



# SIR Solano Branch 88 Newsletter

## September 2022

*"Live Longer, Live Happier, Join SIR"*

State Website – [sirinc.org](http://sirinc.org)

Branch 88 Website – [sirinc2.org/branch88/](http://sirinc2.org/branch88/)

P.O. Box 502, Benicia, CA 94510

### A Message from Your Big SIR –

David Muth



Hello Everyone.

Our September 8 lunch meeting will again be at Zio Fraedo's in Vallejo. Our guest speaker will be Steve Hazleton. It was an unusual month in that we had two guest speakers cancel, so Steve is going to be talking about building small engines. Thank you, Steve.

In order to help with planning and to give Zio Fraedo's approximate numbers, please expect a call prior to our meeting. A reminder that lunch costs \$25. Let's have a good turnout. We hope to see you there.

We had our annual State meeting in August. The State meetings mirror our BEC meetings and General meetings in that new officers were elected, some bylaws were voted on, and we reviewed the treasurers report. In doing so, we get to see how much of our State budget goes for insurance for all the branches and gives us all a level of security.

The state is very concerned about helping the branches grow and increase membership. The pandemic was very hard on SIRs membership statewide, as it was in our branch. We lost about 24 members over the two-year period when we were not able to be active. However, some of the members in that 24 number should have been removed in 2019, 2020 and 2021. It was like we were a company writing off everything that went wrong over the three years in one quarter to get it off the books. We have added 13 new members this year and 16 since October of last year.

In other things, we are planning our Christmas party for Thursday December 1. We are moving it from our normal second Thursday of the month to the first Thursday of December. We will have an expanded menu and live entertainment. It will be at Zio Fraedo's. There will be details at our September luncheon. If you have ideas for guest speakers, activities or just wanting to express an idea, let me know what it is.

All the Best,

*David Muth*

### Thursday September 8, 2022

**NEXT MEETING**

#### Zio Fraedo's

Happy Hour 11:00

Lunch 12:00

Program 1:00

(BEC 10:00am)

Lunch \$25  
Reservations  
Please!



#### Today's Program

Steve Hazleton

*"Building Small Engines"*

*See Page 3 for Menu:*

*Hamburgers, Sausages*

*I don't believe people are looking for the meaning of life as much as they are looking for the experience of being alive.*

— Joseph Campbell

## My 2 Cents ... Little SIR — Harold Persily

Hi, everyone.

Well, the year is still moving at a brisk pace. September is already here. Only three months to the holidays. Speaking of which, this year's SIR Branch 88 Holiday luncheon and celebration is scheduled for Thursday **December 1, 2022**. That is a week earlier than normal. We're trying to avoid the holiday rush. This is a co-ed event, so please bring your partner to partake in the festivities. David Muth is the coordinator, so you know it should be good. **BE SURE TO SAVE THE DATE ... December 1 ... at our normal start time of 11:00am.**

At the state level meeting in August, it was determined that the SIRs organization will default to state and local regulations regarding Covid vaccinations and waivers. The hope is that members will stay away from SIR activities and the luncheon if they feel sick or under-the-weather. That is our best protection. Stay healthy. And stay home if you are not.

Also mentioned at the state meeting is the web site **WE ARE SIRs.com**. This is a good site to direct anyone interested in SIR to read ... a good overview of what we are and why. Check it out.

What's in a name continued. Well, Carl Mason reviewed our charter, and we are officially known as Branch 88 Solano. Shortly after, I was replacing our badges and found out for sure ... there in blue and white on our luncheon badges it states **Branch 88 Solano**. So, although many members liked Carquinez, our official name is Solano. Our brother branches in Solano are Fairfield and Vacaville.

I want to thank everyone for RSVPing for the luncheon last month. We had 51 members attend, plenty of food, and I hope a good time was had by all.

Remember after you buy your lunch ticket, be sure to sign in on the **check-in** clip board. Just initial, or sign. Then go over to the badges and find your badge (alphabetical by last name) and wear it during the luncheon to help everyone remember your name. Put it in the bucket at the end to win a free lunch next month.

Be safe and see you at the next luncheon on Thursday September 8 at 11:00am at Zio Fraedo's.



## What Does the SIRs State Organization Do for Us?



Some people resent having to pay an assessment to the State mainly because they do not understand we could not function without them.

About half of the funds go to Insurance coverage. Most of you know our branch was sued some five years ago. The State's insurance company provided attorneys and defended us. The State does all the required tax forms, California and Federal, and the CAAG registration each year.

The State provides training for Best Practices, Town Hall meetings, Website workshops, Zoom workshops, Leadership workshops, and State activities - Golf, Bowling, Bocce Ball, RVs, Group Travel Races, Baseball.

**If a word is misspelled in the dictionary, how would we ever know?**



## Bocce Ball (Men) –

Steve Hazelton



The SIR 88 Men's Bocce competition is one game away from finishing the season. By the time of our September meeting the winning team will be crowned.

As of 8/18, the Ball Busters have a 4-game lead over Wats a Matta U, at 26 wins to 22. I was not at the last game, and have not yet received the results of 8-25, so this could have changed.

The Ball Busters have been in the lead most of the year, while The Over the Hill Gang, my team, climbed up to third with 15 wins. The Golfers finishing one game behind with 14. The Late Bloomers were always in the game and finished 5th with 12 wins.

The annual pizza party is scheduled for this Thursday after the game at Mountain Mike's in Vallejo on Sonoma Boulevard. We are all looking forward to this season's final celebration.

I learned a lot about the game and got to know many more of the SIR Branch 88 members.

For me the most fun was taking pics and video of the players, which can be found on the SIR88 web page and FaceBook. You can click here to see last weeks efforts.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zq6puCziAGk&t=26s>

We are looking forward to next season..

## Lunch Menu for Sept 8 Meeting (per request)

- Hamburgers
- Polish dogs
- Pesto pasta salad
- Mixed green salad with ranch dressing
- Potato salad
- Baked beans
- Bags of chips
- Apple pie for dessert



We had a field trip to the Duckhorn Winery in St. Helena on August 29.

Before the tasting we all went to Gott's which serves high-end burgers and shakes. We all ate our burgers (mine was a Kimchi burger ... a little spicy!) and one Nutella shake in the outdoor eating area.

The winery allowed only ten of us at the tasting so not all our members could attend, but those that did had a great time. This was supposed be a tasting of five wines, but they generously slipped in three or four additional bonus wines, and a couple of charcuterie plates. Our host "Tony" was very friendly, informed, and funny. At about 3:30, our "designated driver" got us headed home. Overall, a great day!



## Editor's View – Carl Mason

### SIR's Annual Meeting August 25

Several items were presented for voting.



### COVID Protocol

One of things that most affects us in the short term is that the COVID protocol is no longer required by the State. The individual branch can decide its own process as long as it complies with County, State, and Federal requirements.

### Women as Members?

As reported earlier there have been some trials at some branches where women were allowed to be members. It is a controversial issue, with some in favor and some not. It was voted by those attending the annual meeting, that each branch can decide if they want to allow women as members or not. Our branch needs to consider where we stand. It is a fundamental change in our identity, so it is important not to rush the decision.

### Awards

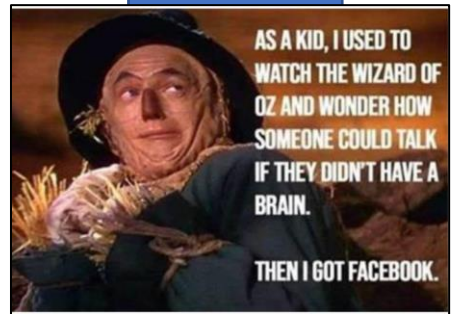
Our award structure has been changed. We now have three levels of awards. *Honorary Life Member* (HLM) is the highest. We have three HLMs in our branch. Now a new award has been added - the *Distinguished Service Award* for those showing outstanding levels of service to SIRs. Finally, there is the *I am Doing My Part* for service to the local branch and the behind-the-scenes members who do so much to keep us operating.

### Ask Your Kids?

Someone said we need to know more about how to attract younger members. One suggestion was that we ask our children what they are interested in. We then need to structure our activities to be more attractive to the next generation. If we don't, we may not be around in five to ten years. Please, do a little detective work on your own, ask your children, and let us know what they say.

### Election of State Officers

We also elected next year's State Officers. I was elected State Treasurer for next year. Looking at what is involved my first thought was, "what was I thinking"? I have attended several of the State Executive Meetings, and I have been impressed with these men. They are all professional and dedicated to improving our organization under some difficult situations. If you have any ideas about how to improve SIRs let me know so I can bring it up. We are all doing our best to bring us back to where we were.



## Sunshine –

Mike McCamish



Best wishes to John Flanagan in his new home in Montana.

Condolences to the family of Mike Laird who passed away this week.

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



William Blake  
Gregory Cogliantry  
Bill Emge  
Gerald Hardisty  
Dave Krenzke  
Edmund Malone  
Chris McNulty  
Ken Palmer  
John Reyes  
Jim Swindle  
Leon Thomas  
Art Velardo

## Pool League –

Ed Droesch



Into the final weeks of play, I am tied with Ed Brice for the lead running into the final three weeks of the tournaments. Next week we do not play, and the final game of the tournament ends on the 26<sup>th</sup>.

## Bocce Ball (Co-Ed) –

Steve Smith



SIR's COED bocce is rolling along well into the second half of the season. A championship round will be played on September 30, to be determined the winner. The men versus ladies games are scheduled for October 7 (last day of the season) with a potluck lunch to follow. Harold will be contacting players for the potluck.

Team	Won	Lost	Points 4	Points Against
4	15	6	215	176
2	11	10	213	179
5	11	10	205	173
3	11	10	187	186
6	11	10	180	194
8	10	11	194	199
7	8	13	195	193
1	7	14	154	208

## Cribbage – Michael McCamish



**Golf – George Fuller**  
[SIRS88GOLF@gmail.com](mailto:SIRS88GOLF@gmail.com)



It is with great sadness to tell you that SIR Mike Laird, has passed ... an avid golfer, a great friend to many and above all else, a good man. While I did not know Mike extremely well, every time I spoke with him, he had a smile on his face and nothing but good things to say. I recall the first time I ever met Mike he came by the house to drop off a check. A very affable, humble man who was embarrassed when I asked him his handicap. When he told me he was a 10 handicap, I laughed and told him that he was obviously in the wrong group. Mike will be missed on the first tee.

On a lighter note, congratulations to Steve Pressley and John Hertia, who both placed first in their respective groups for the August 2 tournament at Rancho Solano.

Also, congratulations to myself and John Lawson who placed first in our groups for the August 16 tournament at Blue Rock Springs. Could someone please remember to pat me on the back at the next tournament?

We have had a lot of shots within 10 feet of the pins. I sure wish someone would sink their tee shot to get all that money out of the hole-in-one bank account. I know only about the distances for the closest to the pin holes and I am sure there have many close calls I am not aware of on the other par 3's. I have not figured out the results yet for the August 30 tournament held at Diablo Creek but I did note that Bert Parker was 11 inches out on the 17th hole. Try a little harder next time, Bert. Hell of a shot.

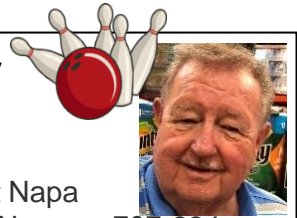
I also need to acknowledge and congratulate Ric Craig for finishing first in his flight at the SIR Area 3 Individual tournament held at Blue Rock last week. Please wish Ric luck when he plays in the Area 3 Individual Championship at Rancho Solano on October 12th. Anyone who wants to play Rancho Solano on the 12th let me know and I will give you the details. You will not be eligible to win the Championship, but Rancho is always a good time.

I am very proud of SIR Branch 88 Golf for entering 3 teams for the SIR Fall Classic being held at Blue Rock on September 14 and 15, 2022. It should be a great time for everyone and no doubt we will represent Branch 88 well.

The next tournament is scheduled for September 13 at Paradise Valley. Just as a reminder to any golfer who is entered in the SIR Fall Classic played at Paradise Valley mean you will be golfing three days in a row. State SIR scheduling was unfortunate for the Fall Classic since it bumped against our tournament and the big SIR bowling tournament being held in Carson City the same week. Oh well, what can you do?

Take care everyone and I will see most of you at Paradise Valley or Blue Rock or maybe both.

**Bowling – Don Ramsay**



We are looking for more bowlers. The league starts September 7 at 10:15am at Napa Bowl (494 Soscol Avenue, Napa ... 707-224-8331). If anyone wants to get hold of me call 707-644-2194 or e-mail donram2@comcast.net.

We have the makings of eight teams, but more would be better. The cost is \$20/week, plus a one-time sanction fee of \$25 this year.

The following fees are required:

Mandatory the first day of bowling \$45.

The last two weeks payments (29 and 30) are due by September 28.

If you pay the sanction fee, the first week of bowling, and the last two weeks you will owe \$145. If you want to pay for the whole month of September add an extra \$60.

A little confusing ... ask me if you have any questions.

I told my wife she should embrace her mistakes ... so she hugged me.

*The older I get, the better I used to be. – Lee Trevino*



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## State Officers 2022

**SIRS President**  
Richard Kindle

**Region 3 Director**  
Dennis Pangburn

**Area 7 Governor**  
Jerry Stabile

## SIR BRANCH 88

P.O. Box 502, Benicia, CA 94510

### Officers 2022

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

### Committee Chairmen 2022

Bocce Men	Steve Hazelton	501-3535	<a href="mailto:steve.hzltm@gmail.net">steve.hzltm@gmail.net</a>
Bocce Co-Ed	Steve Smith	750-5545	<a href="mailto:syorksmith@gmail.com">syorksmith@gmail.com</a>
Bowling	Don Ramsay	644-2194	<a href="mailto:donram2@comcast.net">donram2@comcast.net</a>
Chaplain/Sunshine	Michael McCamish	373-7395	<a href="mailto:bfmilkman@aol.com">bfmilkman@aol.com</a>
Golf	George Fuller	648-3225	<a href="mailto:tbog707@aol.com">tbog707@aol.com</a>
Golf Handicap	Vacant		
Membership	Harold Persily	554-2380	<a href="mailto:halpers@yahoo.com">halpers@yahoo.com</a>
Newsletter	Carl Mason	746-1347	<a href="mailto:masonquy@aol.com">masonquy@aol.com</a>

### Board of Directors 2022

Sanford Gladding	745-6430
Carl Mason	746-1347
Gary Savelli	552-4200
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

# September 2022



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 10:00 – Mens Bocce Ball 6:00 – Co-Ed Poker	2	3
4	5 10:00 – Mens Bocce Ball 10:00 – Cribbage 2:00 – Pool  <b>Labor Day</b>	6 6:00 – Co-Ed Poker	7 10:00 – Bowling	8 10:00 BEC 11:00 – Luncheon 6:00 – Co-Ed Poker	9 9:30 – CoEd Bocce Ball	10
11	12 10:00 – Cribbage 2:00 – Pool	13 9:00 – Golf Paradise Valley 6:00 – Co-Ed Poker	14 10:00 – Bowling SIR Fall Classic Golf Tournament Blue Rock	15 6:00 – Co-Ed Poker	16 9:30 – CoEd Bocce Ball	17
18	19 10:00 – Cribbage 2:00 – Pool	20 6:00 – Co-Ed Poker	21 10:00 – Bowling	22 6:00 – Co-Ed Poker	23 9:30 – CoEd Bocce Ball	24
25 4:00 – Pop the Cork	26 10:00 – Cribbage 2:00 – Pool	27 6:00 – Co-Ed Poker	28 10:00 – Bowling	29 6:00 – Co-Ed Poker	30 9:30 – CoEd Bocce Ball	



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