



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 394

September 2022

Kevin King, Editor

BIG SIR | Jay Muzio 650-302-1902



On August 25th, 2022, I attended my first State SIR Annual Meeting. As the date approached, I must admit I was not eagerly anticipating a lively morning spent on Zoom. Much to my surprise, it held my interest, and I learned a lot that I can share with all of you. Important things are happening in our organization about which we can be proud.

All Members of the Corporation plus State Committee Chairmen, Branch leadership and invited guests were present via ZOOM. An opening statement was given by our current President, Rick Kindle, and a vote to change certain by-laws was completed without opposition. Our new slate of officers for 2023 were presented. Our new President will be Dave Gonzales from Branch 98 (Roseville/Rocklin), Vice President will be Dale Decker from Branch 136 (Sonora), Chief Administrative Officer will be Roy Hodgkinson Branch 146 (Walnut Creek/ Pleasant Hill), State Secretary will be Russ Salazar Branch 113 (Pollock Pines), and State Treasurer will be Carl Mason Branch 88 (Vallejo). All ran uncontested and all were elected unanimously. Remarks by our President-Elect were given, and he seems like he will do a great job next year.

The Treasurer's Report was given by Roy Hodgkinson. Roy also spoke on Growing the SIR Family. The State SIR organization is now below 10,000 members. In October of 2018 there were 115 active branches. In April Of 2022 there were 96 branches. So, we are losing branches at an average rate of six per year. To help to address this dynamic, the State Board is on track for changing the language in our by-laws to eliminate gender and employment status as criteria

for SIR membership. The Mission Statement will be "Activities for All." This change will allow branches to chart their own course as far as membership goes. The State will not require female membership, but by the change in language the inclusion of female members can be realized by branches that choose to exercise this option. The actual language has not yet been changed in the by-laws, but it will be completed some time in 2023.

The Activities Committee Chairman, Bob Lucido, presented his plan to help branches develop their activities to increase interest in SIR membership which includes working with branch chairmen. This will provide the perfect opportunity for a new Branch 95 Activities Director, which we still need.

The Training and Development Committee Chairman, John Kent, reported his plan to strengthen Branches through leadership training and concentrating efforts on at-risk branches.

Dale Decker, Vice-president, and Region 2 Director presented a newly defined and expanded system of awards and recognition to recognize members that are truly doing work above and beyond to support SIR at all levels. The first level of recognition is the "I'm Doing My Part" lapel pin. It is presented to branch members that have stepped up to do the jobs that support the local branch. We have been presenting these awards to our members at the monthly luncheon meetings. Among our recipients this year are Kevin King, Terry Starkel, Tim Irish, Ken Mahar and

See **BIG SIR** next page

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

Big SIR Jay Muzio 650-302-1902	Little SIR Ken Mahar 650-504-1393	Secretary Terry Starkel 916-817-1524	Assistant Secretary Bob Carlson 916-817-1181	Treasurer Tim Irish (PBS) 916-933-3466	Assistant Treasurer Oli Bohlman 916-844-4067
Director at Large Rich Turoff (PBS) 916-934-0176	Director at Large Joe Giacomini (PBS) 916-939-2060	Director at Large Kevin King (PBS) 916-337-9811	Director at Large Lew Chapman 510-912-5658	Director at Large David Chighizola 530-558-9336	Director at Large OPEN

BIG SIR continued from previous page

Lew Chapman. A new Distinguished Service Award, now the second highest award, is earned by those who have clearly earned it through exceptional and extraordinary service for three years or more. Only one for every twenty-five members of a branch can be awarded this award. Finally, there is a continuation of the highest award, The Honorary Life Member award. This award is earned by those who have clearly made it through exceptional and extraordinary service for five years or longer. This award is limited to 1 for every 50 members of a branch. Currently, we do not have any Distinguished Service Award recipients or an Honorary Life Member recipient. Please think about deserving members you would like to nominate for one of these awards which can be given at any point during the year. The top two awards must be awarded through State Board approval.

Finally, "What State SIR Does for its Branches" was presented by Andy Danver from Los Gatos. Among other things, State SIR:

- Insures Branches, Members, Partners and Guests
- Supports Tools (Zoom, Websites, Constant Contact)
- Prepares Consolidated Financials for Tax Purposes
- Files Multiple California State Documents
- Trains Branch Officers, Chairmen and Leaders
- Organizes State Activities and Tournaments
- Materials Marketing (Brochures, Banners, Video, Web)
- Publishes Rosters, Data Sheets, Monthly Newsletter
- Provides Bylaws, Policies & Procedures, Templates
- Sells SIR Apparel & Other Items On-Line

As a final observation, I would like to recognize the support and guidance that is given to the branches through the efforts of our Area Governors and Regional Directors (including our own Branch 95 member Hugh Thompson) who are part of our State SIR structure. The meeting was adjourned, and I went away with a new sense of appreciation for the awesome job these men do for our SIR organization.

Our luncheon meeting is September 14th. It will be at Cameron Park Country Club. A Social Hour begins at 11:00 a.m. and the general meeting starts at 12:00 noon. Please support all the efforts of those who work so hard to provide an enjoyable and worthwhile experience by honoring us with your attendance.

The destiny of man is not measured by material computations. When great forces are on the move in the world, we learn we are spirits not animals. There is something going on in time & space & beyond time & space which, whether we like it or not, spells duty.

~ Winston Churchill

General Meeting

Wednesday, September 14, 2022

Proof of vaccination required

Buffet lunch \$30

NOTE NEW PRICE

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

Beef stroganoff
Egg noodles
Grilled asparagus
House salad
Rolls & butter
Beverage station with
iced tea, lemonade and
coffee included

September Birthdays

Charlie Gomez
Mel Hallett
Joe Lampich
Jerry Nester
John Ninan
Ron Waisner

**September Milestone Anniversaries**

No milestone anniversaries
this month

Membership

Welcome to our newest members
Marshall Armstrong and Craig Smith

Current number of members = 81
Number of new members this year = 19

LITTLE SIR | Ken Mahar

650-504-1393

Our speaker this month is Angela Hassell. Angela is executive Director of Loaves and Fishes. She will speak about her organization and provide general information about homelessness in Sacramento. She will also provide some context and background on the various ordinances that the City and County have recently passed as well as a ballot initiative that may be on the November ballot in Sacramento.

It's not too soon to start thinking about our annual holiday dinner. Planning for it is well underway. Mark your calendars for Wednesday, December 14, 2022 at 6:00pm. If past years are any indication, it will be a fun evening, enjoyed by all.

SUNSHINE | John Ninan, Chaplin

916-941-9479



If you are aware of a SIR member who is ill, please let me know by email at 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.

MAN'S BEST FRIEND

A real woman is a man's best friend. She will never stand him up and never let him down. She will reassure him when he feels insecure and comfort him after a bad day. She will inspire him to do things he never thought he could do; to live without fear and forget regret. She will enable him to express his deepest emotions and give in to his most intimate desires. She will make sure he always feels as though he's the most handsome man in the room and will enable him to be the most confident, sexy, seductive and invincible man alive.

No wait...sorry. I am thinking of scotch. It's scotch that does all that.

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

916-337-9811

Please be sure to introduce yourself and welcome our two newest members - Marshall Armstrong and Craig Smith.



Marshall Armstrong, who goes by Marsh, worked in commercial banking for a number of large banks. He came to our August meeting as Jay Muzio's guest. He's already joined our golf group. He and his wife, Elaine, live in Serrano in El Dorado Hills.



Craig Smith recently retired as a strategic planner for Cemex - a global leader in the building materials industry. He learned about SIR through our brochure that he picked up at Empire Ranch. He was a guest at our August meeting and joined shortly afterwards. He's already joined our golf group and has expressed an interest in our wine tasting activity. He and his wife, Mary, also live in Serrano.

There has been some initial discussion of our Branch developing a bocce league comprised of teams from other branches in our area. There would be weekly competition on branches' home courts during a season of a length yet to be determined. If you're interested, contact Kevin King at kmking00@gmail.com or Dan Cockcroft at dan.croft@comcast.net.

State SIR has dropped its COVID Protocol opting instead to allow branches to choose whether to preserve waiver and proof of vaccination requirements. The waiver requirement has been eliminated. The results of a membership vote whether to continue to require proof of vaccination will be reported at our upcoming meeting.

SIRS ON THE GO | Terry Starkel

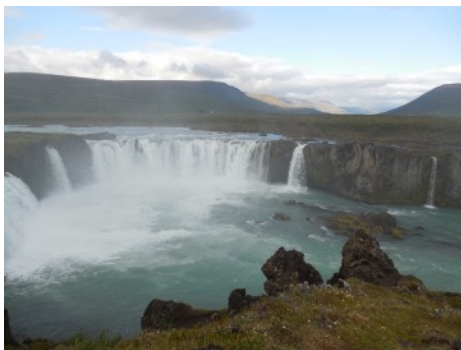
We booked a Viking Ocean Cruise in 2019 to celebrate our 50th wedding anniversary in 2020. It was cancelled, we rebooked for 2021, it was cancelled. We made it in 2022. We had three main concerns going forward with this trip. Would our flights be relatively on time, would our luggage make it, would we be healthy coming home. We were fortunate in that our three goals were accomplished.

After 20 hours of airports and flights we arrived in Bergen, Norway. After catching up on some sleep in port that night, we spent the next day seeing sights around Bergen before heading to Flam, Norway. We spent time in a total of four Norway ports and a train trip to interior parts of Norway, before a day at sea on the way to the Faroe Islands.

We visited a 300 year old farmhouse, a national heritage museum and many other sites.



After leaving Torshavn, we had another day at sea on the way to Iceland. Our first stop in Iceland was at Seydisfjordur. Then on to Akureyi and a visit to the Godavoss Falls and other sites.



Geothermal is big in Iceland. Most of the population lives around Reykjavik. After visiting a geothermal plant we also visited a geothermal area.

After a couple of nights in Reykjavik, we had a 16 hour journey home, following the sun the entire time. Overall, a good trip. Average daily temperatures in the mid-forties to mid-fifties. Rain most days, but only one day where wind, cold and rain provided stinging results. A couple of sunny days as well. Waterfalls aplenty and green hillsides, deep valley fjords and small communities. Some of our stops were at villages (population 640 to 740) at the end of a fjord. It was so nice to be able to see some different scenery after being mostly housebound for the last two years.



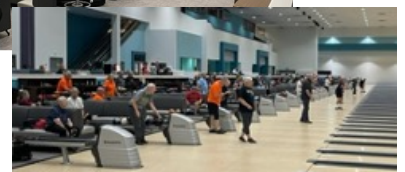
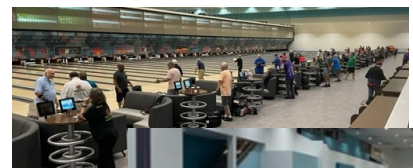
A number of our members enjoy traveling the globe and have had many wonderful experiences. If you have had a recent trip you'd like to share your experience with your fellow SIRs and perhaps inspire their next trip, send a brief report (with pictures if you'd like) to the newsletter editor at kmking00@gmail.com for inclusion in an upcoming newsletter.

BOWLING | Ray DiBasilio 530-558-9727



August 8-10th Branch 113 hosted the tournament in Reno at the National Bowling Stadium. We had 136 bowlers participate in the three-day event which consisted of singles, doubles and team competition.

After bowling many friends got together in the evening to enjoy the local restaurants, not to mention testing their skills with the machinery or a roll of the dice. As always, a fun time was had by everyone at one of the most popular events.



See **BOWLING** on page 7

BRANCH 95 GOLF | Terry Starkel, Golf Chairman

916-817-1524



The Club Championship is upon us. The three rounds of the Club Championship will take place on September 13, 20 and 27 at Mather, Wildhawk and Empire Ranch. The lowest cumulative score from these three events will determine our 2022 Club Champion. We currently have 27 golfers that have played enough SIR 95 golf this year to be in the running. Good luck to all participants. Remember that all SIR 95 golfers are still able to strive to be the first winner of our new SIR Branch 95 Gold Country Cup. Check the standings on the Branch website to see where you stand. The Marksmen of the Year award (another new award this year) is also still up for grabs. It only takes a few good shots to take the lead in this competition. Just like the Lottery, you must play to win.

This is the time of the year that I start working on next year's schedule. If you have certain courses that we have not played that you would like to play, please let me know. Our golf members numbers have increased, but not our weekly sign ups. I understand that many of us are experiencing some health problems and that is to be expected from our group. I think we have a really good group of players and social interaction is an important part of keeping healthy, so I hope to see more of you back out on the course as you are able to participate.

Welcome to our newest golfing members, Craig Smith and Marshall Armstrong. Both joined SIR 95 and our golf group in August.



Hats off to Graham Williams who nearly had a hole in one on the 7th at Wildhawk on 8/16. According to a club Marshall who was lurking nearby, the ball rolled over the hole and stopped 15-1/2" behind it. Graham was awarded a sleeve of golf balls for closest to the pin. Well done, Graham!

SAND TRAPS

Terry Starkel, Golf Chairman
916-817-1524

Golf Director (Mather)
Dennis Petersen 916-817-1149

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

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SIR Branch 95 Results 2022 Tournaments

August 2 – Empire Ranch

1st place: Dan Cockcroft
2nd place: Mark Thompson
3rd place: Terry Privott
Closest to the pin: Chad Barrow

August 9 – Mather

1st place: Ron Wadsworth
2nd place: Bill Yeager
3rd place: Lew Chapman
Closest to the pin: Jay Muzio

August 16 – Wildhawk

1st place: Dennis Petersen
2nd place: Dan Cockcroft
3rd place: Bill Drummond
Closest to the pin: Graham Williams

August 23 – Empire Ranch

1st place: Ron Wadsworth
2nd place: Terry Privott
3rd place: Bob Carlson
Closest to the pin: Don Nicholson

The older I get, the more clearly I remember things that never happened.

~ Mark Twain

SIR Websites

Branch 95: sirinc2.org/branch95/
State SIR: sirinc.org
State SIR Marketing: WeAreSIR.com
SIR Happenings (State SIR newsletters):
sirinc.org/newsletters
SIR Merchandise: sir.ourproshop.com

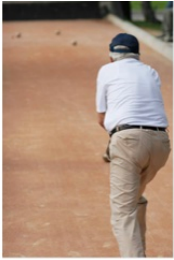
State SIR Officials

State President
Richard Kindle
209-652-8608

Region 1 Director
Hugh Thompson
916-276-5117

Area 4 Governor
Jack Reefer
916-531-2551

BOCCE | Oli Bohlman 916-844-4067



Play is open to SIR members, their spouses or significant others and invited guests. We play every Thursday at 9:00am at Promontory Park in El Dorado Hills. If you're a seasoned player or a first-timer wanting to learn the game, come on by. Everyone is welcome.

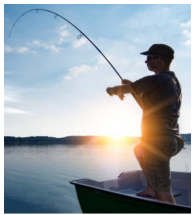
PICKLEBALL | Dan Cockcroft (PBS) 408-781-0714

Drop-in play on local courts where you'll often find a few members playing. 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)
- **OPENING SOON** - Heritage Village Park



FISHING | Dan Maglionico 916-719-6821



I'm looking forward to cooler weather and early winter rains to bring lake levels up so that we can get back out there. I'll keep the group posted. In the meantime, let me know if you have any planned fishing trips.

E-BIKING | Rich Christensen 916-817-1838



Join SIR members and other biking enthusiasts on weekly rides in the local area. Rides occur on paved biking trails. All levels are welcome.

Help grow existing and develop new branch activities. Contact Jay Muzio at jaymuzio@gmail.com if you're able to take on this critical role.



BOOK EXCHANGE | Lew Chapman 510-912-5658



My All-Time Favorite Book

Don't know much about history... remember that 1960 song by Sam Cooke?

I wasn't much of a history person until the second half of my life, but then I discovered *The Discoverers* by Daniel Boorstin.

Daniel Joseph Boorstin (October 1, 1914 – February 28, 2004) was an American historian at the [University of Chicago](http://www.libraryofcongress.gov) who wrote on many topics in American and world history. He was appointed the twelfth [Librarian of the United States Congress](http://www.libraryofcongress.gov) in 1975 and served until 1987. *The Discoverers* was a national bestseller when it was published in 1983. The subtitle is "A History of Man's Search to Know His World and Himself."

I learned more from the book than any other I have ever read. I highly, highly recommend it. Fair warning, it is an intellectually challenging book. I had to reread several chapters to get the concepts starting from his recounting of the invention of time, the invention of math, the development of religions and development of basic scientific paradigms, etc. I am on my third reread of this--my favorite book of all time and enjoying and learning as much as I did the first time.

Boorstin asks and addresses questions like: Why didn't the Chinese discover Europe or America? Why didn't the Arabs circumnavigate Africa and the world? Why did people begin to believe that there are "species" of plants and animals? Why were the facts of prehistory and the discovery of the progress of civilization so slow in coming? I'll try to make sure there is a copy of this great book in our exchange at our next luncheon.

This book is a part of a trilogy by Boorstin and is followed by *The Creators* and *The Seekers*. Also excellent and enlightening books.

So, remember the benefits of our SIR Book Exchange: No cost, no library cards, no late notices, no fines.

Finally--I write these articles about the Book Exchange to encourage participation. Please take as many books as you like. So far we are not getting too much action, so I'm considering lugging the books in less often (every other luncheon) Let me know what you think. And we can always use more books for our collection, I'll get my "dolly" going.

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



The August 18th wine tasting event was held at the home of George and Micki Alboff. There were five couples in attendance.

The featured wine this month was red blends. There was no specificity as to the region, country, or type of blend. Though the blends were different, they were all very good.

First Place with 32 points was a 2019 Ridge Three Valleys from Sonoma County (\$27). The blend consisted of 75% Zinn, 13% Petit Sirah, 10% Carignane, 3% Murtado and 1% Alicante Bouschet.

Second Place with 30 points was a 2016 Dueling Pistols (\$20). The blend was Zinn and Sirah.

Third Place with 25 points was Vengeance 2018 Napa Valley Red Blend (\$25). The blend consisted of Zinn, Sirah, Merlot and Cabernet.

Fourth Place with 13 points was a Justin 2019 Savant from Paso Robles (\$44). The blend was Cabernet and Syrah.

Fifth Place with 0 points was 2018 Terre Forte-Clauancard French Bordeaux Blend (\$17).

A potluck dinner followed the wine tasting. The dishes included lamb kebabs, rice pilaf, a greens and fruit salad and a wonderful peach tart.

Our next wine tasting will be September 15th. If you have not already joined the wine tasting group and would like to join, please contact Jay Muzio at jaymuzio@gmail.com. If you have joined the group but have not attended an event, please don't be shy we would love to have you attend the next event.

BOWLING continued from page 4

One of the fun tasks this year in Reno was the number and variety of items in the Lost and Found. Our team spent time with a lost cell phone trying to figure out who it belonged to and how to get it back. Thankfully, someone called and we were able to determine the owner. Other items included a man's wallet (easy to identify) and a search for a World Series ring (2011 St. Louis Cardinals).

Branch 55 hosted their tournament at Prosperity Lanes in Grass Valley on August 24-25. One of the beauties of traveling to the different cities on the SIR tournament calendar is treasuring the local beauty of towns like Grass Valley and Nevada City. Once more, another fun tournament that I was able to "cash" enough to replenish five gallons of gas.

Here's the tournament lineup for the next few months:

- 9/12-14 Gold Dust West, Carson City
- 9/27 Harvest Park Lanes, Brentwood
- 10/18-19 Steve Cooks Fireside Lanes, Citrus Heights

Fall leagues have started at Knotty Pine Lanes in Pollock Pines. The Monday Morning Mixed league is an adult league that boasts 24 SIR members. Room is still available for anyone that would like to join.

As always, please contact me if you would like to bowl or have any questions.

Looking forward to seeing you on the lanes.

MENSA CORNER

If FP = 10 and HX = 16, what does DS = ?

Answer: 15. The number is the number of alphabetical places between the first and second letter.

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.