



*Gold Country Branch 95  
2013 Elected Officers*

**Big Sir**

Dennis Petersen..... 916.467.7748

**Little Sir**

Dan Cockcroft ..... 916.933.6462

**Secretary**

Tim Herdt ..... 916.939.1405

**Asst. Secretary**

Terry Starkel ..... 916.817.1524

**Treasurer**

Keith Hepler ..... 916.933.7779

**Asst. Treasurer**

Joe Giacomini ..... 916.939.2060

**Directors at Large**

Dennis Callahan ..... 530.620.6908

Gary Grann..... 916.358.3805

Bill Stegman ..... 916.351.0899

George Van Blyenburgh .....

..... 530.677.1916

Brian Upton ..... 916.939.6601

Bill Yeager ..... 916.941.6632

**Region II Director**

Ralph Lingis ..... 916.933.5561

**Area 31 Governor**

Frank Severn ..... 916.985.7759

**Honorary Life Members**

Al Kaiser      Ross Walter

**Chairmen**

Attendance ..... George Simko

Attendance Asst..... *Open*

Badges/Raffle ..... *Open*

Bowling..... Don Weick

Bulletin..... Jon Jakowatz

Chaplain..... Ray Retallack

Fishing..... John Ramsey

Golf ..... Brian Upton

Asst Golf ..... Dennis Petersen

Historian ..... *Open*

Membership & E-mail ..... Mike Mohr

Photography ..... *Open*

Property..... *Open*

Publicity ..... Bill Yeager

Sunshine..... *Open*

Travel ..... *Open*

Webmaster ..... Al Schmidt

# SONS IN RETIREMENT

A NON-PROFIT BENEFIT ORGANIZATION FOR  
RETIRED MEN DEVOTED TO THE PROMOTION OF  
INDEPENDENCE AND DIGNITY OF RETIREMENT

*Gold Country Branch 95 - Bulletin 302 - October 2013*

## BIG SIR— Dennis Petersen

### Progress?

My first recollection of a soft drink vending machine was a big tub like device with cold water running through and the little bottles of Coke that you slid to the dispenser area and deposited your nickel to allow you to remove the bottle. When emptied you simply placed the bottle in the empty wooden case that was always nearby. When bottles started getting scarce the vendors offered a penny if you returned bottles to the store. The ditches along the road were always being scouted by youngsters my age. It became a source of spending money for many of us. Now we pay the State of California a minimum deposit of five cents per bottle or can. In return they agree to refund your deposit. This cash cow has led to 'dumpster diving' and even illegal out of state exploitation.

Is this really progress?

Do you recall going to the grocery store where the owners provided a 'shopping cart' to gather your selections? When your transaction was completed there was someone to carry your paper bags of groceries to your vehicle. As time went on the cost of having that person carry your groceries became too much. The stores then found that young men were the less expensive choice and they became 'courtesy clerks'. In an effort to be gender neutral young ladies assumed the same positions. Groceries were heavy and the answer was to allow the clerks to use those shopping carts to transport the heavy loads. Customers were soon allowed to use those same carts to move their purchases personally. In an effort to make it even more convenient the retailer has now provided storage locations in the parking lot for those carts. The public has become so lazy/spoiled that they won't even move the carts to the storage areas. No, it's far easier to leave them in an adjacent stall or in the shrubs or hanging off the curb.

Is this really progress?

## Little SIR—Dan Cockcroft

Today's speaker is Jerry Schroeder, Architect/Blacksmith Artist. Several years ago, when Jerry was retiring from architecture he took art classes at American River. One class was Blacksmithing. After that he needed to look for a place to work and found it at the Folsom History Museum's Folsom Forge where he is now a docent. Today Jerry will be talking about the history of Folsom.

## Christmas Luncheon—Dan Cockcroft

Christmas is coming, the geese are getting fat  
Please put a penny in the old man's hat  
If you haven't got a penny, a ha'penny will do  
If you haven't got a ha'penny, then God bless you

It's getting to be that time of year. Time for the Christmas Luncheon. Remember to mark your calendar for our annual Christmas Day lunch for you and your lovely significant other. Monday, December 9, 2013 is the date. Details, information and costs will be forthcoming.

One of the highlights every year is the silent auction. Once again we are looking for donations from our members. So if it no longer fits your decor it might just fit someone else's.

