



# 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 398

January 2023

Kevin King, Editor

## BIG SIR | Jay Muzio 650-302-1902



Fellow SIRs...here we are looking at another great year ahead; 2023 promises to be our Branch 95's best year yet. We will be building on our successes from 2022 and hopefully adding some new concepts to our existing routines. For instance, we could extend an invitation to our

significant others to attend luncheon meetings where the speakers would be of particular interest to women in our lives. We will also add some activities that are not ongoing, but are maybe just one time events. A casino night, a night at the ballgame, a dinner out night, or a bowling outing would be some ideas along this line. If you have some ideas let me know and we will see if we can make it happen.

In keeping with the theme of building on our successes, let's look at the important goals your board has set for the growth and well-being of our Branch 95.

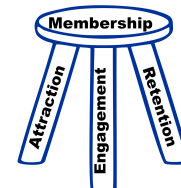
At the top of the list is to continue to improve communications. Kevin King has laid the foundation for our communications with our membership through our monthly newsletter and our SIR Branch 95 website. These vehicles of communication are working well and we would welcome content contributions from our members in the form of opinion pieces, stories, jokes, puzzles, pictures, etc. Be creative.

Continue to add activities to our list of activities available to our members. We would like to develop an activities committee with the goal of organizing

one time activities that would be fun, but not require a long term commitment. We are still looking for an activities chairman to oversee the needs of our activities groups as they are developing and assure the ongoing success of all our activities groups. A menu of fun activities is the foundation upon which SIR was built. Next to fellowship it is the most important recruiting and retention tool that we have.

### Increase the number of new members and retain existing members.

Adding new members to our branch is critical to the future of our group. New members bring new ideas, they support our activities and ensure new leadership in the years to come. I like to visualize membership as a three-legged stool where each leg is necessary and supports the other two. The first leg is attraction. To this end, George Alboff has volunteered to chair the Publicity and Image Committee. The function of this committee is to make sure that we have a presence in our local magazines and newspapers which will inspire men to join us. The second leg is engagement which is where Dave Chighizola's Membership Committee shines. They do new member intake and the required record-keeping. The third leg—retention—is the Member Relations Committee headed by Brian Lemley. The function of this committee is to ensure new members are effectively integrated into the branch. By ensuring the branch is meeting member needs through periodic surveying and soliciting branch member feedback to



See **BIG SIR** next page

### Gold Country Branch 95 2023 BEC Members- (PBS) denotes Past Big SIR

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

**BIG SIR** continued from previous page

maintain and improve branch performance, we boost retention. Can you picture this three-legged stool and how the legs work together to ensure SIR is a vital, valuable and worthwhile experience for our members?

Develop a pipeline of willing and capable volunteers from both new and existing members for critical leadership committee and activity rolls. Our goal for this year is to fill all board positions and recruit backup for all committee chairmen. The sustainability of all the progress we have made these last few years depends on members willingness to take backup rolls and be ready to step forward should the need arise.

I want to give special thanks to Ken Mahar and Jessica Disney for their hard work in producing a successful holiday party for us this year. The food was delicious, the décor was festive, and the door prizes were fun and imaginative. Thanks also to those of you that donated and contributed to this wonderful event. A good time was had by all, and if you missed the party this year, be sure to save the date for next year, because it just seems to be getting better and better every year.

Finally, I want to thank all of you that participate in our activities including our monthly luncheon meetings. We commend you all for your commitment to our SIR Branch 95 and count on you to continue to support our branch in any capacity for which you feel capable. Our membership renewal starts in January. Our dues remain the same as last year—\$40—and must be paid by our March 8th meeting to continue membership. Our next meeting is January 11<sup>th</sup>, at the Cameron Park Country Club. Happy hour starts at 11:00 am and the general membership meeting starts at 12:00 noon. If you haven't been to a meeting in a while, make it a New Year's resolution to attend January's meeting. I hope to see you all there.

\*\*\*\*\*

*"Start where you are. Use what you have. Do what you can."*

Arthur Ashe

## **LITTLE SIR | Lew Chapman** **510-912-5658**

I am honored to take over from Ken Mahar as Little SIR in this coming year. Thanks to Ken for his work in 2022 to bring us very interesting monthly luncheon speakers and in overseeing the organization of two very successful events, our annual picnic and the recent holiday party. Nice work Ken and the volunteers who assisted him.

Thanks to Jay Muzio for inviting me to be Little SIR in 2023. I hope I can live up to his expectations and be half as good as he and Ken

See **LITTLE SIR** next page

## General Meeting

Wednesday, January 11, 2023

**SPOUSES ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND JANUARY MEETING**

Proof of vaccination required

Buffet lunch \$30 per person

**CAMERON PARK COUNTRY CLUB**

3201 Royal Drive

**CAMERON PARK, CA 95682**

**Check-In & Social Time**

11:00 - 12:00

**General Meeting, Speaker & Lunch**

12:00 ~ 2:00



## January Birthdays

Bob Davenport  
Bill Keane  
Bob Mello  
Malcolm Ramsay  
Mark Thompson



## January Milestone Anniversaries

No milestone anniversaries this month

## Membership

Welcome to our newest member:  
Jim Peterson

Current number of members = 89

**Let Jay or any BEC member know if someone is ill or, otherwise, in need. We want to be able to provide our members and their families support and encouragement during difficult times.**



**LITTLE SIR** continued from previous page

were as Little SIR. I will certainly rely on other SIR members for their help putting on all these fun and important events. Please contact me if you can help.

Speaking of help, I would like to ask all of you to suggest topics or speakers for this upcoming year. I know you have lots of interests and ideas; so please pass them along to me. And, we have such a diverse group of members. I am sure many of you would be good speakers to share with us your interesting career experiences, a hobby, or a travel adventure, *etc.* Please consider volunteering to enlighten us at one of our upcoming luncheon meetings in 2023.

As is tradition, Ken has arranged for and will introduce our January speaker, and perhaps even our February speaker, he's working on that with me now.

Next up for our January meeting on Wednesday, 1/11/23 is one of the first Navy woman pilots speaking about her fight to allow women to fly at sea. Captain Joellen Drag Oslund, USNR (Ret) (Meadow Vista, California) broke new ground for US servicewomen when she completed Navy flight training as the fourth women Naval Aviator and the first woman helicopter pilot in 1974. In 1972, CAPT Oslund was selected as one of four civilians to enter Navy flight training when the program was opened to women by Admiral Elmo Zumwalt, Chief of Naval Operations. In 1973, CAPT Oslund graduated from Navy Women Officer School (now Officer Candidate School) in Newport, Rhode Island, and entered Navy flight training at Pensacola, Florida. In 1974, she earned the coveted Naval Aviator "Wings of Gold" and reported for flight duty with Helicopter Combat Support Squadron 3.

We think this program would be enjoyed by members and their spouses/significant others alike.

A big turnout is anticipated for what promises to be a fascinating presentation. Please make your plans now to attend our 2023 kick-off luncheon and invite your spouse/significant other to come with you.

The usual good value of \$30 per person applies to all members and spouses/significant others to attend the event.



## THE STORY OF MY FIGHT TO FLY AT SEA

Captain Joellen Drag Oslund,  
United States Navy Reserve  
(Retired)

**1st U.S. Navy woman helicopter pilot;  
4th Navy woman pilot**

**2017 Women in Aviation International  
Pioneer Hall of Fame Inductee**

**1st woman pilot assigned to duty aboard  
a U.S. Navy ship**

**1st Navy woman Combat Search &  
Rescue Helicopter Aircraft Commander**

**7 rescues of aircraft accident survivors-  
6 over open ocean, 1 in steep  
mountainous terrain**

**Successfully challenged federal law that  
excluded women from serving on  
U.S. Navy ships**



## HOLIDAY DINNER RECAP | Ken Mahar

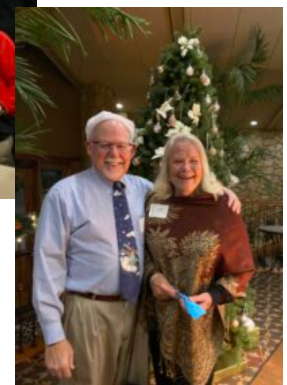
We had a very successful Holiday Party this year that broke all records for Branch 95. We couldn't have done it without your generosity in donations of cash and or gift items for the door prizes. With 89 members signed up to enjoy the evening, the bidding on the 29 door prizes was very competitive. Some of the door prizes were mega baskets filled with goodies and some others included experiences like Date Night packages, along with individual items that had everyone so excited that we broke a record in ticket sales as well this year.

I want to give a huge thank you to my wife Jessica in helping organize, design and implement the party. Our member Bob Burdt and his wife Ginni were invaluable helpers in setting up the gifts and selling door prize tickets. Tim Irish managed the registration and check in process to make the evening easy and on time for the event. After the welcome speech by myself and Jay, the 2023 Officers were sworn in and took the oath.

The food was delicious and the Cameron Park Country Club was the perfect place for us to celebrate and enjoy each other's company with their very festive decorations and table layout. The cash bar was also kept very busy during the evening which makes a nice addition to this location for our large events.

Thanks for your attendance and support for this year's banner event.

Following is a sampling of some of the pictures from the event. More can be found on our Branch website by clicking on the following link: [2022 Holiday Dinner Photos](#). A shoutout to Jay Muzio, Ken Mahar and David Chighizola for providing all of the photos of the event.





## BRANCH HAPPENINGS / SIR COMINGS & GOINGS | Kevin King (PBS) 916-337-9811



Former member, Jim Peterson, has elected to rejoin our Branch. While I couldn't locate his original application or when exactly he was a member, I was able to determine that Jim was Sunshine Chairman from March-December 2005 and Newsletter Editor from July 2005 - March 2009. When Jim turned over the reins to the newsletter, Big SIR at the time, Bill Stegman, said in the March 2009 newsletter that "...Jim formatted the [newsletter] process to make it better. If the opportunity arises, each of you should thank Jim for his service. It is the dedication of people like Jim that makes SIRS the organization that we all want it to be." Jim is a former Systems Engineer/Project Manager for IBM. He listed several activities of interest on his application including several that the branch currently offers such as bocce, fishing, pickleball and wine tasting. Jim has frequently been seen at drop-in bocce. Jim also indicated on the application ways he felt he could assist in Branch leadership and at our luncheons. He and his wife, Carol, are longtime El Dorado Hills residents. Be sure to extend a hand to Jim and welcome him back.

Branch 113 Past Big SIR/Honorary Life Member and incoming State SIR Secretary, Russ Salazar (right), presents an Honorary Life Member award to Ray DiBasilio. Ray has dual memberships in Branch 113 (Pollock Pines) and our Branch 95 where he is the Bowling Activity Chairman. Congratulations, Ray!



Thank you to our 2022 BEC members for the time you put in toward the continued success of our Branch. Special thanks go to Past Big SIRs Rich Turoff and Joe Giacomini who will be stepping down from the BEC after serving on on it for the past several years. Their leadership, advice and counsel over the years helped provide



continuity and made for a smooth transition each year when new BEC members came aboard. Finally, welcome to our 2023 BEC members who were inducted at the Holiday Dinner (see photo to the left). In addition to the inductees, Past Big SIR Kevin King, David Chighizola and last year's Little SIR, Ken Mahar, will be serving as Directors at Large. A Branch can have as many as six Directors at Large; so, if you have an interest in setting and implementing the goals for the Branch's continued success, we have openings for additional Directors. Give Jay a call if you are interested.

*2023 BEC Members being sworn in by Past Big SIR, Jay Guertin (from left to right): Jay; Terry Starkel, Secretary; Oli Bohlman, Treasurer; Tim Irish, Assistant Treasurer; Bob Carlson, Assistant Secretary; Jay Muzio, Big SIR. Missing: Lew Chapman, Little SIR*

## A LIGHTER MOMENT

One evening an old farmer decided to go down to the pond, as he hadn't been there for a while.

He grabbed a five-gallon bucket to bring back some fruit from the trees growing around the pond.

As he neared the pond, he heard voices shouting and laughing with glee. As he came closer, he saw it was a bunch of young women skinny dipping in his pond. He made the women aware of his presence and they all went to the deep end.

One of the women shouted to him, "We're not coming out until you leave!"

The old man frowned, "I didn't come down here to watch you ladies swim naked or make you get out of the pond naked." Holding the bucket up he said, "I'm here to feed the alligator!"

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



The 2022 SIR Branch 95 golf season has come to an end. We had a new Club Champion this year with Bill Yeager claiming the trophy. We have two new awards that will be presented for the first time at the January luncheon. The two new awards are the Marksman of the Year for 2022 that will be awarded to Tim Irish for the most "closest to the pin" wins this past year. The second is the Gold Country Cup that will be presented to Lew Chapman for winning the most points throughout the 2022 season. The points are awarded for first, second, third and occasionally fourth place finishes when we have more than 24 golfers. Good play throughout the season and playing often are the keys to this award. Congratulations to both Tim and Lew.

The schedule has been set for the 2023 SIR Branch 95 golf season. Weather permitting, we will be playing 36 scheduled rounds at 9 different courses. Schedules will be going out soon, if you have not received them yet. Some courses have changed their check in requirements. We now have two courses that require us to make one payment, Mather and Diamond Oaks. For these two courses, we will have to have our members pay the tournament director in cash, so he can pay the course fees. Also, at least one course will charge us if we have fewer than 90% of our golfers show up. That means in most cases once the starter list is sent in on the weekend, our numbers are set. If we drop as few as 1-2 golfers, we will need to pay for the missing player(s). Just keep this in mind. If something comes up at the last minute, please contact the tournament director to let him know. Sometimes we are left waiting in the pro shop to see if our last player is going to show up or not.

A reminder that you may want to check out the NCGA website and review the new rules for 2023, as well as the old ones. I will be updating the SIR Branch 95 golf rules before the start of the new season. Another reminder that our rules permit you to move the ball **6 inches** on the fairway and you are allowed to lift, clean and replace in the fairway. If the ball is in a hazard area, you must play it as it lies or take the penalty to move it. Also, in most tournaments, you are allowed gimme's if your ball is within 20" of the hole. You still need to count the picked up ball as a stroke. Most players have their putters marked at 20" for quick reference if it is close. Please review all rules before the start of the season.

I am looking forward to a new year for SIR Branch 95 golf. I hope all of you are, too.

## 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

*December 6 – Empire Ranch*

1st place: Peter Apel  
2nd place: Alan Bowles  
3rd place: Ray Guenther  
Closest to the pin: Terry Starkel

*December 13 – Mather*

1st place: Ron Wadsworth  
2nd place: Dan Maglionico  
3rd place: Jay Muzio  
Closest to the pin: Tim Irish

*Mather was the last round of our 2022 season. Next season kicks off February 7, 2023 at Empire Ranch.*

**See the flyer on the last page announcing the Friendship Golf Tournament being hosted by Branch 161 (Discovery Bay) on Monday March 6, 2023. Let Terry know if you'd like to put together a team.**

#### SIR Websites

Branch 95: [sirinc2.org/branch95/](http://sirinc2.org/branch95/)  
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)

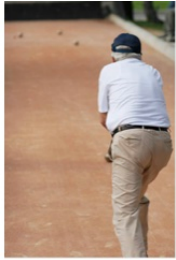
#### State SIR Officials

**State President**  
Dave Gonzales (Br98 - Rocklin)  
916-587-3538

**Area 3 Representative**  
Jim Gragg (Br98 - Rocklin)  
916-708-5154



**BOCCE | Oli Bohlman**  
916-844-4067



During the month of November we had some excellent attendance for our 10am Thursday morning Open Bocce at Promontory Park with as many as 12 attendees. We enjoyed lots of laughs and good natured competition. Gosh, we have a number of wives who really put the boys to shame. In December attendance has fallen. Recognizing that people are busy this time of year, and it is chilly, the balance of December has been cancelled. Hope to see you in January!! If you want to get added to the Open Bocce list contact me at [obohlman@sbcglobal.net](mailto:obohlman@sbcglobal.net) or call me at 916-844-4067.

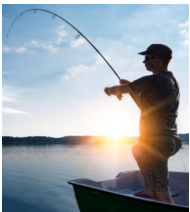
**PICKLEBALL | Dan Cockcroft (PBS)**  
408-781-0714

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)
- Heritage Village Park (EDH)



**FISHING | Dan Maglionico**  
916-719-6821



Let me know if anyone's interested in going out sometime in January. Also, I'm always looking for others with boats. Let me know so that I can keep a list for future outings.

**E-BIKING | Rich Christensen**  
916-817-1838



Join SIR members and other biking enthusiasts on weekly rides in and around the Folsom and El Dorado Hills area. Call Rich if you'd like to be added to his contact list in order to stay informed about future rides.

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

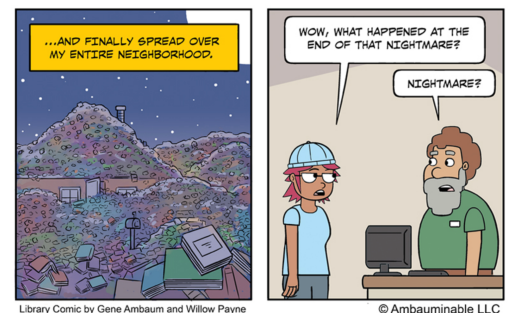
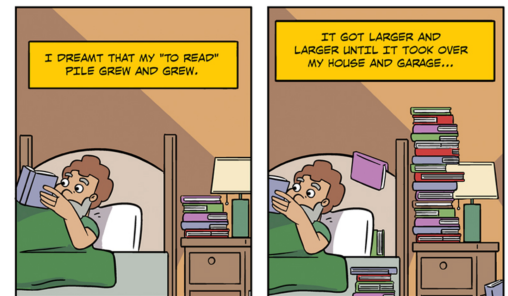


Happy New Year SIR Members:

As I mentioned in the December Newsletter, Jay Muzio brought in a book he just finished to the Book Exchange, and I snapped it right up on his recommendation. It's called Killing the Legends, by Bill O'Reilly (subtitle: The Lethal Danger of Celebrity). I promised I would write a book report after I have

finished it. I finished it quickly; it was really interesting. Here goes:

The individuals written about are Elvis Presley, Mohammed Ali and John Lennon. All became legendary in their lives and through their talents, BUT they suffered mightily because they surrendered their autonomy to others - Presley to Colonel Tom Parker and others, Ali to his manager Herbert Muhammed and others, and John Lennon to Yoko Ono and other influences. Their lives spun out of control at the hands of those they most trusted. They all lived very different lives, but suffered similarly due to the negative influences of others who did not have their best interests as a priority. Life lessons abound in this book for sure. Killing the Legends is back in the Book Exchange for January. Look for it.



Library Comic by Gene Ambaum and Willow Payne

© Ambaumable LLC

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

See you at the January SIR 95 luncheon at Cameron Park Country Club on Wednesday, January 11th at 11:00 am. Remember to invite your spouse or significant other to come this month and hear our fascinating guest speaker.

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



To all of our wine tasting members and prospective wine tasting members, our next event will be January 19<sup>th</sup>. We usually meet the third Thursday of the month. The wine tasting is just an excuse for getting together for a social evening and a potluck afterwards. This year we are planning to have an outing to one of our local wineries, and a wine tasting experience at Total Wine and More in their classroom/ tasting room. If you would like to join our group, please contact Jay Muzio at [jaymuzio@gmail.com](mailto:jaymuzio@gmail.com) or call me at 650-302-1902.

## JANUARY ACTIVITIES & EVENTS



5th, 12th, 19th, 25th - Drop-in bocce  
Promontory Park EDH



No golf in January  
Play resumes February 7th



11th - BEC & General Meeting  
Cameron Park Country Club



19th - Wine Tasting

Do you have a hobby or another activity you are interested in? All it takes is a few other like-minded members and a leader to get it off the ground. Let Jay know if you'd like the Branch to consider adding a new activity by emailing him at [jaymuzio@gmail.com](mailto:jaymuzio@gmail.com).

## BOWLING | Ray DiBasilio 530-558-9727



Attention all bowlers! Are you looking to get involved in a fun and social activity this winter? Look no further than the bowling leagues at Knotty Pine Lanes. Whether you're an experienced bowler or just looking to try something new, there is a league for you. Check at the front desk at Knotty Pine Lanes for more information on league days and times that fit your schedule.

With space available in every league, it's the perfect time to join in on the fun. And if you can't commit to a full league, there are also opportunities to substitute and bowl on a more casual basis. This is a great way to meet new people and enjoy a fun and friendly competition.

But that's not all - if you're looking for even more options, Red Hawk Casino in Placerville is set to open their Apex Fun Center with 18 lanes of bowling and more family entertainment. This is a great opportunity to try out a new venue and see what the Apex Fun Center has to offer.

In addition to the leagues at Knotty Pine Lanes and the Apex Fun Center, there are also several exciting tournaments coming up in the area. The SIR bowling tournament calendar is now available on their website, with the first tournament of the year being held at Napa Bowl on January 17-18. This is a great opportunity to enjoy some beautiful wine country while also testing your skills on the lanes. And, in February, the tournament will be held closer to home at Country Club Lanes in Sacramento.

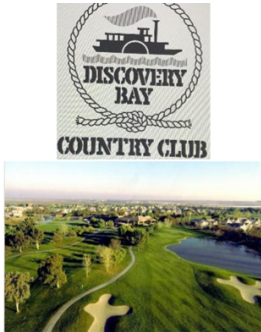
Don't miss out on this opportunity to get involved in a fun and social activity. We hope to see you on the lanes soon!

### 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.



SIR Branch 161  
 Discovery Bay  
 Discovery Bay Golf & Country Club  
 Monday, March 6, 2023  
 9:00 am Shotgun Start

## FRIENDSHIP GOLF TOURNAMENT

### Schedule

8:00 am: Check-in (72 player minimum)  
 8:45 am: Travel to starting holes  
 9:00 am: Golf  
 After Golf: Luncheon (Sit Down Served Lunch: Chicken Piccata w/roasted potatoes & green beans almondine, bread, tea or soda, and ice cream Sunday (no-host bar available)  
 Followed By: Awards Presentation

### Primary And Additional Contests

Two Best Ball Net Scores from a Four Man Team

1<sup>st</sup> Place: \$25 per person [PLUS INDIVIDUAL TROPHIES]  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: \$15 per person  
 3<sup>rd</sup> Place: \$12 per person  
 4<sup>th</sup> Place: \$9 per person  
 5<sup>th</sup> Place: \$7 per person  
 6<sup>th</sup> Place: \$6 per person

- Three Closest to the Pin Holes (Paying on First \$10 and Second \$5 for each hole)
- Skins (Two Flights)  
 Expected to pay \$5 per skin
- Low Gross (Two Flights)
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Place 60% - Expected to pay \$27
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Place 30% - Expected to pay \$13
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> Place 10% - Expected to pay \$ 4
- Low Net (Two Flights)
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Place 60% - Expected to pay \$27
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Place 30% - Expected to pay \$13
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> Place 10% - Expected to pay \$ 4

**Contact Branch 95 Golf Chairman, Terry Starkel for registration information.**