

SIR IS A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION WHOSE MISSION IS TO ENHANCE THE LIVES OF OUR MEMBERS THROUGH FUN ACTIVITIES, LUNCHEONS AND EVENTS WHILE MAKING FRIENDS FOR LIFE.

Gold Country Branch 95

2020 Elected Officers

Big Sir

Kevin King......916.337.9811 Little Sir Secretary Asst. Secretary TBD Treasurer Tim Irish 916.933.3466 Asst. Treasurer TBD Membership Chairman Mike Mohr 530.391.1626 Asst. Membership Chairman Dennis Petersen 916.817.1149 **Directors at Large** Rich Turoff......916.934.0176 Bill Drummond......925.683.3120

Jay Muzio650.302.1902 *Region I Director* Mark Stuart *Area 4 Governor* Dave Gonzales.

Chairmen

| Attendand | Attendance Jim Purcell 916.358.5251 | | | | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|
| Badges | Bill Yeager 916.941.6632 | | | | | |
| Bocce | Dan Cockcroft408.781.0714 | | | | | |
| Bulletin | Jon Jakowatz .916.941.6792 | | | | | |
| Chaplain | John Ninan916.941.9479 | | | | | |
| Golf | Terry Starkel .916.817.1524 | | | | | |
| ${\bf Asst} \ {\bf Golf}$ | Dennis Petersen | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| PickleBal | PickleBall Dan Cockcroft 408.781.0714 | | | | | |
| Publicity | Bill Yeager916.941.6632 | | | | | |
| Webmastr | Jon Jakowatz .916.941.6792 | | | | | |

BIG SIR – Kevin King

SIR Branch 95 General Meeting

Monday, August 10, 2020 12:00 PM

To join the Zoom meeting from a desktop or laptop computer, click on the following link:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86531717078

Smartphone or tablet, open the Zoom app and use meeting ID: 865 3171 7078

If none of the above options are available to you, you can dial in as follows:

+16699006833,, 86531717078# US (San Jose)

By the time you read this we will be near the end of the Dog Days of Summer. We're not quite out of the heat yet but in August we begin to turn our attention to kids going back to school with its increased traffic, fall sports and the like (whatever those may end up looking like this year). With Labor Day, the traditional end of summer, fast approaching, it's hard to believe how quickly the year has gone by – especially given the fact that many of us have largely been confined in and around our homes. You would think time would slow down when there is not much we can do but instead it seems to be speeding up.

You may have noticed a change at the top of the newsletter. We made the change to shift the focus to SIR rather than Sons in Retirement to better align our branch with State SIRs move to rebrand itself as SIR and to eliminate any confusion about having to be retired to join. Also, we believe the message, which comes directly from SIR's mission statement, better describes what one can expect by being a member of our organization.

The board is busy filling in the slate of board candidates for next year. Thanks to those who have agreed to stay on as well as those who have agreed to join the board for the first time this upcoming year. We still have positions to fill for anyone that wishes to volunteer. As you've heard many times before, the continued viability of our branch depends on a group of members able and willing to step up into branch leadership positions. We'll be discussing the slate of candidates at our upcoming board meeting and will present the slate to all of the members soon.

Our next Zoom meeting is scheduled for Monday, August 10th at 12 noon. Bob Carlson has arranged a special guest speaker for us.

Be safe fellow SIRs!

"Don't judge each day by the harvest you reap but by the seeds that you plant". ~ Robert Louis Stevenson

LITTLE SIR – Bob Carlson

This month's Zoom videoconference presentation will be taking us in a completely different direction from previous meetings. The last three gatherings concentrated on the coronavirus and its effect on our lives.

August Birthdays

Chad Barrow Bob Birgbauer Oliver Bohlman Dan Cockcroft (PBS) Bill Drummond Raymond Guenther Ken Mahar Terry Starkel

Branch 95 Luncheon 2nd Monday of the Month Via Zoom

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 EMPIRE RANCH LUNCHEON CANCELLED

UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

Soda, Tea, Water & Coffee included with lunch Special diet? Contact Kevin or your Caller

SIR Websites Branch 95 www.branch95sir.shutterfly.com

State SIR www.sirinc.org

SIR Happenings www.sirinc.org/sirhappenings/

Branch 95 Bulletin Updates Submit September items by Monday, September 7th, 2020 <u>SIR95Bulletin@jakowatz.net</u>

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.

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). This time we will be looking outside of our immediate environment and even into the very space beyond our world.

Joining us will be Dr. Alex Filippenko, Professor of Astronomy at the University of California, Berkeley. His presentation covers some of his cutting-edge research on stars exploding at the end of their stellar evolution, earth-like planets orbiting other stars, and giant black holes (one of the most mysterious and researched phenomena in astrophysics this century). Mush of this study, public service, and student training is being done at the Lick Observatory at Mount Hamilton, near San Jose. Since Lick is only partially funded by the UC Administration, he is more than happy to expand on the opportunities and technology available to support the vibrant efforts ongoing at Lick.

Alex brings a unique blend of researcher, teacher, and communicator to the general population about advances in astronomy. As an example, and as an elected member of the National Academy of Sciences, he is one of the world's most highly cited astronomers discovering the Nobel-worthy accelerating expansion of the Universe. He was voted UC Berkeley's "Best Professor" a record nine times; he appears frequently on TV documentaries; and is addicted to observing total solar eclipses (17 so far).

We are truly fortunate to have Alex make a presentation to us. Whatever the aspect of astronomy, it will be informative, authoritative, and entertaining.

SIR Branch 95 Golf by Terry Starkel

This has been a challenging time for playing golf. Despite trying to set up a yearly schedule last Fall for this year, there have been a number of changes. I eliminated the few Wednesday rounds that had been scheduled in previous years. I dropped a few courses that were further away and some that seemed to be least liked, and those that we could not play on Tuesdays. Then we had several cancelled rounds when we were shut down.

The round we had scheduled for Turkey Creek was supposed to be for a shotgun start at 8:00 am, but they did not allow shotgun starts now, so we ended up playing at 10:00 am instead. I think their reasoning for no shotgun starts was due to the possible number of carts available.

We were set to play Empire Ranch on Aug. 4th. at 8:00 am. But, since the course changed ownership, for some reason, our scheduled tee times did not get transferred over to the new system after our July 7th. round. So, they had already booked other golfers for the morning when they discovered the problem.

We are playing Mather on Aug. 11th, which was supposed to be a pick your partner Stableford tournament. However, because of all the other changes going on, it will be a normal tournament. The other changes at Mather is trying to find a way to pay our green fees. They require one payment for a group like ours, but the new COVID-19 policy states that no money can be collected on site by the tournament director. We have a solution that has been agreed to by Mather that will allow our members to pay on site and allow me to make one payment for Sir 95 and still not have contact between us.

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Sand Traps by Terry Starkel, Golf Chair SIR Branch 95 Results 2020 Tournaments: No June Results Posted

| July 7 - Empir First: Second: Third: (tie) | e Ranch Bob Carlson Mike Wilke Bob Birgbauer Hideki Yoshihara |
|--|---|
| July 14 – Matł First: Second: Third: (3-tie) | ner Mike Wilke Chad Barrow Bob Carlson Bob Birgbauer Bill Drummond |
| July 21 – Wild First: Second: Third: | hawk Bill Yeager Tim Irish Mike Wilke |

| July 28 – Tu | urkey Creek |
|--------------|---------------|
| First: | Bob Carlson |
| Second: | Chad Barrow |
| (3-tie) | John Ashley |
| | Bill Drummond |

Membership by Mike Mohr, Membership Chair

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Active Membership – 73



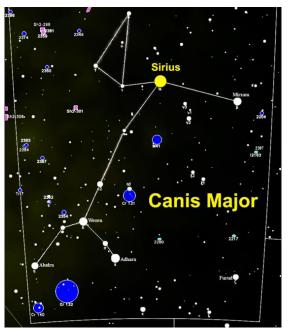
EDHCSD Bocce Leagues. For information contact Dan. Our Club Championship is still scheduled for September and will go on as planned, with modifications for qualifying. More information soon on this.

With all of the changes in plans and a lot of emails trying to keep everyone informed, at least at this point it seems our group is healthy and that is something to be thankful for.

Did You Know? - Big SIR Kevin King

We often hear about the "dog days" of summer but few may know what the expression means. Some say that it signifies hot sultry days "not fit for a dog," others suggest it's the weather in which dogs go mad. The Dog Days of Summer describes the most oppressive period of summer, between July 3rd and August 11th each year. But where did the term come from? And what does it have to do with dogs?

The phrase is actually a reference to the fact that, during this time, the Sun occupies the same region of the sky as Sirius, the brightest star visible from any part of Earth and part of the constellation Canis Major, the Greater Dog. This is why Sirius is sometimes called the Dog In the summer, Star. Sirius rises and sets with the Sun. On July 23rd, specifically. it is in conjunction with the Sun, and because the star is so



bright, the ancient Romans believed it actually gave off heat and added to the Sun's warmth, accounting for the long stretch of sultry weather. They referred to this time as *diēs caniculārēs*, or "dog days." Thus, the term Dog Days of Summer came to mean the 20 days before and 20 days after this alignment of Sirius with the Sun—July 3 to August 11.

Aren't you glad you asked? Thanks to the Farmers' Almanac for clearing this up for us.

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by Dan Cockcroft - The "Big Dill" For info on SIR's 95 Pickleball contact Dan at 408-781-0714.

Do you know that awesome feeling when you get into bed, fall right asleep, stay asleep all night and wake up feeling refreshed and ready to take on the day?

Yeah, me neither!



From the Archives (SIR Newsletter July 2005)

A Woman Who Reads

One morning the husband returns after several hours of fishing and decides to take a nap. Although not familiar with the lake, the wife decides to take the boat out. She motors out a short distance, anchors and begins to read a book.

Along comes a game warden in his boat. He pulls up alongside the woman and says, "good morning, ma'am. What are you doing?"

"Reading a book," she replies - thinking isn't it obvious?

"You're in a restricted fishing area", he informs her.

"I'm sorry officer, but I'm not fishing, I'm reading".

"Yes, but you have all of the equipment. For all I know you could start at any moment. I'll have to take you in and write you up".

"If you do that, I'll have to charge you with sexual assault," says the woman.

"But I haven't touched you," replies the game warden.

"That's true, but you have all the equipment. For all I know you could start at any moment."

"Have a nice day ma'am," he said, and he left.

MORAL of this STORY: Never argue with a woman who reads. It is likely she can also think.

Another one from the July 2005 issue:

Three Sisters

Three sisters ages 92, 94 and 96 live in a house together. One night the 96-year-old draws a bath. She puts in foot in and pauses. She yells down the stairs: "Was I getting in or out of the bath?" The 94year-old yells back "I don't know. I'll come up and see." She starts up the stairs and pauses. Then she yells: "Was I going up the stairs or down?" The 92-year-old is sitting at the kitchen table having tea listening to her sisters. She shakes her head and says "I sure hope I never get that forgetful." She knocks on wood for good measure. She then yells: "Til come up and help both of you as soon as I see who's at the door."

Mensa Corner

Can you think of an American tree whose name contains all five vowels?

What is the 11-letter word that all smart people spell incorrectly?

If seven chocolate bars and one bag of jellybeans cost \$0.36 and 10 bags of jellybeans and one chocolate bar cost \$0.15, how much is a chocolate bar?

New Monthly Budget

| Gas | \$0 |
|---------------|---------|
| Entertainment | \$0 |
| Clothes | \$0 |
| Haircuts | \$0 |
| GROCERIES | \$2,765 |
| | |

Decipher the following message using the simple cipher below by substituting the letters in the first row with the corresponding letter in the second row:

QLRM HRI. NZPV UIRVMWH ULI ORUV.

| Α | В | С | D | Ε | F | G | Н | I | J | К | L | М |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Ζ | Y | Χ | W | ۷ | U | Т | S | R | Q | Ρ | 0 | Ν |
| Ν | 0 | Ρ | Q | R | S | Т | U | V | W | Х | Υ | Z |
| Μ | L | К | J | I | Н | G | F | Ε | D | С | В | Α |

Answer below

Before We Go...One Final Story

Jim Wright spent years on death row for a crime he professed he did not commit. On the day of his expected hanging, his attorney worked feverously to appeal his case and get a stay of execution. Having worked several days straight and long into the night exhausting all possible options, he resigned himself to the outcome and dejectedly went home. The prospect of failing his client weighed heavily on him.

When he got home, his wife laid into him. Where have you been? How come you're so late? Why didn't you call? I'm tired of eating dinner by myself ever night!

He wasn't in the mood for an argument and simply excused himself saying he needed a shower. After he finished and was bent over drying off, his wife walked into the bathroom and said "they're not hanging Wright tonight." He turned on his wife and yelled "good lord, give me a break! Won't you ever let it go!"

Answers

Mensa Corner

Tree – Sequoia

Word – Incorrectly

Chocolate bar - \$0.05 (jellybeans are \$0.01/bag; chocolate bars are \$0.05)

Cipher

Join SIR. Make friends for life.