



SIR Solano Branch 88 Newsletter

March
2022

"Live Longer, Live Happier, Join SIR"

State Web Site – sirinc.org

Chapter 88 Website – sirinc2.org/branch88/

REMEMBER!
*Dues are due
by March 31!*

**NEXT
MEETING**

Thursday March 10, 2022

Zio Fraedos

Happy Hour 11:00

Lunch 12:00

Program 1:00

(BEC 10:00am)



Today's Program

Steve Young, Mayor of Benicia

Questions & Answers



SIR Branch 88 meetings are held the second Thursday of each month.

A Message from Your Big SIR – David Muth



Hello Everyone. Our March 10 lunch meeting will again be at Zio Fraedos in Vallejo. Our guest speaker this month will be the Mayor of Benicia, Steve Young. This will be a Q&A format, so please come with prepared questions for the Mayor. Steve was a guest speaker for us a year ago when our meetings were via Zoom and I think it was one of our better meetings.

In order to help with planning and to give Zio Fraedos approximate numbers please expect a call prior to our meeting to try and get an approximate number. Remember ... lunch costs \$25. Let's have a good turnout. We hope to see you there.

Here are a few important reminders:

- We are still collecting membership dues. The \$20 dues are used to run the organization.
- See Steve Smith for co-ed Bocce Ball sign ups. The fee to join is \$15 per player. Steve can be reached at syorksmith@gmail.com or (510) 926-1274.
- Please pay by cash or check since we do not have the capacity to take credit or debit cards.
- All members who have sent me a check for the new style name badge will have a sign-off sheet to sign that their name is spelled correctly before we go into the order phase.
- Pop The Cork is starting this month. An email will be sent out with a Zoom date to go over everything.



Web Design Expertise!

Do you have experience with web sites (especially with Word Press)? We are trying to redesign our web site and REALLY need your help!! Please call Carl Mason (707-746-1347).

My 2 Cents ... Little SIR — Harold Persily

Hi SIR members.

I want to thank everyone for attending the February luncheon. It was a good turnout. We had 50 members in attendance along with three new potential members. I thought the food was good although I did miss the dessert. Gloria Lenhart's talk about San Francisco Ghost ships was fascinating. I worked in SF a number of years and I had seen some of the ghost ship "indicators" but never realized why they were there and what they related to.

As promised, my wife and I created six special Valentines boxes, filled them with chocolate and raffled them off. I hope the winners enjoyed them. We may do more of them in the future.

Doing our part

SIRs now encourage members to participate in volunteer activities. One I used to do was with the Contra Costa-Solano food bank ... "food give aways". Basically, I volunteered to help distribute food two ways:

1. "walk up" - a truck comes to a location, volunteers set up tables, put vegetables and fruit from the truck on the tables, then hand the food to people as they walk by. Or...
2. "drive thru" - cars line up, drive up to some tables, and volunteers open the trunk or back door, and put in boxes of can food, vegetables, and fruit.

The giveaways last only an hour or two. And they have regular routes so you can find a location and a time that is convenient for you. Go to foodbankccs.org. Click on "Calendar" to see where and when the giveaways are occurring, then click on "Volunteer" and sign up for that time and location.

Let me know if you get involved. We will try to get SIR volunteer shirts for those who do participate.

Thanks. Be safe.



Cribbage –

Michael McCamish

Hey Cribbage players. So far this group is holding its own with approximately eight solid members. We meet at 11:00am every Monday morning at the American Canyon Senior Center (2185 Elliott Drive) in American Canyon. For those of you who are not taking advantage of some quality time with some quality people just because you may not know how to play Cribbage, no fears ... none of us really do either. It is a very easy game to learn and there are plenty of us there who will be more than happy to teach you the basics.

Special thanks to Harold Persily and Mike McCamish who were the driving force behind the establishment of this activity and who both are nothing less than spectacular to play cards with.

Remember the phrase "the more the merrier"? Well, it certainly applies here. Hope to see more of you next Monday.



**Losing weight
doesn't seem
to be working
for me, so
from now I'm
going to
concentrate
on getting
taller.**



Membership – Gary Savelli

Attendance Message

It looks like we are starting to get back to semi-normal. We are looking forward to seeing you all for lunch in March. Make your reservations to attend.



Reminder Message

The first of the year the dues will be \$20 for the year. The end of March is the deadline. Bring your check to the luncheon or mail it to Roy MacGregor, 560 Buckeye Court, Benicia, Ca. 94510.

Membership Message

We have 142 members in SIR 88 currently. Thank you to those who have sponsored new members. We need to keep SIR going and growing. We hope you want to continue with us in the year of 2022. Let's pray this year will be better.

February's Meeting

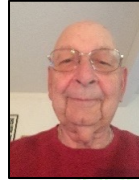
Free Lunch
50/50

Steve Haselton
George Fuller

Sunshine – John Flanagan



If you know of any of our members who are sick or having problems, please let me know (707-747-9416),



Paul Brighton

No
Picture

Dalton Cox



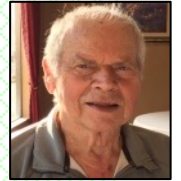
Roberto Crescione



Sam Sims



Ed Tallyn



Marvin Turner

No
Picture

Robert Weldon

Treasurer's Report

Roy MacGregor



Our bank balance as of the end of February is \$4,054.38 including \$1,360 dues for 68 paid members. I also have five dues checks that have not yet been deposited.

Our membership roster pre-2022 totaled 141 members, so we have 68 members who have yet to pay their 2022 dues. If you have not paid your dues, please be prepared to pay your \$20 membership dues at our next meeting, or mail me a check for \$20 to:

Roy MacGregor
560 Buckeye Court
Benicia, CA 94510

Editor's View – Carl Mason

Hi All. I really enjoyed our February meeting. It was great to see a lot of faces I haven't seen in nearly two years.



We did have a happy problem when 50 members showed up vs. the 40 I had told Zio's would be there (based on the January meeting). This caused a little scurrying by the wait and kitchen staff, but we finally got an additional table set up and some additional food. I think things will get more stabilized soon and the size will be more predictable. If you plan to attend, it will help if you let your caller know when he calls the week before the luncheon. Thanks for understanding.

Another interesting thing happened during the meeting. Everyone was enjoying catching-up with each other so much, that we had difficulty getting everyone to quiet down for the business meeting. While I guess I shouldn't encourage this, I personally think this was a good thing. It showed that we are living up to our stated goals, giving members an opportunity to make friends for life. We have a lot of good people who enjoy each other and that shows.

The State is continuing to look for new ways to improve our organization including allowing us to participate in "worthy causes", allowing women to become members, and providing new recruiting materials. The past two years have been tough on SIR. We have had a lot of members either move away or passing away, and yet have not been able to recruit new members. The fact is the State is not sure how many members we still have.

Even in our branch we will not know how many members we have until we see how many pay their dues by the end of March. We expect we have lost as many as 20 members over the pandemic. We need your help to build back up. There are a lot of men out there who have had little needed interaction with other men during the pandemic and are looking for what we offer. If you know a friend, neighbor, or acquaintance, do them a favor and ask them to join us for lunch. See you on the March 10.

Bowling – Don Ramsey



Bowling Information as of February 28, 2022:



Team Standings:

- 1st Place - PINOY N PINAY 20.5 wins
- 2nd Place - THREE PLUS ONE 20 wins
- 3rd Place - NO NAMES 17.5 wins
- 4th Place - ONE AND DONE 16 wins

High Handicap Series	Ed Aleman	806
High Handicap Game	Rey Andres	297
High Scratch Series	Chuck Royster	628
High Scratch Game	Dalton Cox	240

You know how they
throw the ball into the
crowd after they win
the game? That's not
allowed in bowling.
I know that now.

Pool League –

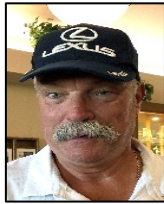
Ed Drosch



Half-way there, Harold Persily has a four win edge over Dave Krentzke and myself. Ed Brice has returned to play after rehabilitating his rotator cuff and Wayne Burdick has dusted off his cue and joined us.



Golf – George Fuller
SIRS88GOLF@gmail.com



Hello Guys. As we fast approach our inaugural 2022 Tournament being held at Blue Rock Springs West on March 15, 2022, just a few reminders. Please bring a check or cash in the amount of \$46 to cover greens/cart fees and prize fund. I will be sitting outside the pro-shop as usual and will check you in as you arrive. Blue Rock has implemented a new policy recently regarding the actual assignment by number of a cart to specific person. This is not unusual but will require whoever is driving the cart to go into the pro-shop for the key.

Still missing quite a few golfers for the first tournament who I expect to play. Please contact me as soon as possible so that I may put you on the list and complete the assigned foursomes. As always, I will do my best to honor everyone's request as far as golf partners but there be a time or two over the next nine months where adjustments may be required. I thank you in advance. Unfortunately, we will be losing two of our long-time golfers in the coming months. As most of you know Bill Hester is leaving us for a change of scenery as is Gary Savelli a couple months down the road. Enjoy their company while you can. Speaking for myself, these are two good friends that will be sorely missed.

I was contemplating whether to continue the Branch Champion award for this year and decided we will give it another shot. The final tabulations last year were extremely close with five golfers being 1 1/2 strokes of the final composite score. Once again congratulations to our Branch Champion Pete Paner. I have a golf shirt for Pete with a bull's eye on the back.

Take care everyone. I cannot wait to send off the first foursome on the morning of March 15. Remember **drive** for show, **putt** for dough,

Bocce Ball (Co-Ed) – Steve Smith



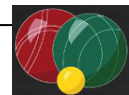
SIRs COED Bocce has a current total of 58 players who have indicated they want to play in the 2022 version of our league. This includes three new SIRs members, two spouses, and 10 guest players returning from last year.

According to the State SIRs, anyone who has not signed a SIRs waiver form will be required to complete one (less than a big deal). I plan to send new players a form directly. Please be prepared for a follow-up phone call if I do not have a current email address for you.

I will be at the SIRs luncheon on March 10. If you want to sign-up please see me at lunch and have a check payable to SIRs Branch 88. The cost is \$15 per player. Once we hit 64 folks who have indicated they want to play, an initial "draft" will be held to start assembling teams. If you are interested in helping please let me know. We did not use substitutes last year and it has not been determined if any substitutes will be selected for this year.


Men's Bocce Ball –

Gary Savelli



We will be collecting bocce reservation money starting the first of the year ... \$10 for the season next year. The season starts in April.

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



The following is a paraphrase from an article originally in the February SIR State Newsletter. I thought you might enjoy it. ...David Muth

Advice from a Cybersecurity Expert

What to Know and What to Do When Scammers Go Phishing

Suspicious emails appear intermittently in my inbox, usually titled something like, "Your email account (or your PayPal account) will be terminated unless you update your account information by (date)...." Most of these are phishing, which "...uses emails linked to web sites to trick people into typing confidential information (e.g., passwords and credit card numbers) into web sites that look like the sites of real companies, especially financial institutions."

By analogy with the sport of angling, these Internet scammers use e-mail lures, setting out hooks to phish for passwords and financial data from the sea of Internet users. The hackers know that although most users won't take the bait, a few unlucky folks most likely will (like phish in the sea).

These messages always seem a bit off, and my practice has been to immediately mark them as "phishing" and delete them. My thinking is that, if they're legitimate and an account is terminated, I'll just re-apply for a new one.

Ed. Rick Wash, Associate Professor of Information Science and Cybersecurity says most people are good at almost all of the skills that computer security experts use to notice fake emails.... He concludes that "becoming 100% protected comes down to listening to your instincts."

He also found that, "...when cybersecurity experts receive a phishing email, like most people, they initially accept it at face value and assume it's genuine. They try to figure out what the email is asking them to do. As they read, they notice small things that seem off, or different from typical similar email:

1. Typos in a professional email,
2. A bank providing account information in an email instead of stating a message is waiting for you in the bank's secure messaging system, and/or
3. Someone uncharacteristically emailing them without mentioning it in person first.

Noticing these signs aren't enough to figure out the email is a fraud. Instead, the experts just become uncomfortable with the email message. It wasn't until they saw something in the message that looks like phishing that they became suspicious such as:

1. Links that the email was trying to get them to click (commonly associated with phishing emails),
2. The uncomfortable feeling about the email message, and asking,
3. Could phishing explain the weird things they noticed?

When Professor Wash interviewed people without computer security experience, he found that they use a similar process. "Most people noticed things that seem off, become uncomfortable with the email, remember phishing, and investigate."



He also found that most folks he interviewed noticed multiple problems when they saw a fake email and felt uncomfortable with the message. He thinks that "**...THE TRICK IS TO REMEMBER THAT PHISHING EXISTS**".

He found that, "...if people thought about phishing, they were also good at investigating. "Instead of looking at technical details, most folks either contacted the sender or asked others for help. But they were still able to correctly discern whether an email message was a phishing attack.

March 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Mardi Gras	2 Ash Wednesday	3	4	5
6	7 11:00 – Cribbage 2:00 – Pool	8 6:00 – Co-Ed Poker	9 10:00 – Bowling 6:00 – Men's Poker	10 10:00 BEC 11:00 – Luncheon 6:00 – Co-Ed Poker	11	12
13  Daylight Savings	14 11:00 – Cribbage 2:00 – Pool	15 9:00 - Golf Blue Rock Springs West 6:00 – Co-Ed Poker	16 10:00 – Bowling	17 6:00 – Co-Ed Poker St. Patrick's Day	18	19
20	21 11:00 – Cribbage 2:00 – Pool	22 6:00 – Co-Ed Poker	23 10:00 – Bowling 6:00 – Men's Poker	24 6:00 – Co-Ed Poker	25	26
27	28 11:00 – Cribbage 2:00 – Pool	29 6:00 – Co-Ed Poker	30 10:00 – Bowling	31 6:00 – Co-Ed Poker		

Activity	Meeting Day	Meeting Time
Branch 88 Business Meetings	2nd Thursday of each month	BEC – 10:00 Luncheon – 11:00
Bocce Ball – Co-Ed	Meetings will start in April.	
Bocce Ball – Men	Meetings will start in April.	
Cribbage	Mondays	11:00am
Bowling	Wednesdays	10:00am
Golf	Meetings will start March 15	
Poker – Co-Ed	Tuesdays & Thursdays	6:00pm
Pool	Mondays	2:00pm


"Anyone who thinks sitting in church can make you a Christian must also think that sitting in a garage can make you a car."
 — Garrison Keillor




Taking a dog
named "Shark"
to the beach is a
very bad idea!



**State Officers
2022**

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Richard Kindle

Region 3 Director
Dennis Pangburn

Area 7 Governor
Jerry Stabile

SIRs BRANCH 88

Officers 2022

Big SIR	David Muth	332-3352	david66muth@gmail.com
Little SIR	Harold Persily	554-2380	halpers@yahoo.com
Secretary	John Lawson	853-6972	johnjhawk@msn.com
Treasurer	Roy MacGregor	297-6153	macgregor.roy@gmail.com
Asst. Treas.	Jerry Millard	642-8144	millardvallejo@aol.com

Committee Chairmen 2022

Bocce Men	Gary Savelli	552-4200	jamminwithgary@comcast.net
Bocce Co-Ed	Steve Smith	750-5545	syorksmith@gmail.com
Bowling	Don Ramsey	644-2194	donram2@comcast.net
Chaplain/Sunshine	John Flanagan	747-9416	vfvlan86@att.net
Golf	George Fuller	648-3225	tbog707@aol.com
Golf Handicap	Bill Hester	648-3958	wlhester@earthlink.net
Membership	Gary Savelli	552-4200	jamminwithgary@comcast.net
Newsletter	Carl Mason	746-1347	masonguy@aol.com

Board of Directors 2022

Sanford Gladding	745-6430
Bill Hester	648-3958
Carl Mason	746-1347
Gary Savelli	552-4200
Ron West	208-9077
Fred Warren	552-7261

Past Big SIRs

Fred Warren	2020-21
Jim Burcham	2019
Carl Mason	2018
Gary Savelli	2017
Ron Darling	2016
Dick Schumacher	2015
Stan Turrini	2011-14
Tom Hebson*	2010
Bill Hester	2009
Richard Stone*	2008
Don Waterbury*	2007
Ed Sweet*	2006
Ed Bradley*	2005
Gerald Davis	2004



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