

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 413

April 2024

Kevin King, Editor

BIG SIR | Lew Chapman 510-912-5658



April--We are into the second quarter of the year already. When I was working and in my latter career, and responsible for my company's sales revenue achievement, I remember how stressful the end of each quarter was. Was I going to hit our forecasted sales revenue number or not? The end of the first fiscal quarter usually told the story for the rest of the year, did I get the forecast right or not? Man, that was stressful, and I don't miss it to be honest, whether I was hitting the number or not.

April is known for these other things as well. The etymology behind the word "April" comes from the verb "aperire," which means "to open." It's commonly believed that the word refers to the season of trees and flowers begin to "open" or bloom.

April is a great month for meteor showers, one of which is the Lyrids meteor shower, which appears from April 16th to April 26th each year. There's another one called the Eta Aquariids meteor shower that can be seen onwards from [April 21st](#).

One of the most well-known dates of the month is April Fools' Day on the [1st of the month](#). No one is sure

where this originated from, but some believe it to be inspired by Geoffrey Chaucer's story in "Canterbury Tales" called "Nun's Priest's Tale."

In this month's article I will touch on a recent State SIR Leadership Summit and a mention of new activities.

State SIR Leadership Summit

On Friday, March 15, Kevin King and I attended the State SIR Leadership Summit in Lafayette. Nearly 90 Big and Little SIRs and State SIR leadership were in attendance. Due to COVID, it has been about four years since the organization has had such a meeting. The meeting was well moderated, and we learned a lot. I wrote up a summary and sent it out to the Branch 95 BEC to see if our branch leadership wants to implement any of the ideas we came back with. Let me know if you would like me to forward the email to you to read. (lewpchap@gmail.com).

One good idea I liked is what some branches do in their monthly newsletters and at their branch luncheons. In order for members to get to know one another better, they have a member profiled in an article for the newsletter. Occasionally they ask a member to speak about themselves for a few minutes at a luncheon

See **BIG SIR** next page

Gold Country Branch 95 2024 BEC Members- PBS denotes Past Big SIR

| | | | | | |
|--|---|--|---|--|--|
| Big SIR Lew Chapman 510-912-5658 | Little SIR Ron Wadsworth 916-417-1484 | Secretary Terry Starkel 916-817-1524 | Assistant Secretary Bob Carlson 916-817-1181 | Treasurer Marshall Armstrong 650-438-7802 | Assistant Treasurer Grant McMicken 530-306-2468 |
| Director at Large David Chighizola 530-558-9336 | Director at Large Ken Mahar 650-504-1393 | Director at Large Bill Yeager, PBS 916-941-6632 | Director at Large Hugh Thompson 916-276-5117 | Director at Large Tim Irish, PBS 916-933-3466 | Director at Large Jay Muzio, PBS 650-302-1902 |

BIG SIR continued from previous page

(career highlights, family history, special experiences, etc.). I would like to start this soon and will be asking in a separate email if any member would like to be interviewed for an article or would volunteer to give a talk about themselves at an upcoming luncheon.

New Activities

At our last meeting I mentioned that we had a couple activities on the "bubble" for discontinuation for lack of participation. We decided to de-certify our fishing group activity. Thanks to Dan Maglionico for trying to get this going. The BEC decided to keep the e-biking activity for now in hopes that the warmer weather will bring out more riders.

The good news is that we have added three new activities to our Branch. They are Drop-In Bowling (Rick Willson spoke about it at our last luncheon), Classic Cars, and Best Burger Boys. Look for articles about each of these new activities in this newsletter.

Our next meeting is Wednesday, April 10th at the Cameron Park Country Club. Happy hour starts at 11:00 am and the general membership meeting starts at 12:00 noon. See Ron Wadsworth's Little SIR article about April's speaker.

LITTLE SIR | Ron Wadsworth 916-417-1484**Your Taxes: Critical Deadline Information Below!**

Okay, now that I have your attention, I actually have no tax information (except, do remember that April 15th is tax day!)

However, please read below for exciting dates and activities ahead to plan for:

- **April Speaker:** This month we are fortunate to have **Paul Helman - Docent California State Railroad Museum** speaking at our April 10th luncheon. Paul became a Volunteer Docent at the California State Railroad Museum in October 2002 and since then has logged in over 15,500 hours in the museum and its programs. Paul is a trained and qualified museum tour guide, a qualified Signal System Maintainer for the museum excursion railroad and an active volunteer for the very popular year-end Polar Express Family Experience.

So please plan to attend for **THE CALIFORNIA STATE RAILROAD MUSEUM - EXHIBITS, STORIES AND PROGRAMS**

See **LITTLE SIR** next page

General Meeting
Wednesday, April 10, 2024
Buffet lunch \$35 per person

CAMERON PARK COUNTRY CLUB
3201 Royal Drive
Cameron Park, CA 95682

Check-in & social hour
11:00am - 12:00pm

Lunch, general meeting & speaker
12:00pm ~ 2:00pm

**April Birthdays**

Michael Long
Norman Matzen
Grant McMicken
Ed Ricci
Alan Sherman

**April SIR Anniversaries**

1 years - Rick Willson
2 years - Dave Chighizola
3 years - Lew Chapman
(plus ~5-1/2 yrs Br116)
6 years - Peter Apel
Don Nicholson
11 years - Rich Christensen

Membership

New or returning members: 4
Departing members: 0
Current number of members: 96

LITTLE SIR continued from previous page

- **June 12th is our annual SIR 95 picnic at Promontory Park in El Dorado Hills.** As a reminder this is an event that allows us to bring our spouse or significant other if you choose. Please mark this date in your calendar now, and please consider how you might be able to volunteer to help make it a great day! If you feel like you can, please see me at the April luncheon, or email me at rtwads@yahoo.com. Look for the official invite in the near future.
- **A bit about the extra activities outside of our luncheons:** I have had the good fortune to be involved in both golf and pickleball. Initially, I figured these would just be good chances for outdoor exercises and experiences. Since then, I have come to find that getting into smaller groups (two person teams in pickleball, foursomes in golf), provides a great opportunity to get to know our SIR 95 men on a whole different and personal level. **Jay Muzio** has really been great in recent months adding more social activities and coordinating the sign-ups, etc. Please take advantage of the many extra activities our Branch has to offer.

BRANCH HAPPENINGS/SIR COMINGS & GOINGS | Kevin King 916-337-9811

Please welcome our newest members:



Stanley ("Stan") Lemke learned about SIR through a local newspaper article and his sponsor, Tim Irish. He was an Underwriter for Nationwide Insurance in the Agri-Business (farm) line. He listed many activities that he enjoys including antique cars, biking, bowling and golf which we currently offer. He and his wife, Alyslynn, live in Cameron Park.



Gary McKae is a former member and Little SIR at Branch 19 (Concord/Pittsburg). He is sponsored by Bill Willman. Gary is a Realtor for his own company - McKae Properties. He listed golf, investments, pickleball and wine tasting among the numerous activities that interest him. In fact, Gary has offered to chair a new Investments Group that the BEC will be taking up at its next meeting. Gary and his wife, Cindy, recently moved to the area and live in El Dorado Hills.



Scott Ravel learned about our Branch through his sponsor, Ron Wadsworth. He is a former Director of Global Supply Chain for Cisco Systems. He listed antique cars, biking, bocce, bowling, golf, pickleball, poker and wine tasting among numerous other activities he enjoys. His wife, Betty, and he live in El Dorado Hills.



William ("Bill") Klump learned about us through the ongoing piece run in The Clipper. He listed biking, golf and pickleball among the activities he enjoys. He and his wife, Stacey, live in Pollock Pines.



Harlan Proctor saw one of our advertisements and contacted our Membership Chairman, David Chighizola, to inquire about joining our group. He actually joined back in November but was only installed at our March meeting. Jeff was an Aquatic Biologist for the State Water Resources Control Board. He listed wine tasting as one of his activities. Harlan was a Staff Sergeant in the US Army in the early to mid-60s. He and his wife, Sandi, live in Cameron Park.



John ("Jeff") Zehner was sponsored by Terry Privott. He also joined in November but seems not to have been installed yet. He was a Field Service Representative for Pitney Bowes. His activities of interest include antique cars, bocce, bowling, golf, pickleball, poker and wine tasting among others. He and his wife, Charlotte, live in Folsom.



SIR Malcolm Ramsay was the recipient of the Senior SIR - 90 Year Presidential Award. Malcolm is a 26-year member of our branch.

Be sure to check out our three newest activities - Classic Cars, Drop-In Bowling and Best Burger Boys. More information can be found on pages 5 and 7 of this newsletter. Inaugural dates for these activities can be found on page 8.

BRANCH 95 GOLF | Terry Starkel, Golf Chairman

916-817-1524



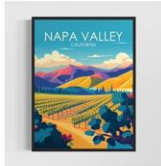
We finally had four rounds in a row with no weather-cancelled events. We are picking up new SIR members and many of them are interested in playing golf with our group. Welcome to those that have recently joined us and we look forward to adding more in the near future.

At the end of April (Tuesday, April 23) we will be playing Lincoln Hills. This will be one of the special golf formats for the year. It will be a two-man alternate shot competition. When you sign up for this event, please have a partner that you would like to play with. If you don't have someone, let me know and I will pair players up through a random drawing. The handicap will be determined by averaging the two player's handicaps. Extra prize money will be added to the money collected. More detailed information is on the [Branch webpage](#), along with the golf schedules, standings, rules, etc.

May should bring good weather and warmer temperatures. The fourth Tuesday in May we will be playing Diamond Oaks and the fourth Tuesday in June, we will be at Bartley Cavanaugh for a six-six-six format. More on that later.

A reminder to play ready golf and keep the pace of play moving. Also, keep an eye out for balls hit by the other players in your group. With the tall rough, it is sometimes hard to see the ball, even when you are almost standing on top of it.

state SIR Golf Presents
in Concert with Branches 95 & 149
A 2 Day Golf Event



2024 Spring Fling in Napa

Wednesday, April 24 at Chardonney Golf Club, a Four Man, 2-Best Ball Tournament with consecutive tee times.
Thursday, April 25 at Eagle Vines Vineyard & Golf Club, a Four Man Scramble with a Shotgun Start.

Ladies Welcome. Cash Prizes will be awarded for top Teams and Closest-to-Pin. Entries can be for one or both days. Further details and Entry Forms will be posted later on SIR State Golf Website at <https://www.sirgolf.org>. For more information contact Ben Gikis (408) 802-0794, gikisben@yahoo.com.

Reserve the Dates Today!

LAST CHANCE
Registration deadline is 4/15
or when the field fills up.
Only a few slots remain.

Details and entry forms are available on our golf webpage at sirinc2.org/branch95/golf or at the SIR State Golf Website at sirgolf.org.

SAND TRAPS

Terry Starkel, Golf Chairman
916-817-1524

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

Golf Director (Wildhawk)
Ron Wadsworth 916-417-1484

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SIR Branch 95 Results 2023 Tournaments

March 5th - Empire Ranch
1st - Chad Barrow
2nd - Randy Hood
3rd - Ron Wadsworth
Closest to the pin - Al Gurevich

March 12th - Mather
1st - Rick Willson
2nd - Ron Wadsworth
3rd - Randy Hood
Closest to the pin - Bob Carlson

March 19th - Ancil Hoffman
1st - Tim Irish
2nd - Ron Wadsworth
3rd - Steve Crane
Closest to the pin - Jay Muzio

March 26th - Wildhawk
1st - Stan Lemke
2nd - Ron Wadsworth
3rd - Chad Barrow
Closest to the pin - Steve Crane

Bookmark our Branch's [Golf page](#) to keep up with State and Branch golf news as well as the latest results from our weekly tournaments.

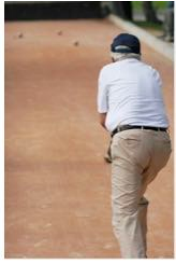
State SIR Officials

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

State President
Dale Decker (Br136 - Sonora)
209-573-0833

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

BOCCE | Oli Bohlman 916-844-4067



A regular group of members and spouses show up each week for drop-in bocce. There are four courts so there's plenty of room for more players. No experience is necessary - it's an easy game to learn. Come join us at Promontory Park every Thursday at 10:00am.

If you are not on the current email list and would like to be, contact Oli Bohlman at obohlman@sbcglobal.net.

PICKLEBALL | Dan Cockcroft, PBS

408-781-0714



We meet at 1:00pm on Wednesday's at Heritage Park in El Dorado Hills. Spouses/significant others are also invited to play. If you want to be placed on the email interest list, contact Lew Chapman, Ron Wadsworth or Dan Cockcroft. We will

send out a reminder early each week to confirm play time.

Some useful pickleball resources include:

- [Pickleball Channel](#)
- [USA Pickleball](#)
- playtimescheduler.com
- [Places 2 Play](#)

BREAKFAST & WALKING |

Norman Orrick 916-709-1693



The group meets at Denny's in Cameron Park each Thursday at 9:00am. We eat, discuss the week's events or whatever comes to mind. Sometimes we discuss a weighty subject, other times we might just tell jokes. After we eat and talk, those that wish, take off for a mile or two walk. We are looking forward to having new members to

enliven our discussions. To receive a weekly reminder, send an email to 7norte@google.com.

E-BIKING | Ken Mahar 650-504-1393



With the nicer weather, members are dusting their bikes off and starting to get out and ride again. A number of members have signed up for this activity but there's room for plenty more. Our next ride is scheduled for Monday, 4/8.

We'll meet in the Mexquite Restaurant's parking lot in Folsom at 9:00am. If you are interested in this or any future ride, contact Ken Mahar at kmahar@comcast.net to get on his email list.

TEXAS HOLD'EM | Ken Mahar 650-504-1393



We meet the first Wednesday of every month at someone's home. A \$20 buy-in and you're good to go. If this sounds like something that you might be interested in, please give me a call or

email me at kmahar@comcast.net and I'll put you on our contact list.

CLASSIC CARS | Rick Talone 916-761-7222



NEW Unlike car shows you may have attended where cars are for viewing only, the purpose of this group is to meet monthly with other car enthusiasts and drive your classic or

special interest car to lunch. The group meets the last Thursday each month at a predetermined starting location. The group will then drive a specific route to a location to enjoy lunch with other group members before driving back as a group. To be put on the group's interest list, contact Rick at the number above or email him at rte88a@comcast.net.

DROP-IN BOWLING |

Rick Willson (916) 847-1452



NEW Meets every Wednesday at FLB Entertainment Center in Folsom. Arrive at 12:45pm to get your shoes and pick out a ball. The cost of \$15 includes shoe rental and bowling

from 1:00pm until 4:00pm. Come for one game or as many as you're up to. No advance reservations are required. Just drop in for some fun and exercise with your fellow SIR members. Give Rick a call or email him at rivereagle4u@gmail.com for more information.

BOOK EXCHANGE | Lew Chapman, Big SIR 510-912-5658



The Book Exchange is going electronic...because "books are heavy." My grandson Eli is still working on the spreadsheet, so bear with us, we'll have a spreadsheet ready for distribution soon, hopefully.

But Eli has been really busy lately, what with adjusting to his Freshman year at Oak Ridge High School (getting straight A's!), AND learning his lines and rehearsing for an upcoming musical theater role as Gaston in *Beauty and the Beast*. This is put on by Christian Youth Theater in Folsom. It's his fifth production, and his younger brother Leo is in it as well in the role of the candlestick Lumiere.



Beauty & the Beast, Jr.
Apr 26 - May 4

Folsom
7 Performances

As has been my recent habit, I usually write a short book review each month, so I thought a review of the story and screenplay would be of interest. I've seen the movie with its fantastic musical score, but I couldn't really remember the plot. Here is a brief synopsis:

Author Gabrielle-Suzanne Barbot de Villeneuve, born in Paris in 1695, is considered the original author of the tale "Beauty and the Beast." The story was drawn from fairy tales and folklore and was first published in 1740. Long ago in a French kingdom, a spoiled and selfish Prince lived in a castle where he would throw big parties with all his royal subjects. One night, an old beggar woman entered his castle and offered the Prince a rose in exchange for shelter from the cold. The Prince sneered and laughed at the old woman along with his subjects, even as she warned him not to be deceived by appearances. The Prince turned her away once more, and soon after, the old woman's haggard appearance disappeared to reveal a beautiful Enchantress. The Prince tried to ask for forgiveness, but the Enchantress had already seen there was no love in his heart. As punishment, she turned the Prince into a hideous Beast and transformed the other members into household objects. And from there goes the tale...

So pardon the shameless promotion of my grandkids talent, but if you would like to see a very high quality musical theatre production by a local amateur company CYT, check out this link for tickets:

<https://www.cytsacramento.org/reseller/8c64b15c64a70e13fe3e6a0ed20b3b0e>

(If you use this link, my daughter's family gets credit)

Christian Youth Theatre is a fantastic experience for kids between 8 and 18 years old. I am a VIP supporter and volunteer, and for *Beauty and the Beast* I am on the Prop team headed up by my daughter and my grandson's mom, Paula Isham.

In the meantime, remember, *SIR Branch 95 Book Exchange: no cost, no library cards, no late notices, no fines. Going electronic to save my back!*

A little silver-haired lady calls her neighbor and says, "Please come over here and help me. I have a killer jigsaw puzzle, and I can't figure out how to get it started." Her neighbor asks, "What is it supposed to be when it's finished?" The little silver-haired lady says, "According to the picture on the box, it's a rooster." Her neighbor decides to go over and help with the puzzle. She lets him in and shows him where she has the puzzle spread all over the table.

He studies the pieces for a moment, then looks at the box, then turns to her and says, "First of all, no matter what we do, we're not going to be able to assemble these pieces into anything resembling a rooster." He takes her hand and says, "Secondly, I want you to relax. Let's have a nice cup of tea" and then he said with a deep sigh....."Let's put all of the Corn Flakes back in the box."

BEST BURGER BOYS | Lew Chapman, Big SIR 510-912-5658



Welcome to a new SIR Gold Country Branch 95 activity “BEST BURGER BOYS.”

The goal of this activity is the quest to find the best hamburger in the Gold Country. I got this idea from a group in another Bay Area branch I belonged to before I relocated to EDH. Once a month (or twice), a group of hungry old boys will pick a place and meet up to enjoy a great burger, have some fries, a beer or maybe even a milkshake. We will coordinate the activity by email and announce the upcoming location, date and time for us to show up and pig-out together.

We’ll make it fun by developing a rating system by burger attributes and include the quality and desirability of the accompanying sides (fries/onion rings) and beverages (beer/shakes), etc.

In my articles in our Branch 95 Newsletter about the BEST BURGER BOYS experiences, we will report our ratings, provide photos, etc. There seems to be no shortage of restaurants (fast food, pubs, chains, mom ‘n pop, and otherwise) to pursue in our area.



I am proposing our first burger pursuit for:

Friday, April 12, 2024, 12:00 noon
The Breakroom, Shingle Springs (4.5 stars, Yelp)
4131 S. Shingle Springs Road

At our first outing, attending members will discuss the frequency and preferred day(s) of the month which works the best for the group.

If you are interested in joining BEST BURGER BOYS for our April quest, please

send me an email. In a week or so I will also send out an email blast to the full membership of Branch 95 to take signups.

BEST BURGER BOYS, SIR BRANCH 95

No FOMO (Fear of Missing Out) -- Be there, or go hungry!



WINE TASTING GROUP | Jay Muzio, PBS 650-302-1902



The March wine tasting was held at the home of Jay and Irene Muzio. There were six couples in attendance, there would have been seven, but one couple had to drop out because of illness. The featured varietal this month was Sangiovese. Sangiovese can be a medium to full bodied wine with high tannins and high acidity. Major tasting notes include tart cherry, red plumb, strawberry and fig. They are usually lightly oaked in neutral oak barrels.

The winner this month was again a wine from Runquist winery in Plymouth. This winery has produced a winning wine in many of our tastings. Runquist winery is fun to visit and has a very nice tasting room with a knowledgeable staff. Their 2021 “The Hill” vineyard Sangiovese (\$25) was our overwhelming favorite. Second place went to Lake Sonoma 2019, Sonoma Sangiovese. (\$15). Third place went to an Italian Leon D’Oro 2018, Vino Nobile Di Montepulciano. (\$25). Fourth place was another Italian, Tenuta Di Renieri 2019, Chianti Classico (\$25). And, last-but-not-least, was Vigneto Santa Pia 2019, Vino Nobile Di Montepulciano. (\$50). All the wines were fantastic and deciding the best was exceedingly difficult.

Irene Muzio made porcini and cremini mushroom beef stew and everyone else provided appetizers, sides, and desserts to round out the evening’s meal.

Our next wine tasting will be April 19th. If you have not already joined the wine tasting group and would like to join, contact Jay Muzio at jaymuzio@gmail.com. Besides being able to sample a variety of great wines and a wonderful meal, the Wine Tasting Group provides a terrific opportunity to get out of the house and socialize with your SIR friends. And, as a reminder, not all our attendees drink wine; some come with a wine-tasting companion and bring their own beverage of choice to drink. Why not come and check it and us out?

APRIL ACTIVITIES & EVENTS



2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd - see golf [schedule](#) for



3rd - Texas Hold'em; host varies; 6:30pm



3rd, 17th, 24th - Drop-in pickleball;
Heritage Park; 1-4pm



3rd, 17th, 24th - Drop-in bowling;
FLB Entertainment Center; Folsom



4th, 11th, 18th, 25th - Drop-in bocce
Promontory Park EDH; 10am



4th, 11th, 18th, 25th - Breakfast &
Walking - Denny's Cameron Park; 9:00am



10th - BEC & general meeting
Cameron Park Country Club



12th - Best Burger Boys
The Breakroom, Shingle Springs



18th - host varies



22nd-25th - Gold Dust West
Carson City, NV



25th - Classic Car Group



Mondays and Fridays - e-Biking;
various starting locations

BOWLING | Ray DiBasilio, HLM 530-558-9727



SIR Bowling held two tournaments in the month of March. The first was on March 6th at Steve Cook's Fireside Lanes in Citrus Heights. Fifty-four bowlers competed in the one-day singles/doubles event. Lane conditions were difficult which made high scores tough. Cindy and I attended. Although we did not share in any of the prize fund, it was nice to get together with some local Sacramento friends.

The second tournament was held at Clayton Valley Bowl in Concord on March 19th and 20th. Cindy and I left after league on Monday and spent two nights near the bowling center so that we could bowl over two days and avoid much of the commute traffic. The tournament drew 72 bowlers posting some very good scores. Four bowlers had games over 250, one bowler bowled a scratch 786 and one of the lady guests bowled a 603 (her first 600 series!). Maybe the lanes were just "easy" ... or maybe spring has sprung and we're all starting to blossom. In either case, a good time was had by all.

As I do with many tournaments, as the SIR State Bowling Operations Advisor, I provided data services for the Concord tournament. That means entering bowlers, keeping track of averages and scores, and providing timely results. This trip my computer decided to go on "spring break." Fortunately, Cindy had her computer on this trip (a last-minute decision to bring it along). Good decision! We were able to transfer information over so that bowlers never experienced an issue. My computer spent our trip in a local repair shop for an unexpected oil change and tune-up. It's up and running fine now, seems it just needed a vacation as we all often do.

April 22nd - 25th will take our SIR bowlers and guests to Gold Dust West in Carson City. This has always been one of our more popular destinations and venues. The format is singles/doubles/team and can be bowled over one, two or three days providing a variety of scheduling options to fit your needs. Past Branch 113 Big SIR Tim Hall is the tournament manager. I hope you have an opportunity to reconnect and say hi as he welcomes us to come to the Nevada-style event and entertainment.

UPDATE: The SIR State tournament, to be held May 21st and 22nd has had a location change. We'll now gather at AMF Rocklin, a new venue for us. This tournament is SIR-only and will have \$500 added to the prize fund.

For more information about SIR bowling, the full calendar, and applications, check out our website at: <http://www.sirinc3.org/sirBowling/index.html>

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.