



“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**

Jay Muzio.....650.302.1902

**Secretary**

Terry Starkel.....916.817.1524

**Asst. Secretary**

TBD .....

**Treasurer**

Tim Irish.....916.933.3466

**Asst. Treasurer**

Chad Barrow .....209.603.7346

**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 Kumagai .....408.472.6102

**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, February 8, 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/85440146338>

If joining using a smartphone or tablet, open the Zoom app and use Meeting ID: 854 401 46338

If none of the above options are available to you, you can dial in as follows: +1-669-900-6833,,85440146338#



Can it really be February? Just when we were thinking that winter had passed us by and we started to prepare ourselves for water shortages this summer, the last couple of weeks happened.

While the rain wasn't enough to make up for lower-than-average winter rains so far this year, it reminded us we that we're not out of the woods yet and we still have a few weeks of wet weather ahead of us. It doesn't come as a surprise to our golfers that storms are lined up offshore like planes in their landing pattern at LAX because it's the long-awaited start of our golf season. Rainy weather and cancellations are not unusual at the start of the golf season.

Speaking of golf, the State SIR Board of Directors met a couple of weeks ago and voted to allow golf to resume subject to each individual Branch Executive Committee (BEC) voting affirmatively to uphold certain protocols designed for the health and safety of our golfers. This vote followed communication with State, County and local leaders as to the status of golf as an acceptable activity in light of current restrictions as well as hours of discussions with SIR Inc.'s attorney and insurance company. Your BEC met on Monday, 2/1 and approved our branch's return to golf. Terry will have more to say in the Sand Traps section of this newsletter. It should be noted that SIR Inc.'s action to allow golf to resume does not apply to any other branch luncheon, activity or event. I imagine those will require similar BEC action at the appropriate time as restrictions continue to be relaxed and/or lifted.

We recently held a Zoom Pub Trivia Night for our members and their spouses. Everyone on the call said they had a good time and would like to have more activities such as this.

**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

Here it is February already and it finally looks like we may be back to playing golf again as a club. Hopefully, by the time this article is read by our members, we will again be ready to play. I know some members have played and kept their skill level up, I have not touched a club for months, so I expect to be rusty. But that is OK. It will be nice to get out on the course, rust or not.

The next question will be, what kind of weather will we have this spring? Are we going to be rained out? Are we going to have mornings where there is frost on the course? I am sure every day will bring questions. Some will still be about Covid and vaccines, masks, and social distancing. Others will be about handicap ups and downs and what we can do to improve our time on the course.

I know this past year has been challenging in a number of ways. This current year will also have its challenges. All we can do is our best and try to look at things in a positive light. Thanks to all of the golfers that continue to support Sir Branch 95 by submitting items that I can pass on, by offering support to me and each other, for your response to my requests for information about signing up for our tournaments.

**LITTLE SIR continued...**

The title of Don's talk is, "Searching for the Lincoln Highway in El Dorado County". The Lincoln Highway was established in 1912 by a group of automobile businessmen promoting a transcontinental roadway connecting New York with San Francisco. One section of the route became highway 50 including Placerville's Main Street and Placerville Drive. Don's talk focuses on locations in the county where remnants of the roadway can be seen and explored.

Please join us at our monthly ZOOM meeting, Feb 8th at 12:00 o'clock sharp. Be sure and look for the link from Big Sir Kevin King in an email or at the top of this Branch 95 Bulletin.

+++++

**Branch 95 Happenings – Kevin King**

We're coming up next month on the one-year anniversary of news and events that had an adverse effect on our branch. Without a lot of warning, we could no longer meet in person and our activities and events were significantly impacted. Golf started, albeit slowly because of the weather last February but was suspended in March, reinstated in July and abruptly suspended again in November – all due to the ebbs and flows of the pandemic. Because of BEC and member support, we were able to continue to conduct the business of the branch and continue our monthly meetings throughout the pandemic using available technology. By the way, our branch should consider this a source of pride as some other branches in the area – and throughout SIR for that matter – temporarily suspended all branch functions for the past year and, in some cases, ceased to exist altogether.

While we pushed forward this past year, the question remains, what will our branch look like when we're able to meet in-person again? We've lost a few members for a variety of reasons this past year, but we've also managed to attract a few new members which gives us some momentum when we're able to fully restart again – assuming all our current members return. One drawback of suspending dues this year until we return to in-person meetings is that there's no way of getting an accurate count of our current membership. I have a sense of the membership status of our golfers and those that participate in our monthly Zoom meetings; but, what about the other third or so of our members that we have effectively allowed to fall off the radar? Following our last monthly meeting, I forwarded a message from Past Big SIR, Larry Keenan, in which he posed the question "Where are you hiding?" Between he and I, we've only received a handful of responses – mostly encouragement to keep trying to draw folks back in.

**Branch 95 Happenings continued on Page 4**

## Sunshine

Part of being CONNECTED as an organization, is being there for one another in their time of need. If you learn that a fellow SIR is going through an illness or a personal hardship, please send the Chaplain or Big SIR an email, so that, if appropriate, we can let the membership know. This way members can keep them in their thoughts and prayers. Consider reaching out to offer support and encouragement during their time of need. A friendly call is usually welcome. Cards and letters are also usually appreciated.



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.

## Branch 95 Happenings continued...

Our early plans to maintain monthly verbal communication with all members never got off the ground. I understand that it's difficult to stay CONNECTED over a protracted period of time when the only means of communication is the monthly newsletters and an occasional email. I get it; I own it. That said, communication is a two-way street. Drop me an email and tell me what's on your mind and how you're coping with what's going on. Active members can all help by reaching out to your non-golfer, non-Zoomer friends. Have they been getting through the ever-shifting restrictions okay? Are they suffering from pandemic fatigue? Is there anything the branch can offer to get them reengaged while we're in "shutdown" mode? Do they plan to rejoin us when we get the green light to meet again? The answer to these questions may give us an early indication and response to my initial question in this paragraph. As always, I encourage everyone to participate in our monthly Zoom meetings.

+++++

## Branch Website – Kevin King



Progress continues to be made on the branch website. The latest addition was including our golf calendar.

Check it out at <https://branch95sir.shutterstock.com/calendar>.

Future items under consideration are a list of our golf club champions and a list of past Big SIRs. We are also exploring ways to keep our membership list up to date and to have an archive of past membership lists that would both be only accessible through a members only webpage as a way to protect members' personal information. In the meantime, access to that information on the membership page has been deleted.

Fellow SIRs throughout the state visit our website for ideas about web content, activities, and the like. Future SIRs may look at it to see what SIR is all about. Our branch has a rich history. Our website is a vehicle for capturing that history. Please send content suggestions to Jon Jakowatz at [SIR95Bulletin@jakowatz.net](mailto:SIR95Bulletin@jakowatz.net), Shoji Kumagai at [shojikumagai@gmail.com](mailto:shojikumagai@gmail.com) or me at [kmking00@gmail.com](mailto:kmking00@gmail.com).

### Sudoku

|   |   |   |   |  |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|--|---|---|---|---|
| 2 |   | 1 | 8 |  | 3 |   | 6 | 5 |
|   |   |   | 6 |  | 9 |   |   | 1 |
|   | 8 |   |   |  | 1 |   | 3 |   |
| 8 |   |   |   |  | 5 | 1 |   |   |
| 7 |   |   |   |  |   |   |   | 3 |
|   |   | 4 | 7 |  |   |   |   | 8 |
|   | 5 |   | 9 |  |   |   | 7 |   |
| 1 |   |   | 5 |  | 8 |   |   |   |
| 4 | 2 |   | 3 |  | 7 | 5 |   | 9 |

### Sudoku Solution on Page 6

### A Lighter Moment – Ken Mahar

Last year I replaced all the windows in my house with those expensive, double-pane, energy-efficient kind. Today, I got a call from the company that installed them. The man complained that the work had been completed a year ago, and I still hadn't paid for them.

HHHelloo...just because I'm blonde doesn't mean that I am automatically stupid. So, I told him just what his fast-talking sales guy had told me last year – that these windows would pay for themselves in a year.

Hellooooo, it's been a year, so they're paid for, I told him. There was only silence at the other end of the line, so I finally hung up. He never called back. I bet he felt like an idiot!!!

\*\*\*\*\*

### 10 Fun Facts – Terry Privott

1. You can't see your ears without a mirror.
2. You can't count your hair (many of us anyway).
3. You can't breathe through your nose with your tongue out.
4. You just tried number 3.
6. When you did number 3 you realized that it is possible but that you look like a dog.
7. You are smiling right now because you were fooled.
8. You skipped number 5.
9. You just checked to see if there is a number 5.
10. Share this with your friends so they can have some fun, too.

Have a Nice Day!

## Sudoku Solution

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2 | 4 | 1 | 8 | 7 | 3 | 9 | 6 | 5 |
| 5 | 3 | 7 | 6 | 4 | 9 | 2 | 8 | 1 |
| 9 | 8 | 6 | 2 | 5 | 1 | 7 | 3 | 4 |
| 8 | 6 | 2 | 4 | 3 | 5 | 1 | 9 | 7 |
| 7 | 9 | 5 | 1 | 8 | 6 | 4 | 2 | 3 |
| 3 | 1 | 4 | 7 | 9 | 2 | 6 | 5 | 8 |
| 6 | 5 | 3 | 9 | 1 | 4 | 8 | 7 | 2 |
| 1 | 7 | 9 | 5 | 2 | 8 | 3 | 4 | 6 |
| 4 | 2 | 8 | 3 | 6 | 7 | 5 | 1 | 9 |



*February 14, 2021*