



Gold Country Branch 95

2020 Elected Officers

Big Sir

Kevin King.....916.337.9811

Little Sir

Bob Carlson.....916.817.1181

Secretary

Terry Starkel.....916.817.1524

Asst. Secretary

Bob Mello916.939.2223

Treasurer

Tim Irish916.933.3466

Asst. Treasurer

Don Brooks.....530.902.2198

Membership Chairman

Mike Mohr530.391.1626

Asst. Membership Chairman

Dennis Petersen.....916.817.1149

Directors at Large

Joe Giacomini916.939.2060

Rich Turoff.....916.934.0176

Bill Drummond925.683.3120

Bob Carlson916.817.1181

Region I Director

Mark Stuart

Area 4 Governor

Dave Gonzales.

Chairmen

Attendance Jim Purcell ..916.358.5251

Badges Bill Yeager916.941.6632

Biking Rich Christensen.....

.....916.817.1838

Bocce Dan Cockcroft.408.781.0714

Bulletin Jon Jakowatz .916.941.6792

Chaplain John Ninan916.941.9479

Golf Terry Starkel..916.817.1524

Asst Golf Dennis Petersen

.....916.817.1149

PickleBallDan Cockcroft.408.781.0714

Publicity Bill Yeager916.941.6632

Webmastr Jon Jakowatz .916.941.6792

MEMBER ATTENDANCE:
To maintain membership, a member is required to attend one-half of the regular Branch monthly luncheon meetings within the previous twelve consecutive month period, unless the Branch BEC has approved different attendance requirements (Policy 25; Bylaw 18).

Sons In Retirement
A NON-PROFIT PUBLIC BENEFIT CORPORATION FOR RETIRED MEN DEVOTED TO THE PROMOTION OF INDEPENDENCE AND DIGNITY OF RETIREMENT

BIG SIR – Kevin King

It seems like Spring went by so fast and it's starting to feel a whole lot like summer. Where was I? Oh yeah, stuck in my home like the rest of us. Our lunches have been shut down and golfers, pickleball players, bocce ball players and bikers temporarily sidelined. This has been a very strange but necessary experience. I hope all our efforts have kept you, your friends and loved ones safe.

At the direction of SIR State leadership, the board is preparing our branch's reopening plan which I expect will be approved at our 5/11 board meeting. As for activities, I'm hopeful they can resume sometime in the next month or so – at least 30 days after branch board approval according to SIR State leadership.

Resuming our luncheons is another matter. As I mentioned in my last email, I expect restrictions on restaurants to remain after the stay at home orders are lifted and businesses are allowed to resume operations. This may prevent us from returning to Empire Ranch for our lunches until later in the year or early next year. However, that won't deter us. I'm hopeful that we can use technology to stay connected and provide a forum for continuing our mission. I hope you'll all join me for our first Zoom meeting on Monday, May 11th at 12:00pm. You should have already received instructions for joining the meeting. If that meeting is received well by the membership, we'll continue to have our meetings via Zoom on our regular date going forward until we can return to Empire Ranch.

As you know by now, we canceled the June 8th picnic and are hoping to reschedule it in September. All will depend on whether parks are open and public gatherings allowed at that time. In place of the picnic, we will have one of our regular meetings on June 8th at 12:00pm.

With all that is going on, let's not forget the men and women of the U.S. military who died to give us our freedom and way of life.

Adversity introduces a man to himself. -- Albert Einstein

Memorial Day is May 25th



LITTLE SIR – Bob Carlson

With the coronavirus affecting many parts of our lives these days, we thought it would be appropriate to hear from one of our members, Joe Giacomini, who became involved with the quarantine process upon returning from a recent Hawaiian cruise ship vacation. Joe is a long-time member of 15 years with SIR and a Past Big SIR in the year 2018. His experiences, both on the ship and at the receiving location at Travis Air Force Base, should be of great interest to all. We are glad you made it back safely, Joe.

May Birthdays

John Ashley
 Woody Champion
 Tom Gamble (PBS)
 Jay Guertin (PBS)
 Bob Hendrickson
 Jack May
 Don Nicholson

oo

Membership

by Mike Mohr,
 Membership Chair

Active Membership – 80
 Welcome New Member
 Carl Curtis

oo

Branch 95 Luncheon 2nd Monday of the Month

Empire Ranch Golf Club

1620 East Natoma Street
 Folsom, CA 95630
 Telephone 916.817.8107

www.empireranchgolfclub.com

Happy Hour 11:00 AM
 Lunch 12:00 noon

**MAY 2020 LUNCHEON
 CANCELLED**

Soda, Tea, Water & Coffee
 included with lunch
 Special diet?

Contact Kevin or your Caller

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SIR Websites

Branch 95

www.branch95sir.shutterfly.com

State SIR

www.sirinc.org

SIR Happenings

www.sirinc.org/sirhappenings/

oo

Branch 95 Bulletin Updates

Submit April items by
 Monday, April 6th, 2020

SIR95Bulletin@jakowatz.net

SIR NON-RESPONSIBILITY CLAUSE:
 All activities arranged for, or by, or sponsored by SIR'S Inc. and its branches, are for the convenience and pleasure of the members and their guests who desire to participate. SIR'S Inc. and its branches do not assume any responsibility for the well-being or safety of the participants or their property in matters pertaining to said events or activities.

SIR Branch 95 Golf

by Terry Starkel

To golf or not to golf...that is the question. My apologies to Shakespeare, but 400 plus years after William Shakespeare wrote similar words, we still remember what he said, at least in part. What we went through with cabin fever or self-isolation or whatever we call staying at home now will be little remembered in 20 years. A blip in history that we will remember just like last year when we lost weeks of golf due to bad weather. This time it is not the weather that is keeping us from playing, but concern for those around us and those that live with us.

I know that most golf courses have reopened and are taking measures to do their best to keep everyone safe and six feet apart. It would be really easy to slip right back into a routine that we are familiar with, things that we do almost automatically, but may not be the best practice. Until the state lifts the restrictions and the state SIR board gives us the ok to restart, we will just have to wait. The latest information I have from the Sir Region Golf Chairman is that we are just starting Phase 1 and no golf is allowed. Phase 2 will allow golf groups up to 50, no shotgun starts, and walking or riding single carts. No tournaments are authorized before July 1, 2020. We are working on a proposal to submit for approval to restart golf activities.

Each of us will have to consider how comfortable we are in joining others on a golf course and when we feel good enough about the state of things that we cannot control, to venture out into a semi social outing, even outdoors. I have not ventured far in the past six weeks. Every other month a run to Costco and every two weeks a grocery run, a couple of short stops for pick up food and some walks on the trails by our house has been most of my outings. But hopefully the measures we take now will pay off and allow us to get back to activities sooner with less chance of having to repeat this process again. I hope everyone takes care of themselves and those they love and stay strong and healthy.

Life in the Slow Lane – Big SIR Kevin King

I suspect many life-long Californians have never experienced cabin fever. After a month and a half of self-isolation, welcome to the club. My wife and I used to experience it most winters when we lived in the Chicago area - but that was 35 years ago. As Yogi Berra would say, this is “déjà vu all over again.” Quite frankly, I’m ready to break out. I imagine most of you are feeling the same way. That said, you won’t find me at the capitol protesting or at the beach. I’ll remain patient knowing that I’ll get out again in the next few days or weeks when it’s safe to do so – just like Springtime in Chicago.

I just returned from our once weekly trip to the grocery store. Mind you, I haven't been inside the store since all of this started. We order online and do store pick up where they bring it to the car and put everything in the trunk. No social interaction. Just doing my part – keeping a small part of the economy moving while avoiding people.

Other than recent news about strain on the meat supply chain, they say our supply chain is healthy. As a test subject of one, I’m beginning to wonder. We recently placed a grocery order for about \$225 which didn’t include any toilet paper or any other paper product for that matter. After some substitutions – some of which left me scratching my head wondering what the person making the substitutions was thinking – our

Sand Traps

by Terry Starkel, Golf Chair
SIR Branch 95 Results
2020 Tournaments:
Golf Play Suspended
Until Further Notice
Due to Corona Virus



Palino Putters
by Dan Cockcroft
408-781-0714

Branch 95 Sirs play in
EDHCSD Bocce Leagues. For
information contact Dan.

Let's Play
Pickleball!



by Dan Cockcroft - The "Big Dill"

For info on SIR's 95 Pickleball
contact Dan at 408-781-0714.

Biking Sirs

by Rich Christensen Ride
the Folsom Trails

Contact Rich at
r_christensen@comcast.net

That's the Spirit

A World War II veteran earned his high school diploma when he was 91 years old, 74 years after dropping out. When asked what happens next, he said: "College girls."

Lost Words From Our Childhood

Mergatroyd! Do you remember that word? Would you believe the spell-checker did not

final bill was about \$80. Makes you wonder if everyone's hoarding just the stuff I want. I told my wife that I just want to peek in the store. I remember early on empty shelves in the toilet paper, paper goods and disinfectant aisles. My recent experience suggests many other aisles may look the same way.



Speaking of toilet paper (I have plenty by the way), do you remember how you felt about those hooligans that TP'ed your house long ago? Where are they now when we could use some TP?

Editor's note: Have you had similar experiences during self-isolation and social distancing? Please send any relevant stories, insights, encouragement, or other pertinent information you wish to share.

That's the Spirit

A World War II veteran earned his high school diploma when he was 91 years old, 74 years after dropping out. When asked what happens next, he said: "College girls."

From the Archives (SIR Newsletter August 2009)

This may be timely with everyone having been in home-isolation for the past month...

NINE WORDS WOMEN USE

- (1) **Fine:** This is the word women use to end an argument when they are right and you need to shut up.
- (2) **Five Minutes:** If she is getting dressed, this means a half an hour. Five minutes is only five minutes if you have just been given five more minutes to watch the game before helping around the house.
- (3) **Nothing:** This is the calm before the storm. This means something, and you should be on your toes. Arguments that begin with nothing usually end in fine.
- (4) **Go Ahead:** This is a dare, not permission. Don't Do It!
- (5) **Loud Sigh:** This is actually a word, but is a non-verbal statement often misunderstood by men. A loud sigh means she thinks you are an idiot and wonders why she is wasting her time standing here and arguing with you about nothing. (Refer back to # 3 for the meaning of nothing.)
- (6) **That's Okay:** This is one of the most dangerous statements a woman can make to a man. That's okay means she wants 'YOU' to think long and hard before deciding how and when you will pay for your mistake.
- (7) **Thanks:** A woman is thanking you, do not question, or faint. Just say you're welcome. (I want to add in a clause here - This is true, unless she says 'Thanks a lot' - that is PURE sarcasm and she is not

recognize the word Mergatroyd?

Heavens to Mergatroyd!

The other day a not so elderly (I say 75) lady said something to her son about driving a *Jalopy* and he looked at her quizzically and said, "What the heck is a Jalopy?" He had never heard of the word jalopy! She knew she was old... But not that old.

Well, I hope you are *Hunky Dory* after you read this and chuckle.

About a month ago, I illuminated some old expressions that have become obsolete because of the inexorable march of technology. These phrases included: *Don't touch that dial, Carbon copy, You sound like a broken record, and Hung out to dry.*

Back in the olden days we had a lot of *moxie*.

thanking you at all. DO NOT say 'you're welcome' that will bring on a 'whatever').

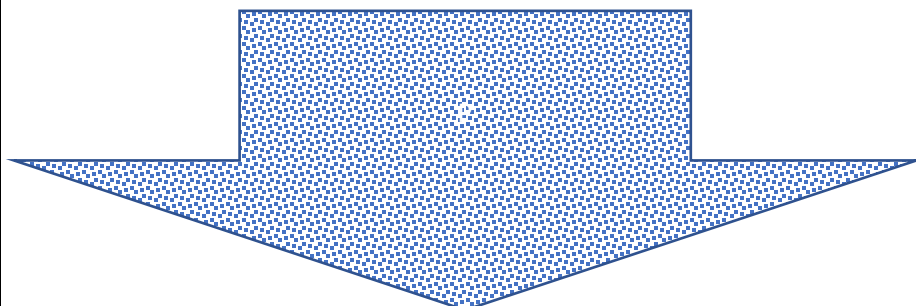
(8) **Whatever:** Is a woman's quiet way of saying 'UP YOURS!'

(9) **Don't worry about it, I got it:** Another dangerous statement, meaning this is something that a woman has told a man to do several times, but is now doing it herself. This will later result in a man asking 'What's wrong?' For the woman's response refer to # 3.

Get to Know Your Fellow SIRs

Match this little-known fact with the correct SIR

1) I played the drums in multiple dance bands throughout high school and undergraduate university days.	_____ Tom Hubbs
2) I was a research assistant in college tasked with counting and measuring the size of raindrops.	_____ Bill Yeager
3) I worked for a number of years on construction of Interstate Highway Routes 15 and 40 in California's Mojave Desert.	_____ Malcolm Ramsay
4) My first job following my military tour was driving a tow truck for a local car dealer that had the AAA contract.	_____ Craig <u>Whichard</u>
5) I'm a product of C K McClatchy High School and Chico State University.	_____ Bill Keane
6) I once told a new employer I couldn't start when they wanted me to because I wanted to go sight-seeing for a few days.	_____ Ed Newton
7) I've been a competitive runner for over 47 years and have competed in over 400 races.	_____ Kevin King
8) I was raised in the small Eastern Oregon town of Joseph, Oregon named for Chief Joseph of the Nez Pierce tribe.	_____ Don Brooks



We'd put on *our best bib and tucker, to straighten up and fly right.*

Heavens to Betsy! Gee whillikers! Jumping Jehosofat! Holy Moley!

We were *in like Flynn and living the life of Riley;*
and even a regular guy couldn't accuse us of being a *knucklehead, a nincompoop or a pill.*
Not for all the tea in China!

Back in the olden days, life used to be *swell,* but when's the last time anything was **swell?**

Swell has gone the way of beehives, pageboys and the D.A.; of spats, knickers, fedoras, poodle skirts, saddle shoes, and pedal pushers.

Oh, my aching back! Kilroy was here, but he isn't anymore.

Puzzling Challenges

Coffee or Soda?

George, Helen, and Steve are drinking coffee. Bert, Karen, and Dave are drinking soda. Using logic, is Elizabeth drinking coffee or soda?

MeNSa CORNER

Arrange the glasses so they alternate full – empty by only moving one glass.

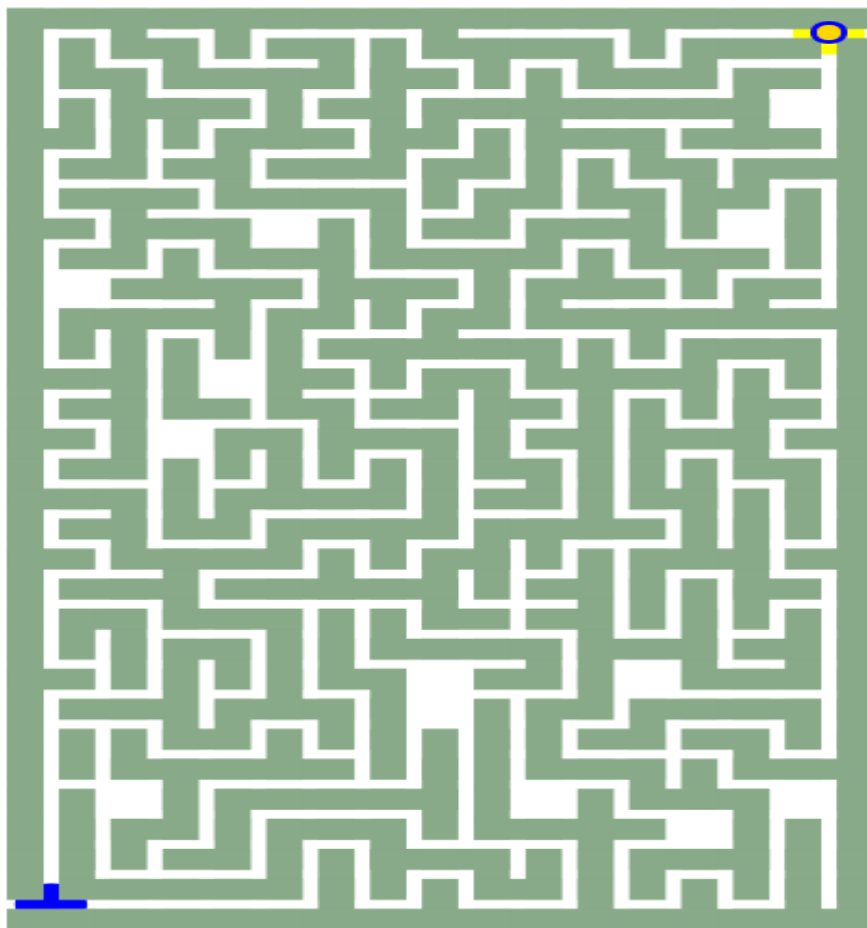


What are the next two letters in the following sequence?

T T F F S S _ _

Navigating These Trying Times

<https://www.mathsisfun.com/games/mazes.html>



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We wake up from what surely has been just a short nap, and before we can say,

"Well, I'll be a monkey's uncle!" Or, "This is a fine kettle of fish!"

We discover that the words we grew up with, the words that seemed omnipresent, as oxygen, have vanished with scarcely a notice from our tongues and our pens and our keyboards.

Poof go the words of our youth, the words we've left behind. We blink, and they're gone. Where have all those great phrases gone?

Longgone:

Pshaw, The milkman did it. Hey! It's your nickel. Don't forget to pull the chain.

answers!

Get to Know Your Fellow SIR

- 1) Bill Keane; 2) Kevin King; 3) Tom Hubbs;
- 4) Don Brooks; 5) Bill Yeager; 6) Malcolm Ramsay;
- 7) Craig Whichard; 8) Ed Newton

Mensa corner

Glasses: Take the middle of the half-full glasses and pour it into the middle empty glass; then return the now empty glass to its original position

Sequence: E and N; One, Two, Three, Four, Five, Six, Seven, Eight, Nine

Coffee or Soda: Elizabeth is drinking coffee. The letter E appears twice in her name, as it does in the names of the others that are drinking coffee.

