phoenix."

-- Dan Quayle

"We've got to pause and ask ourselves: How much clean air do we need?"

--Lee Iacocca

"The word "genius" isn't applicable in football. A genius is a guy like Norman Einstein."

--Joe Theisman, NFL football quarterback & sports analyst.

"We don't necessarily discriminate. We simply exclude certain types of people."

-- Colonel Gerald Wellman, ROTC Instructor.

"Your food stamps will be stopped effective March 2020 because we received notice that you passed away. May God bless you. You may reapply if there is a change in your circumstances."

--Department of Social Services, Greenville, South Carolina

"Traditionally, most of Australia 's imports come from overseas."

--Keppel Enderbery

"If somebody has a bad heart, they can plug this jack in at night as they go to bed and it will monitor their heart throughout the night. And the next morning, when they wake up dead, there'll be a record."

-- Mark S. Fowler, FCC Chairman

**Shared by Rob Perrill**

## PATHFINDER BRANCH 59

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**FIRST  
CLASS  
POSTAGE**

## FIRST CLASS MAIL

**June 2022**

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Bill Leake - Assistant  
Bill Pruner - Assistant  
Bruce Hevelin - Assistant

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Carl Nordling - Audio  
Sammy Lum/Jerry Sabo - Video

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#### CYBER GEEZERS

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Bruce Roberts

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Nat Lord - Assistant

#### SUNSHINE

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#### WEBSITE

[Sirbranch59.org](http://Sirbranch59.org)

Sammy Lum - Webmaster

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VICE-PRESIDENT  
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STATE SECRETARY  
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STATE TREASURER  
Roy Hodgkinson

#### Chief Administrator

Dean Steichen

DIRECTOR, REGION 5  
John Haffner

#### GOVERNOR, AREA 15

John Haffner

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##### MEMBERS

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Arthur Winkley

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1978 Harry Cooper\*  
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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\*  
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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\*

### PAST BIG Sirs

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  
2021 Larry Jett

\*(deceased)

### PATHFINDER DEADLINE

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