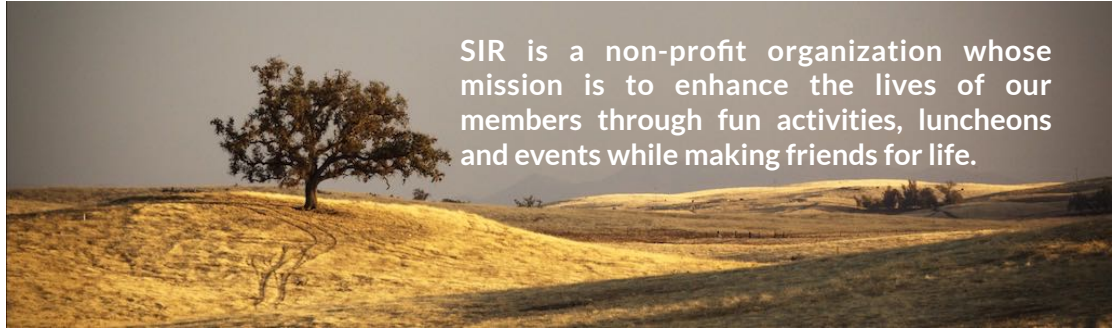


GOLD COUNTRY BRANCH 95



Bulletin 431

October 2025

Kevin King, PBS; HLM - Editor

BIG SIR | Ron Wadsworth 916-417-1484



September and October Reflections

The month of September was filled with energy, fellowship and momentum for Branch 95. Highlights included our three-week golf club championship, which brought out great competition and was won by Mike Wilke. The top four players were separated by just two strokes over the three-week period. And there was a fun evening at the River Cats game that drew a lively turnout. Members also enjoyed some spirited pickleball matches, continuing to build friendships on and off the court. The Best Burger Pursuit group continues to go anywhere necessary to find the best burgers (and tacos!) in the area.

On the leadership side, new officers are now in place and preparing for the future. Training will take place over the next couple of months, ensuring a strong and capable team to guide us forward. With a fully invigorated slate of officers ready to serve through 2026, the branch is well-positioned for continued growth and success.

Looking ahead, excitement is already building for our annual holiday dinner on December 10th. Be sure to check out the flyer and reservation form on page 6. This event always proves to be a highlight of the year, a time to gather, reflect and celebrate together.

Our branch continues to expand as well. Even though we had some members drop off at the beginning of the year, we have had many new members join. Back in March we had 100 members, and that number is expected to rise to at least 109 in October. The steady growth reflects the value people find in belonging to a group that balances friendship, recreation and leadership development.

These past two months have reminded us that we are a branch moving forward with energy, new ideas and strong community. With growth on the horizon and traditions to look forward to, the months ahead promise to be just as rewarding.

Our October speaker is the son of member Harry Hall. Andy Hall is Sergeant of Detectives for the Sacramento Police Department. He will give an overview of the structure of Sac PD and then dive into the Family Abuse Unit which investigates domestic violence and elder abuse cases. He'll also discuss a couple of case studies on individual investigations. He'll be accompanied by a special guest.

Gold Country Branch 95 2025 BEC Members- PBS denotes Past Big SIR; HLM denotes Honorary Life Member

Big SIR Ron Wadsworth 916-417-1484	Little SIR Brian Lemley 530-903-7184	Secretary Terry Starkel 916-817-1524	Assistant Secretary Don Nicholson 408-386-4119	Treasurer Bill Klump 209-679-4087	Assistant Treasurer Grant McMicken 530-306-2468
Director at Large Ken Mahar 650-504-1393	Director at Large Bill Yeager, PBS; HLM 916-941-6632	Director at Large Tim Irish, PBS 916-933-3466	Director at Large Lew Chapman, PBS 510-912-5658	Director at Large Scott Ravel 408-690-3816	Director at Large Marshall Armstrong 650-438-7802

THIS MONTH IN HISTORY | Randy Scott 916-834-9475

- 1863:** President Abraham Lincoln issued a proclamation designating the last Thursday in November as Thanksgiving Day.
- 1792:** The cornerstone of the White House was laid by George Washington. The building, located at 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, is three stories tall with over 100 rooms, and was designed by James Hoban. In November of 1800, President John Adams and his family moved in. The building was first known as the "Presidential Palace," but acquired the name "White House" about 10 years after its completion. It was burned by British troops in 1814, then reconstructed, refurbished and reoccupied in 1817.
- 1947:** U.S. Air Force Captain Chuck Yeager became the first man to break the sound barrier, flying in a rocket-powered research aircraft.
- 1879:** Thomas Edison successfully tested an electric incandescent lamp with a carbonized filament at his laboratory in Menlo Park, New Jersey, keeping it lit for over 13 hours.
- 1938:** The War of the Worlds radio broadcast panicked millions of Americans. Actor Orson Welles and the Mercury Players dramatized the story by H.G. Wells depicting a Martian invasion of New Jersey. Their script utilized simulated radio news bulletins which many listeners thought were real.

BRANCH HAPPENINGS | Kevin King, PBS; HLM 916-337-9811

We inducted two new members during our September meeting:



Fernando Ureno was an Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources for the Turlock Unified School District. He's been seen with the "Picklers" on the pickleball court. That experience led him to come to a lunch and join our Branch. He enjoys a number of activities including biking, bocce, breakfast club, golf, hiking and pickleball, of course. He and his wife, Linda, live in El Dorado Hills.



Donald Dupere learned about SIR from his neighbor. He was in leadership positions in financial analysis for a number of different companies. He checked off breakfast club and hiking among his activities. He indicated a willingness to volunteer in the areas of spreadsheets and budget planning. He and his wife, Diana, live in El Dorado Hills.

It's not too early to register for our Annual Holiday Dinner. More information and the reservation form can be found on page 6.

Speaking of the Holiday Dinner, please help make the night extra special by considering a donation for the door prize/auction part of the evening. It's always a fun way to cap off the evening. An email was sent with several suggested items. For more information, contact Ken Mahar at 650-504-1393.

General Meeting

—> **NOTE 3RD WEDNESDAY** <—

Wednesday, October 15, 2025

Buffet lunch \$38 per person

CAMERON PARK COUNTRY CLUB

**3201 Royal Drive
Cameron Park, CA 95682**

Check-in & social hour

11:00am - 12:00pm

Lunch, speaker & general meeting

12:00pm ~ 2:00pm



October Birthdays

John Albano (27th)
Rick Butterworth (15th)
Dennis Colvin (24th)
Lyle Cunningham (26th)
Levent Ersoy (4th)
Sam Griffis (20th)
Irv Joseph (21st)
Kevin King (16th)
Bill Klump (4th)
Rich Turoff (26th)
Bob Woodford (5th)



October Br95 Anniversaries

1 year - Simon Martin, Craig Slinger
2 years - Grant McMicken
3 years - Randy Hood, Brian Lemley,
DJ Peterson
4 years - George Alboff, Steve Annen
8 years - Rick Butterworth
15 years - Dan Cockcroft, Jay Guertin

Membership (as of 9/30/2025)

New members: 2
Departing members: 1
Current number of members: 105

BRANCH 95 GOLF | Terry Starkel, Golf Chairman

916-817-1524



Here we are down to the last eight golf rounds of the year. Our Club Championship went down to the wire with two players tied at 215 strokes over three rounds. That is just under a three round average of 72 strokes per round. I would say that was pretty good golf. The tie breaker was decided by who had the lowest score over the last nine holes of the final round. Mike Wilke took first place honors with Dennis Petersen taking second place. In third place with a total of 216 was Randy Hood and in fourth place with 217 was Bob Carlson. The prize money and trophy will be awarded at our October luncheon.

Towards the end of October, I will be sending out a renewal message to all of our golfers. The cost will remain the same as it was this year, \$55. This includes membership in NCGA and goes towards our prize money and awards during the year. We currently have about 45 golfers on our Branch roster with NCGA and usually between 20 and 24 players participate each week.

I am starting to work on next year's golf schedule. If you have a golf course you would like to see added, please let me know. We usually play Empire Ranch the first Tuesday, Mather the second Tuesday and Wildhawk the third Tuesday. The fourth Tuesday is one of the other golf courses in the area, to add variety to our play. Also, if anyone is interested in helping out by taking over the tournament duties for one of the courses. Please let me know.



Oops: The link for the 2025 Buy a Day Golf Tournament was incorrect in the last newsletter.

There still may be time to register for El Dorado Hills Area Foundation's [2025 Buy a Day Golf Tournament](#) at Serrano Country Club on 10/20/2025. The tournament helps support local non-profits in El Dorado Hills and surrounding areas.

SAND TRAPS

Terry Starkel, Golf Chairman
916-817-1524

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

#####

SIR Branch 95 Results 2025 Tournaments

September 2nd - Mather
1st - Don Nicholson
2nd - Randy Hood
3rd - Mike Wilke
Closest to the pin - Randy Hood

September 9th - Empire Ranch
1st - Dennis Petersen
2nd - Rick Willson
3rd - Randy Hood
Closest to the pin - Randy Hood

September 16th - Wildhawk
1st - Steve Thomson
2nd - Dennis Petersen
3rd - Mike Wilke
Closest to the pin - Tim Irish

September 23rd - Diamond Oaks
1st - Tim Irish
2nd - Jay Muzio
3rd - Al Cooney
Closest to the pin - Al Cooney

**Congratulations
to 2025 SIR Branch
95 Club Champion,
Mike Wilke.**



SIR Websites

Branch 95: sirinc2.org/branch95/

State SIR: sirinc.org

The Rooster Crows (State SIR newsletters):

sirinc.org/newsletters

SIR-Branded Merchandise: sir.ourproshop.com

State SIR Officials

State President

Rich Carlston (Br8 - Walnut Creek)
925-324-0838

Vice President

Fred Serena (Br59 - Fremont)

Area 3 Representative

Jim Gragg (Br98 - Rocklin/Roseville)

BOCCE | Oli Bohlman 916-844-4067

Come join other members and their spouses/significant others at Promontory Park every Thursday at 9:00am for drop-in bocce. It's a fun game everyone can play. If you are not on the current email list and would like to be, just give me a call.

PICKLEBALL | Chad Barrow 209-603-7346

Our group plays weekly at Heritage Public Courts. The day and time are generally sent out the weekend before to those on the email list. We encourage all skill levels to come out and join us. Feel free to contact me with any questions. See you on the courts.

E-BIKING | Ken Mahar 650-504-1393

We plan weekly small group rides on paved trails in the local area. We generally meet in the Mexquite parking lot in Folsom. Rides are typically 90 minutes with a short break in between. Let me know if you'd like to join us.

BREAKFAST & WALKING |

Norman Orrick 916-709-1693



The group meets at Dennys, 3446 Coach Lane, Cameron Park each Thursday at 9:00am. We eat, shoot the breeze, crack a joke or two and sometimes say something profound. The main thing is to enjoy each other's company. 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, call or send a text to 916-709-1693.

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

We meet the second Thursday of every month at someone's home. All that's needed is a \$20 buy-in for a fun-filled evening with your fellow members and a chance to go home the big winner. If this sounds like something that you might be interested in, give me a call to be put you on our contact list.

FOOTHILLS COOL CARS |

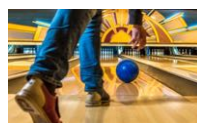
Rick Talone 916-761-7222



Meets at 10:30 the last Friday of the month at the old Purple Place's parking lot before driving as a group to lunch to share car stories and experiences.

DROP-IN BOWLING |

Rick Willson 916-847-1452



Come join us for drop-in bowling at Folsom Lake Bowl Entertainment Center located at 511 E. Bidwell in Folsom. A small, but dedicated group of us meet the first and third Wednesdays of each month. We have room for more members to join in the fun. We bowl from 1:00 to 4:00 and the cost is \$15 per person. Give me a call for more information.

HIKING | Randy Scott 916-834-9475

Get ready to explore trails, experience the outdoors and connect with fellow nature enthusiasts! Whether you seek strenuous climbs or relaxing strolls, you'll find a place with a variety of hikes, catering to different skill levels and interests. Come join us for monthly group hikes throughout the local region. The day and time will generally be sent out to those on the email list. Call me to get on the list.

What new activities would you like to see? Contact our Activities Chairman, Jay Muzio, with any ideas. Jay will get the ball rolling.

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



Jim and Carol Peterson hosted this month's wine tasting at the Paul J winery near Plymouth. Six red wines and two whites were sampled, all of exceptional quality and reasonably priced. If you haven't tried Paul J wines yet, they're worth considering for any occasion.



My top picks were: the 2021 Kayce Calvin Red Blend (\$19.20), featuring Zin, Petite Sirah, and Tannat; the 2020 Camillies Red Blend (\$25.60), a mix of Portuguese grapes Tinta Cao and Souzao; and the 2020 Tannat (\$27.20), also Portuguese.



Each person brought appetizers to accompany the wines, and the group sat on the patio to share food, wine and conversation.

If you have not already joined the wine tasting group and would like to join, contact Jay Muzio at the number above. Besides being able to sample a variety of great wines and have 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 us out?

BEST BURGER PURSUIT | Dan Koelzer 916-718-0521



Our 13th burger activity was on 9/26/2025 at our previous Number 1-rated burger place – Sportsman's Hall in Camino/Pollack Pines. They have great burgers, a good menu and lots of character since it is an old Pony Express stop. Our ratings were still high for our second visit to this one; however, it did drop a few notches from Number 1 to Number 4 overall, slightly behind Bricks in Placerville which we visited last month. Still well within our group of top-ranked places. Sportsman's was strong in the Service, Promptness and Price categories, where they rated 3rd and 2nd, respectively (out of 13 total venues).

For our next BBP activity we will revisit the previous Number 2 burger place, Poor Reds in the town of El Dorado. They are located where Highway 49 meets Pleasant Valley Road, just east of the split from Mother Lode Drive. Same time as always – 12:00, high noon. It will be on Friday, October 24nd. If anyone has a favorite burger place they would like to try, I can throw that into the hat also. Give me a call to let me know at the above number.

THE READER'S CORNER | Harry Hall 916-939-7161



The Maidens by Alex Michaelides, 2021 Fiction
A+ An excellent read

This is the 2nd novel by best selling author Michaelides (*The Silent Patient*). The story is set in Cambridge University in England. Mariana Andros is a brilliant but troubled group therapist (her husband died tragically in a drowning accident). She is asked by her niece, Zoe, to return to her alma mater, after a student that Zoe was close to was murdered. Mariana becomes convinced that the murder was at the hands of Professor Fosca, a handsome and charismatic individual that has gathered a group of young lady students under his guidance, who call themselves The Maidens. During her obsessive investigation to tie Fosca to the murder, another Maiden is killed. This hurts her credibility, and the Police refuse to let her continue. But she is determined to stop the killer, even if it costs her everything.

ANNUAL HOLIDAY DINNER | Ken Mahar, 650-504-1393

Preparations are being made for our annual Holiday Dinner. Remember, if you'd like to contribute an item or cash for the special conclusion of the event, bring your contribution to the November 19th meeting or arrange a convenient time with Brian Lemley (530-903-7184) for drop off or pickup. Contributions must be received by December 1st.



**JOIN US FOR OUR
2025 HOLIDAY DINNER**


WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10TH
CAMERON PARK COUNTRY CLUB
6:00 - 7:00 no-host cocktails
7:00 - 9:00 dinners and winners
\$75 Per Person

Reserve a space for yourself and a guest, and make your dinner choice **before December 1st.**

- **DOOR PRIZES**
- **SILENT AUCTION**

Questions? Contact Ken Mahar (650) 504-1393 or kmahar@comcast.net

Please make check out to SIR BRANCH 95
 mail or deliver before December 1st to
 Ken Mahar,
 5025 Tesoro Way,
 El Dorado Hills, CA 95762

2025 SIR Branch 95 Holiday Party - Dec 10th, 2025 6pm Meal sign up form \$75 each				
	First Name	Last Name	Badge #	Paid \$75 ea write Check #, write Cash amt.
Member First, Last Name				
MEALS #1 & #2 or #3 are plated and include salad, two sides, dinner rolls, dessert, coffee/tea				
	#1	#2	#3	
CIRCLE ONE Member plated dinner choice	Chicken Saltimbocca, prosciutto, fried sage, creamy Gruyère & rosemary sauce	Vanilla-braised beef shortrib, rich jus and crispy onion	CIRCLE ONE dietary special meal Vegan -OR- Vegetarian	
Guest First & Last Name			n/a	Paid \$75 ea write Check #, write Cash amt.
CIRCLE ONE Guest plated dinner choice	Chicken Saltimbocca, prosciutto, fried sage, creamy Gruyère & rosemary sauce	Vanilla-braised beef shortrib, rich jus and crispy onion	CIRCLE ONE dietary special meal Vegan -OR- Vegetarian	
Check payable to (SIR Branch 95) - Mail to: Ken Mahar, 5025 Tesoro Way, El Dorado Hills, CA 95762 - Phone: (650) 504-1393				

BOWLING | Ray DiBasilio, HLM (Branch 113) 530-558-9727



September was a busy month for SIR tournaments. We first traveled to Carson City on September 8-9, bowling at Homegrown Lanes. The new owners, Danny and Jennifer Dunbar, continue to remodel and upgrade the old facility. One of the newest improvements is the addition of the BTM software which makes bowler scores and data transfer seamless (for SIR bowling this is awesome!). We had 43 bowlers competing during the two-day tournament. Tournament host, Branch 160, added \$475 to the prize fund and also offered a \$5 coupon discount on the lunch menu to all participants. Big thanks to Branch 160 for a fun tournament!

Later in September, our tournament schedule took us to Paddock Bowl in Pacheco. We had 63 bowlers attend over the two days. Scores were high with a 279 and several others over 250. Needless to say, there were lots of smiles over the two days. Side note, Mark Bristol, owner of Paddock Bowl will be closing the facility for three weeks in December to install brand new free-all pin setters. That should really brighten the retro look of the center – we can't wait to get there again next year!

The tournament at Paddock Bowl was hosted by Branch 73. Our host was to be Wiley Bobo. Sadly, we lost Bo the very next day due to complications of cancer. I am sure Bo held on the extra day to ensure we all did well in the tournament (and we did!). Bo is survived by his wife of 60 years, Carol Bobo, and two daughters. We are blessed that his mind was alert, and he was able to communicate his love with us until the end. We are saddened that his body could not keep up but find comfort in knowing he is no longer suffering and now rests in heaven. That thunder we hear will always remind me of Bo and the strikes he rolled so often.

For results of this tournament and more, head over to the SIR Bowling webpage: [SIR BOWLING](#).

Striking up Friendships



We are working on the calendar of bowling events for 2026. Should you want to see a tournament (or more tournaments) in your area, please let me know!

SEE YOU ON THE LANES!

SIR 95 BOCCE TEAM



Our branch bocce team wrapped up this year's SIR Regional Bocce Tournament in Auburn. Team Captain, Dan Cockcroft, reported that our guys played valiantly in two close games that they eventually lost against Branch 55 (Grass Valley/Nevada City) and Branch 98 (Rocklin/Roseville). The team also dropped their other game against eventual season champion, Branch 37 (Auburn). We finished fourth. This is the third straight year that Branch 37 has taken home the trophy. While the season didn't go as expected, it provided our guys an opportunity to meet and get to know SIR members from other branches in friendly competition. As was the Chicago Cubs mantra for 108 years before winning the World Series in 2016, "Wait until next year!"

RIVER CATS POP-UP EVENT

Recently several of our members and their families spent a night at the ballpark as our Sacramento River Cats took on the El Paso Chihuahuas. The River Cats won in comeback style 5-4 - scoring two runs in the bottom of the 11th inning! A comfortable summer evening, hot dogs, beer, baseball and SIR friends. It was a great night enjoyed by all.



Pop-up events are a great way for members to get out and spend time together for those one off events that just "pop up". If you have an idea for one, give Jay a call at 650-302-1902.

OCTOBER ACTIVITIES & EVENTS



7th, 14th, 21st, 28th; see the [golf schedule](#) for a list of courses and check-in times



9th - Texas Hold'em; host varies; 6:30pm



Thursdays - Drop-in pickleball; Heritage Public Park; 7:30



1st - Drop-in bowling; FLB Entertainment Center; Folsom; 1-4pm



Thursdays - Drop-in bocce; Promontory Park EDH; 9:00am



Thursdays - Breakfast & Walking - Denny's Cameron Park; 9:00am



15th - **NOTE 3RD WED.**; BEC Meeting & Luncheon; Cameron Park Country Club



16th - Saluti Cellars Winery; Somerset; noon - 2:00pm; hosted by the Eyler's



24th - Poor Reds; El Dorado; noon



14th – Bowlero; Brentwood



31st; meet in the Purple Place parking lot at 10:30am; drive and lunch destination TBD



Contact activity leader, Ken Mahar, for any scheduled rides

1. 10,000
2. 206
3. Intelligence Quotient
4. Panama
5. Vermont

A LIGHTER MOMENT

Do you remember the television series "Are You Smarter Than a Fifth Grader?" Well, let's find out if you are with these five questions (answers are at the bottom left of this page next to the biking activity):

1. Steven has \$100 in pennies. How many pennies does he have?
2. How many bones are in the human body?
3. What does the term "IQ" stand for?
4. Costa Rica borders two countries. Nicaragua is one of the countries. What is the other?
5. What northernmost State was there a Civil War battle?

I asked the director of a psychiatric ward how they know for sure if someone is mentally unstable and needs to be committed. He explained their method: they go to a bathroom and fill a bathtub to the top. They then give the patient a big bucket and a small spoon, and ask them to empty the tub. "Ah," I replied, "so the normal person chooses the big bucket because it's larger, right?" The director disagreed: "No, a normal person would simply pull the drain stopper." And added "By the way, is a room with a garden view ok for you?"

Researchers have discovered something that can do the work of five men: A woman.

My new car has a gadget for just about everything. It even has a rear wiper. I can't wait to try it.

What's the best way to remember your wedding anniversary? Forget it once.

High sodium, high cholesterol, lots of toxins -- your blood is remarkably similar to a potato chip.

Arguing with a woman is like reading a Software License Agreement. In the end, you ignore everything and click "I agree".

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 Inc. and its branches, are for the convenience and pleasure of the members and their guests who desire to participate. SIR 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.