



# GOLD COUNTRY BRANCH 95

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.

Bulletin 387

February 2022

Kevin King, Editor

## BIG SIR | Jay Muzio



Hello fellow Sirs,

Here we are in February already. February is a short month, but it is full of notable days and awareness causes. For instance, it is *Heart Health Awareness Month, Children's Dental Health Month, Black History Month, and Cancer Awareness Month*. Taken all together, and acknowledging the importance of such causes, is a lot of awareness for such a short month. Then on top of that, we have some particularly important days that require celebration. There is *Valentine's Day* that is important to many, there is *President's Day* that comes with a day off for schools and government employees, and do not forget *Groundhog Day* where we find out if there is going to be six more weeks of winter. And, if that is not enough to observe, we can really get into the weeds with *Ice Cream for Breakfast Day, National Pizza Day, Make a Friend Day, Random Acts of Kindness Day, Organ Donor Day* and my favorite, *World Bartender Day*.

Keeping with the theme of notable days and awareness causes, I propose that we honor our goal of increasing our number of new members by declaring February 9<sup>th</sup>, *Bring a Friend to Lunch Day*. Better yet, let us declare every second

Wednesday of every month, *Bring a Prospective Member to Lunch Day*. This is a goal that every member, whether new or old, can help us achieve. Let us all get behind this effort to increase our membership to 100 members by the end of this year. With our newest member, Victor Kan, we currently stand at 70 members, so we have some work to do.

We are also going to have to have a *Kevin King Day* soon. I want to give a shout out to Kevin for not only modernizing the newsletter, but he has also gotten the Branch 95 website up and going for us. While there is still more work to do, it will be a great asset to our branch in attracting new members and communicating with our existing members. I'm sure Kevin will have more to say on this.

Our State SIR President, Rick Kindle, held a "Fireside Chat" recently. The State slogan this year is *Year of the Branch*. They are quite concerned about the well-being of some of the branches that are struggling to survive, and they are taking several actions to help. Luckily, we do not fall into that category. However, one venture from which we have already benefited is access to branded marketing materials. A marketing professional has developed several marketing

See **BIG SIR** next page

### Gold Country Branch 95 2022 Elected Officers - (PBS) denotes Past Big SIR

<b>Big SIR</b> Jay Muzio 650-302-1902	<b>Little SIR</b> Ken Mahar 650-504-1393	<b>Secretary</b> Terry Starkel 916-817-1524	<b>Assistant Secretary</b> Bob Carlson 916-817-1181	<b>Treasurer</b> Tim Irish (PBS) 916-933-3466	<b>Assistant Treasurer</b> Chad Barrow 209-603-7346
<b>Director at Large</b> Rich Turoff (PBS) 916-934-0176	<b>Director at Large</b> Joe Giacomini (PBS) 916-939-2060	<b>Director at Large</b> Shoji Kumagai 408-472-6102	<b>Director at Large</b> Pat O'Keefe (PBS) 831-809-5830	<b>Director at Large</b> Kevin King (PBS) 916-337-9811	<b>Director at Large</b> Lew Chapman 510-912-5658

**BIG SIR** continued from previous page

tools to assist us in getting recognized by the general public and having a consistent look across all branches. You have seen it in our new newsletter and our new website. Look for it in our new sandwich board, our meeting PowerPoints, press releases and many more.

Our next meeting is February 9<sup>th</sup> starting at 11:00 am for happy hour and 12:00 o'clock for our general membership luncheon. I know there are still COVID concerns and that is certainly understandable. I hope to see as many of you as possible this month and remember to bring a friend to lunch.

*"I have no light to illuminate the pathway of the future save that which falls over my shoulder from the past."*

~ The Notes, Ronald Regan's Private  
Collection of Stories and Wisdom

**LITTLE SIR | Ken Mahar**

Our speaker this month is former member Al Schmidt. Al, at the age of 80, had End Stage Coronary Artery Disease, and was a Cardiac Cripple, along with a host of other infirmaries. He will detail how he overcame heart disease, high cholesterol, poor kidney function and even lost some weight by adopting a plant-based lifestyle. He went from being unable to climb stairs, to hiking at 11,000 feet altitude as well as riding E-bikes with some in this group. He has told his incredible story to three classes at Renaissance Society at Sac State, twice at Sac VegFest and three times at Kaiser. He was invited to speak at Parkview Presbyterian Church. He has been interviewed twice on the SOS radio show on KVMR 89.5. He has been on Chef AJ's podcast twice. First time he had 9,500 views, the second time over 30,000 views. The most important one was in November 2019 in front of just 4 people. The results of that presentation were phenomenal. He has a website and YouTube channel. His lighthearted speaking and amazing results will inspire and motivate you. Well at least you won't fall asleep.



If you know of any speakers or a topic you think our members would be interested in, please contact Little SIR, Ken Mahar, at 650-504-1393 or [KMahar@comcast.net](mailto:KMahar@comcast.net) or Big SIR, Jay Muzio, at 650-302-1902 or [jaymuzio@gmail.com](mailto:jaymuzio@gmail.com).

**General Meeting**

Wednesday, February 9, 2022

Waiver & proof of vaccination required  
Lunch \$25

**CAMERON PARK COUNTRY CLUB**

3201 Royal Drive

CAMERON PARK, CA 95682

Social Hour

11:00 - 12:00

General Meeting & Lunch

12:00 ~ 2:00

**Menu**

Meatloaf  
Mashed potatoes  
Green beans  
Salad and rolls

Beverage station with  
iced tea, lemonade  
and coffee included

**February Birthdays**

Peter Apel  
Rich Christensen  
Bob Gilmore  
Curtis Johnson  
Fred Keller

**February Milestone Anniversaries**

Bill Yeager (PBS) - 20 years  
Tom Gamble (PBS) - 25 years

**Happy SIR Anniversary!**

**Membership**

Welcome to our newest member, Victor Kan  
Active membership - 70

**SUNSHINE | John Ninan, Chaplin**

916-941-9479



If you become aware of a SIR member who is ill, please let me know by email at [ocninan@yahoo.com](mailto:ocninan@yahoo.com) or by phone 916-941-9479 so that our SIR members can be informed. Our intent is to remain in contact with a sick SIR member to offer support and encouragement during their illness.

**BRANCH HAPPENINGS / SIR COMINGS & GOINGS | Kevin King (PBS)**

916-337-9811

Our newest member, Victor Kan, was introduced at our January meeting. He is former President and CEO of Fujitsu Computer Products of America, Inc. - a global leader in scanners and digital imaging solutions. He is a graduate of University of California - Berkeley. He lives with his wife, Myrium, in El Dorado Hills. Victor was sponsored by Big SIR, Jay Muzio.

Check out the SIR Websites listed at the bottom of page 4. Links are provided for the

- New and improved Branch 95 website
- State SIR website
- State's Marketing website, [WeAreSIR.com](http://WeAreSIR.com), which may be useful for you to share with someone considering joining our Branch and wanting to learn more about SIR
- State's quarterly newsletter
- SIR ProShop should you be interested in picking up a SIR-branded polo, cap or other merchandise

In other Branch news, fishing and e-bikes were added as new Branch-sponsored activities at our last BEC meeting. Look for more news in future newsletters as these activities begin to take shape.

Don't forget that your \$40 annual dues is due no later than our March meeting. The dues is used to pay for an assessment the State charges us for each member, lunches for our monthly guests and speakers, birthday and door prizes as well as the special events our Branch offers. Avoid losing your membership by paying your dues by March 9th.

**GET TO KNOW YOUR FELLOW SIR**

This month we highlight one of our newer members George Alboff. George became a member of our Branch in October. He joined the San Francisco Fire Department in 1969. Ten years later and for the next 20 years, he worked as a fire investigator in a small, newly created unit that evolved from the Department's Arson Investigation Unit - eventually rising to supervisor of that unit until the time he retired from SFFD. In the role of fire investigator, George was considered a qualified peace officer. His work eventually led George to be called on as an expert witness/consultant for the insurance industry in subrogation matters. By George's count, he estimates that he's investigated over 4,500 incidents and has testified around 200 times in municipal, superior or federal courts.

George took up golf in the 80's; but like many of us, gave it up for his work. We should encourage him to give it another try. George and his wife, Micki, met in high school and have been married for the last 50 years. George and Micki reside in El Dorado Hills.

## BRANCH 95 GOLF | Terry Starkel, Golf Chairman 916-817-1524



In the last newsletter, I stated that there were some changes for this coming golf year. We are going to sign up earlier for the weekly courses, we will play a wider variety of courses than in the past couple of years, we currently have fewer special tournaments, but the individual tournament directors may be adding some in as they wish.

I am hoping for good weather to start the golf season, but I can never tell since weather reports only help in the short term. By the time this newsletter gets to you we should have completed our first tournament of the year at Empire Ranch on Feb. 1<sup>st</sup>. The second tournament is at Mather on Feb. 8<sup>th</sup>, with Wildhawk and a second round at Empire Ranch to come in the month of February.

All golf members should be getting information from NCGA in the form of emails. They no longer send out their magazine, but it is online. They also require every member to have an email address. If you change your email, you should let them know as well as letting me know.

After not playing rounds for the past two months, I am excited to get back out on the course. I hope you all are also. I am anxious to try out my new clubs and have no expectations of how good or poor I will play. I just want to try to improve and be able to interact with our members again.

Please be aware that I think all of the courses have raised their prices and none include range balls. Most of the increases are \$1 or \$2, so it is not a big increase, just a sign of the times. Also, play at Mather will be cash only again. Last year you could pay with cash or check, but it is back to cash only at check-in so we can make one payment after everyone checks in.

A reminder that to win prize money or closest to the pin, you must stay after the round is completed to collect it. Last year we had a few players that missed out on winnings because they left early. I know it is sometimes a long wait, but sometimes a money winning score is higher than you might think.

## SAND TRAPS

Terry Starkel, Golf Chairman  
916-817-1524

Golf Director (Mather)  
Lew Chapman 510-912-5658

Golf Director (Wildhawk)  
Dan Cockcroft 408-781-0714

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## SIR Branch 95 Results 2022 Tournaments

No tournaments to report

The 2022 season kicks off  
February 1st at Empire Ranch

## MATH RIDDLES

How can you add eight 8's to get the number 1000? (Use addition only)

What three different whole numbers' sum is equal to their total when multiplied?

Answers on page 6

## Oops...

In last month's Book Exchange, the last sentence was inadvertently cutoff. The last sentence should have read "There is more treasure in books than all the pirates loot on Treasure Island."

### SIR Websites

Branch 95: [sirinc2.org/branch95/](http://sirinc2.org/branch95/) (NEW SITE)  
State SIR: [sirinc.org](http://sirinc.org)  
State SIR Marketing: [WeAreSIR.com](http://WeAreSIR.com)  
SIR Happenings (State SIR newsletters):  
[sirinc.org/newsletters](http://sirinc.org/newsletters)  
SIR Merchandise: [sir.ourproshop.com](http://sir.ourproshop.com) (NEW LINK)

### State SIR Officials

State President	Region 1 Director	Area 4 Governor
Richard Kindel	Hugh Thompson	Jack Reefer
209-652-8608	916-276-5117	916-531-2551



**BOCCE | Dan Cockcroft (PBS)**  
408-781-0714



Signori Novanta Cinque

Tentatively, I hope to resume play in February. I'm currently looking for someone to take over this activity. If you enjoy playing and you're interested in growing this activity and making it available to more of our members, please let me know.

Play is open to SIR members, their spouses or significant others and invited guests considering joining SIR. We play at Promontory Park in El Dorado Hills on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays of the month. If you're interested in playing or simply want to give it a try, please contact me at [cockcroftdaniel@gmail.com](mailto:cockcroftdaniel@gmail.com) so I can get you on my mailing list.

**PICKLEBALL | Dan Cockcroft (PBS)**  
408-781-0714

Drop-in play on local courts where branch members often play. Call ahead for hours and fees.

- El Dorado Hills Community Services District Gym
- Cameron Park Lake Tennis Courts
- Cameron Park Community Services District Gym
- Andy Morin Sports Complex (Folsom)
- Lembi Park (Folsom)



**FROM OUR ACTIVITIES CHAIR**

Hello SIR Branch 95 members. I am Pat O'Keefe, your new Activities Chairman. One of the most important functions of SIR are its activities. Through the different activities we engage in we get to grow closer to each other and form lifetime friendships. The more meaningful activities we have, the stronger we become.

Jay Muzio agreed to help me with this important task. We have a list of your interests with your names attached to these interests. We're going to go through them one at a time and with each group we will find a member willing to lead it. We are going to be working on fishing and e-biking for starters.

If any of you should have a burning desire to start a group with your favorite activity, please call Jay Muzio at 650-302-1902 or Pat O'Keefe at 831-809-5830. Help us grow our Branch.

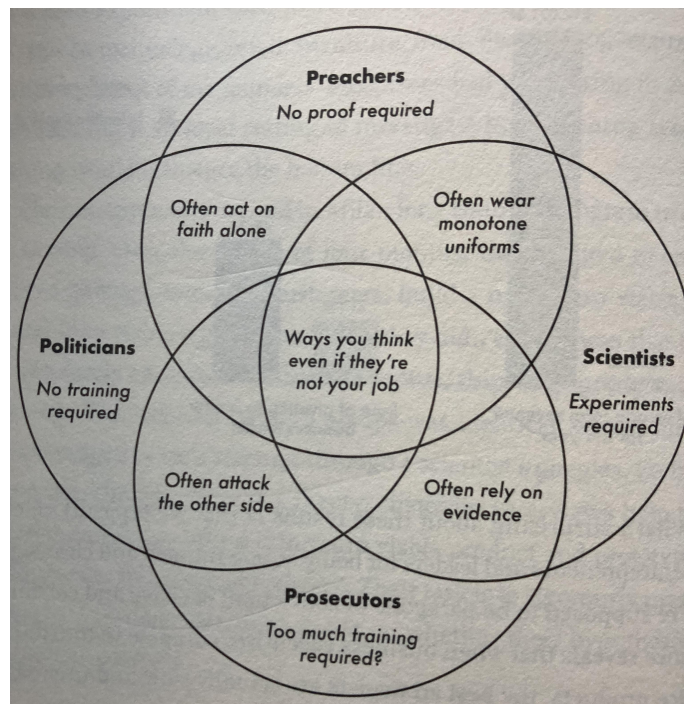
**BOOK EXCHANGE | Lew Chapman**  
510-912-5658



The Book Exchange was successfully launched at our January, 2022 luncheon. Several of you brought books and a few of you picked up a volume or two. Thanks for your participation. Hey, the SIR who picked up the book on Bass Lake, when you are done with it, bring it back to the Book Exchange because it's one I would also like to

read since I live right next to the lake. Let's get some momentum going, remember to bring a book or a few to the February luncheon and perhaps pick one or more up. Remember, there are more treasures in books than all the pirate's loot in Treasure Island.

After my wife finishes it, I will bring in my favorite book of 2021. It's a book I wish I would have read before I retired: *Think Again* by Adam Grant. It has a lot of great concepts in it that I could have used in my work. But the good news is that it has lots of ideas I can still use today. It's subtitle is "The Power of Knowing What You Don't Know." It covers individual rethinking, interpersonal rethinking and collective rethinking. It has a very provocative opening chapter: A Preacher, A Prosecutor, a Politician and a Scientist Walk into Your Mind. Below is the Venn diagram from that chapter. Interesting and entertaining. I highly recommend this book. Look for it at the next book exchange!



## WINE TASTING | Jay Muzio, Big SIR 650-302-1902



The January wine tasting event was held at the Muzios' home. The attendance was down this month due to illness and health concerns. The featured varietal this month was California Chardonnay. All the wines were outstanding and the first and second place wines were virtually tied. However, there was a winner. In fifth place was Rock View 2020 Reserve Mendocino (\$25.99), fourth place was Grgich Hills 2019 Napa Valley (\$33.89), third place was Ramey 2018 Russian River (\$39.99), second place was Daou 2020 Paso Robles (\$19.12), and in first place was Sonoma Loeb 2019 Sonoma Coast (\$34.99).

A delicious potluck followed the wine tasting. The dishes included honey baked ham, au gratin potatoes and green salad followed by bread pudding and a nice Sauternes.



Our next wine tasting will be February 17<sup>th</sup>. If you have not already joined the wine tasting group, and would like to join, contact Jay Muzio at [jaymuzio@gmail.com](mailto:jaymuzio@gmail.com).

## ON THE LIGHTER SIDE | Terry Wild

For 2 years a man was having an affair with an Italian woman. One night, she confided in him that she was pregnant.

Not wanting to ruin his reputation or his marriage, he paid her a large sum of money if she would go to Italy to secretly have the child. If she stayed in Italy to raise the child, he would also provide child support until the child turned 18.

She agreed, but asked how he would know when the baby was born.

To keep it discrete, he told her to simply mail him a post card and write "Spaghetti" on the back. He would then arrange for the child support payments to begin.

One day, about 9 months later, he came home to his confused wife.

'Honey!' she said, 'you received a very strange post card today!'

'Oh, just give it to me and I'll explain it later,' he said.

The wife obeyed and watched as her husband read the card, turned white and fainted.

On the card was written: "Spaghetti, Spaghetti, Spaghetti, Spaghetti, Spaghetti. Three with meatballs, two without. Send extra sauce."



Got a funny story or joke that you think members will enjoy. Send it to me and have it featured in the next newsletter.

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Answers to Math Riddles p. 4:  $888+88+8+8+8=1000$ ; the three whole are 1, 2 and 3  $1+2+3=6$  and  $1x2x3=6$

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### 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).

### 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.