



“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

Jay Muzio.....650.302.1902

Secretary

Terry Starkel.....916.817.1524

Asst. Secretary

Pat Flynn.....916.335.5007

Treasurer

Tim Irish.....916.933.3466

Asst. Treasurer

Chad Barrow209.603.7346

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

Shoji Kumagai408.472.6102

Region I Director

Dave Gonzales

Area 4 Governor

Hugh Thompson

Chairmen

Attendance TBD.....

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

Zoom Instructions

SIR Branch 95 General Meeting

Monday, January 11, 2021 12:00 PM

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

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84123538517>

If joining using a smartphone or tablet, open the Zoom app and use Meeting ID: 841 2353 8517

If none of the above options are available to you, you can dial in as follows: +1-669-900-6833,,84123538517#



Happy New Year! Depending if you're in the "0" camp or the "1" camp, it's arguably also the start of a new decade.

Since history tells us there was no year zero and the first decade of the common era were years 1 to 10, I find myself, with apparently a minority of others in the universe, in the "1" camp; i.e., decades begin with years ending in "1" not "0". I understand the other camp's argument that we talk about the 60's and 70's and it doesn't make sense to lump 1970 in any discussion about the 60's, but some argue that that's more for cultural convenience than the need for astronomical timekeeping. Yet another one of those binary decisions – your either one of them or one of us. On this matter, I guess we'll simply have to agree to disagree. Another of life's many little conundrums. Maybe I'll add it to my growing list of topics that I shouldn't talk about, like politics, religion, and the pandemic response.

I would have never guessed in a million years I'd be adding commentary to the Big SIR section for a second January newsletter. In the history of the branch, there have been only two, 2-time Big SIRs – Bill Stegman in 2009-10 and Al Knight in 1997 and 2001 when he stepped in mid-year for a Big SIR that moved out-of-state. I'm humbled you'd entrust me to lead our branch another year. 2020 presented many challenges, and under the circumstances and perhaps in an unconventional way, I believe we did a rather good job keeping the branch together and moving it forward.

Big Sir continued on Page 2

Sand Traps

by Terry Starkel, Golf Chair

SIR Branch 95 Results 2020 Tournaments:

**GOLF TOURNAMENTS
SUSPENDED DUE TO COVID**

SIR Branch 95 Golf By Terry Starkel

As we start a new year, golf should not be far behind. We usually start play again at the beginning of February, which is less than a month away. However, this period in history is not usual. With increased cases of Covid-19 throughout California and the country, it doesn't appear we will be restarting golf again until late Spring or Summer. I will be waiting until it is closer to our first rounds before I notify the courses as to our status. They have been very understanding so far, and I hope we can continue to have good relationships with the various courses as we move forward.

I am hopeful that once everyone has access to a vaccine and it has had a chance to take effect, we will be able to get back to some active-ities, although I think we will probably be wearing masks for most of the year. Masks I can handle, not being able to see friends and family is harder. Trying to keep my weight gain under control is also hard. I am looking forward to golf helping with seeing friends and helping to control my weight. That might be wishful thinking, but I need to be positive about something.

We have 38 golfers in our group now for 2021, down from the 41 we had at the end of our 2020 golf season. Please let me know if you have any golf concerns that I need to address. Also, please check out our monthly SIR meetings on zoom. It is one of the few ways we have of at least seeing each other, even if it is not in person.

Branch 95 Website – Kevin King



Jon Jakowatz has been busy over the holidays making updates to our branch website. As I've previously reported, our website hadn't been updated in a while and it was among our branch goals this year to get it up-to-date and consider moving it off of its current platform. Jon and Shoji Kumagai agreed to take on the challenge.

Along with them, former member, Al Schmidt, the webmaster who designed our current website on Shutterfly, agreed to lend his expertise in our immediate need of updating Shutterfly and with the transition to a new website, if needed.

While a work in progress, I'm happy to report that the officer list is current as is the archive of monthly bulletins. Members and potential members alike now have access to bulletins from March 2009 to our latest one. On the membership page, Jon also removed photos of former members. Jon noted that many of our current members don't have photos. If you want to be included before we're able to have an in-person photo shoot at one of our luncheons, please send a headshot of your liking.

The website remains functional while it's being updated. Check it out at <https://branch95sir.shutterfly.com/>. Having a web presence is a powerful marketing tool for attracting new members. Send suggestions for any other information you think appropriate to include on the website to Jon at SIR95Bulletin@jakowatz.net, Shoji at shojikumagai@gmail.com or me at kmking00@gmail.com.

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Broken Engagement

Dear Marty,

I have been unable to sleep since I broke off your engagement to my daughter. Will you forgive and forget?

I was much too sensitive about your Mohawk, tattoo and pierced nose. I now realize motorcycles aren't really that dangerous, and I really should not have reacted that way to the fact that you have never held a job.

I am also very sure that some other very nice people live under the bridge in the park, too. Sure, my daughter is only 18 and wants to marry you instead of going to Harvard on full scholarship. After all, you can't learn everything about life from books.

I sometimes forget how backward I can be. I was wrong. I was a fool. I have now come to my senses and you have my full blessing to marry my daughter.

Sincerely, Your future father-in-law.

P.S. Congratulations on winning the lottery!

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Mensa Corner (©Dr. Abbie F. Salny)

Mensa is an organization for people with IQs in the top 2%. Are you one of them? Take the following mini quiz to see if you should apply.

1. What is the 4-digit number in which the first digit is one-fifth the last, and the second and third digits are the last digit multiplied by 3? (Hint: The sum of all digits is 12.)
2. Which of the words below is least like the others? The difference has nothing to do with vowels, consonants, or syllables.
MORE, PAIRS, ETCHERS, ZIPPER
3. What is the number that is one more than one-tenth of one-fifth of one-half of 4,000?
4. Find the number that best completes the following sequence.
1 2 4 7 11 ? 22
5. Marian bought 4 oranges and 3 lemons for 90 cents. The next day she bought 3 oranges and 4 lemons for 85 cents. How much did each lemon and orange cost?
6. Tabitha likes cookies but not cake. She likes mutton but not lamb, and she likes okra but not squash. Following the same rule, will she like cherries or pears?

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.

A Little Branch History – Kevin King

As I'm sure you've heard me mention before, 2021 is the year of our branch's 40th anniversary. SIR was founded in 1958 in San Mateo. Our branch was formed in March 1981 and was chartered by the State on December 14th that year. Meetings have been held the 2nd Monday of the month since inception. George Corneveaux was elected our branch's first Big SIR. His badge number, badge #1, was retired by Branch 95 board resolution in his honor in 1990.

In the early 1990's, the branch had 60 golfers which, along with the Lake Tahoe SIRs, were the largest golfing branches in what was then Area No. 19.

Because of the increasing size of the branch (about 145 in 1991), part of our membership was split off to form new Branch 166 in El Dorado Hills in 1992. The branch limit was set at 130 and remained at that level for several years. In 2008, Branch 166 dissolved and many of its members joined our branch.

Branch meetings were held at several venues over the years. Some changes were necessitated due to the increasing size of the group, one was necessitated because the venue burned down, another because of liquor license issues and some others were the results of cost/quality issues (some issues are timeless). The annual lady's picnic and holiday dinner began in those early years and have continued through the years. Last year may have been the only interruption to those annual traditions which, as we all know, was due to restrictions resulting from the pandemic.

The branch has no printed records that I'm aware of prior to 1996. The information above was gleaned from a set of personal reflections memorialized in 2001 by then Little SIR, Harry Shirley, to commemorate the branch's 20-year anniversary.

Some of our longest serving, active members (Jerry Nester 26 years; Tom Gamble (PBS) 25 years; Malcolm Ramsay 24 years; Ron Waisner (PBS) 23 years; Steve Thomson 22 years and Norb Witt 21 years) were part of the evolution of our branch for more than half of its existence and have seen all the changes our branch has undergone over the years. They've seen people come and go; membership rise and fall; and challenges faced and resolved. They'd make far better historians than I. I would hope they could share some of their personal reflections in this newsletter over the coming months of this anniversary year. Opportunities for more formal celebrations may be limited this year due to ongoing restrictions.

Mensa Corner Answers

1. 1,155
2. Zipper (The others can be anagrammed into the names of cities: Rome, Paris and Chester)
3. 41 ($4000/2 = 2000/5 = 400/10 = 40+1 = 41$)
4. 16 (each number adds to its position in the sequence to give you the next number in the sequence)
5. Oranges cost 15 cents each; lemons cost 10 cents each
6. Cherries (Tabitha only likes food with two syllables)

The (New) World We Live In Continued...


