



“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 King916.337.9811

Little Sir

Bob Carlson916.817.1181

Secretary

Terry Starkel916.817.1524

Asst. Secretary

Dan Link.....916. 467.7465

Treasurer

Tim Irish.....916.933.3466

Asst. Treasurer

Bob Birgbauer530.677.5627

Membership Chairman

Mike Mohr.....530.391.1626

Asst. Membership Chairman

Dennis Petersen.....916.817.1149

Directors at Large

Joe Giacomini.....916.939.2060

Rich Turoff.....916.934.0176

Bill Drummond.....925.683.3120

Jay Muzio.....650.302.1902

Region I Director

Mark Stuart

Area 4 Governor

Dave Gonzales.

Chairmen

Attendance Jim Purcell 916.358.5251

Badges Bill Yeager.... 916.941.6632

Bocce Dan Cockcroft 408.781.0714

Bulletin Jon Jakowatz 916.941.6792

Chaplain John Ninan ... 916.941.9479

Golf Terry Starkel. 916.817.1524

Asst Golf Dennis Petersen

..... 916.817.1149

PickleBall Dan Cockcroft 408.781.0714

Publicity TBD

Webmastr Jon Jakowatz. 916.941.6792

BIG SIR – Kevin King

SIR Branch 95 General Meeting

Monday, November 9, 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/86084100595>

Smartphone or tablet, open the Zoom app and use Meeting ID: 860 8410 0595

If none of the above options are available to you, you can dial in as follows: +16699006833,,86084100595#

As I'm putting the finishing touches on my portion of this month's newsletter, it's Election Day (week; month; whatever). I don't know about you, but I'll be SO happy to replace the endless and duplicate proposition ads with endless and duplicate car ads (I never thought I'd say that about car ads). While I think it's a reasonable assumption that not everyone will get what they want in this election, at the end of the day, I hope everyone will come together remembering the principles our nation was built on and the freedoms we all enjoy. For this we have to thank the men and women, many of them our SIR brothers, who have served our country in war or peace to make that happen. We honor them on Veterans Day this November 11th.

As was previously announced, our December Holiday dinner had to be cancelled due to the ongoing pandemic and local restrictions. Instead, we will hold a regular SIR meeting via Zoom at noon on December 14th. In addition to our speaker, we will install our 2021 Officers and I'll provide a brief update on the state of our Branch – including goals for the coming year.

As we begin the process of transitioning to a new leadership team, I want to thank those who will be stepping down from their Branch Executive Committee and Chairman positions next month. Little SIR Bob Carlson stepped in part way through the year and, without missing a beat, arranged several interesting speakers for us. Bob Birgbauer agreed to serve out Don Brooks term as Assistant Treasurer when Don had to step away unexpectedly. I'd be remiss if I didn't mention Dan Link for stepping in for Bob Mello in the Assistant Secretary position. Even though Dan plans to stay in that role during 2021, he likewise stepped in unexpectedly for Bob mid-year. Bill Drummond will serve out his term but does not plan to stay on in his role of Director at Large. Finally, Jim Purcell plans to retire from his role as Attendance Chairman after serving the Branch for the past five years in that capacity.

Big Sir continued Page 2

October Birthdays

Tom Hubbs
David Hyman
Stephen Paulick
Terry Privott (PBS)
Steve Thomson
Mike Wilke
Bill Willman

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Membership

by Mike Mohr,
Membership Chair
Active Membership – 70

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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

**EMPIRE RANCH LUNCHEONS
CANCELLED DUE TO COVID**

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SIR Websites Branch 95

www.branch95sir.shutterfly.com

State SIR

www.sirinc.org

SIR Happenings

www.sirinc.org/sirhappenings/

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Branch 95 Bulletin Updates
Submit December items by
Monday, December 7th, 2020
SIR95Bulletin@jakowatz.net

BIG SIR continued...

Those will be big shoes to fill. Finding a replacement for him and ensuring the call tree remains intact will be a top priority. Thanks to each of you for volunteering your time toward the success of the Branch as well as your expertise in helping lead the Branch through a particularly challenging year.

I'm grateful and excited that we have a fine group of men that have agreed to lead our Branch in 2021. As previously mentioned, they will be installed at our December meeting. With or without continued restrictions, I'm hopeful our Branch will overcome any and all obstacles – allowing us to fulfill our mission to our loyal membership.

Our next Zoom meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 9th at 12 noon. If you haven't tried a Zoom meeting yet, I wish you'd give it a try. There are plenty of guys that experience it each month and are available to help get you setup.

I hope you have a Happy (and safe) Thanksgiving!!
"Never was so much owed by so many to so few." – Winston Churchill



LITTLE SIR – Bob Carlson

Now that the U.S. elections are over and the dust is clearing, albeit slowly, it might be an interesting time to briefly examine the way social scientists have tried to understand the underlying historical framework to the election process. To help us in that effort this month we have Dr. Gene Bigler, a political scientist at the University of the Pacific with considerable foreign service experience.

Gene has a bachelor's degree in Humanities from U of P and a master's degree in International Relations as well as a Ph. D. in Political Science from Johns Hopkins University. He has over 20 years U.S. Government Service during which he was primarily a public affairs officer specializing in telling America's story to foreign publics. Since 2008, he has been an instructor for the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at U of P and has been involved with numerous consultations, lectures, and publications mostly on Latin America and U.S. Foreign policy.

Gene has entitled his presentation to us as
"The 2020 Election and the Polarization Challenge".

Sand Traps

by Terry Starkel, Golf Chair
SIR Branch 95 Results
2020 Tournaments:

October 6 – Empire Ranch

First: Peter Apel
Second: Jay Guertin
Third: Dan Cockcroft

October 13 – Mather

First: Ken McCoy
Second: Tim Irish
Third: Peter Apel

October 20 – Wildhawk

First: Jay Guertin
Second: Tie Bob Birgbauer
Tim Irish
Third: Tie Bill Keane
Hideki Yoshihara

October 27 – Diamond Oaks

First: Terry Starkel
Second: Jay Guertin
Third: Dan Cockcroft

Branch 98 Virtual Luncheon

As previously announced via email, SIR Branch 98 Rocklin/Roseville has extended an invitation to several branches to hear Dr. Peter Pry speak on electromagnetic pulse threats to our power grid. If this interests you and you'd like to join their virtual luncheon on Zoom on Wednesday, November 11th, please contact Jim Gragg at jegrgagg65@gmail.com to register. I understand space may be limited.

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From the Archives – November 2009



Congratulations to Dennis Petersen who scored a hole-in-one on the 9th hole at Teal Bend on October 28, 2009. Everyone enjoyed a free beer on Dennis after the round...nice shot Dennis!

Great memory for Dennis and those
that experienced it with him!



SIR Branch 95 Golf

by Terry Starkel

I am nearing the end of our 2020 golf season with mixed feelings. On one hand we only have three golf events in November and two in December. I think it will be good to get 2020 behind us and get a new start in 2021. The new year will probably start off the same as this one is ending, with a lot of uncertain feelings about how to approach day to day activities. We have most of our golf dates verified for next year. I am waiting for final confirmation of dates from one of the courses. Our 2021 season will begin on Feb. 2nd. at Empire Ranch.

It is also time to renew membership for Sir 95 golf and NCGA. The cost will be \$50 for the 2021 year. Please let me know of your intention to renew or not renew by December 1st. I will need to collect your \$50 by December 15th, 2020. NCGA is requiring all members to have an email address for next year. All of our members already have an email address on file with the NCGA. However, you might want to check the NCGA site yourself to verify that it is a current email address. Or, if you think it may be incorrect, check with me, I have a roster of all of our members that also contains the email address on file.

Hopefully, sometime during the 2021 season we will be able to get back to our closest to the pin contests, as well as awarding prize money for the tournaments and special events. Continue to stay safe and well as we move into the cooler and hopefully wetter weeks ahead

Fun and Games

Divert Your Course

Actual radio conversation released by the Chief of Naval Operations, 10-10-95.

Station #1: Please divert your course 15 degrees to the North to avoid a collision.

Station #2: Recommend you divert YOUR course 15 degrees to South to avoid a collision.

Station #1: This is the Captain of a US Navy ship. I say again, divert YOUR course.

Station #2: No. I say again, you divert YOUR course.

Station #1. THIS IS THE AIRCRAFT CARRIER ENTERPRISE, WE ARE A LARGE WARSHIP OF THE US NAVY. DIVERT YOUR COURSE NOW!

Station #2. This is the Pudget Sound lighthouse. It's your call.



Puzzles

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<https://www.mathsisfun.com/puzzles/index.html>

Unique number:

What is unique about 8549176320?

Fraction puzzle:

Can you arrange the numerals 1 to 9 (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9) in a single fraction that equals exactly $\frac{1}{3}$ (one third)?
An example that doesn't work: $\frac{7192}{38456} = 0.187$

Magic Square:

This is a magic square. This means that the numbers add up to the same total in every direction. Every row, column and diagonal should add up to 111.

But there are some numbers missing!

| | | |
|----|----|---|
| | | 7 |
| 13 | 37 | |
| | | |

Solutions On Page 5

Puzzle Solutions

Unique number:

It is the digits 0 to 9 in **alphabetical** order.

Fraction puzzle:

$$5832/17496 = 1/3$$

Magic Square:

| | | |
|----|----|----|
| 31 | 73 | 7 |
| 13 | 37 | 61 |
| 67 | 1 | 43 |

From the Archives – October 2010

California SIRs by Harry Hubinger

Rob, our fictional hero, becomes bored after six months of retirement and begins to hunt around for stimulation. He meets a SIR (Sons in Retirement) group on the golf course and is invited to their next meeting. Even when he awoke that morning, Rob wasn't sure if he would attend the SIR meeting, he had been invited to. Certainly, after meeting a few SIRs on the putting green at the golf course and hearing about the organization, he felt like going with the flow. But now, as the time neared, he wasn't so sure. He had looked at the SIR web site and couldn't find a reason not to go. He had selected a branch website near to where he lived and liked the list of activities, they had available for members. But, even so, he wasn't a joiner and hated to go to meetings where he didn't know anyone. Are you going to that thing you talked to me about? his wife asked. Maybe, maybe not. Not sure. he replied. Well if you don't go, you'll need to find something around here for lunch. This is my card day, and I won't be around. ...

Part 2 of this four part series is at: <http://aliveeastbay.com/archives/california-sons-in-retirement-sirs/>

Editor's note: Do you have any items of interest that you think the group would enjoy?

Please send a brief article on any hobbies, stories related to your experiences during these times, insights, encouragement, or other pertinent information you wish to share with the rest of the members.