



# SONS IN RETIREMENT ALMADEN BRANCH 94

A Nonprofit Organization For Retired Men

Devoted to the promotion of Independence and Dignity of Retirement

Almaden Branch 94 meets the second Thursday of each month at the Elks' Lodge,  
444 West Alma Avenue, San Jose, CA 95110

Branch Executive Committee Meeting - 10:00 AM,  
Fellowship - 11:00 AM, Luncheon - 11:45 AM



## Big Sir Message February 2021

As this is my first column as BIG SIR I would like to start by thanking the BEC (branch executive committee) for sticking together to not only assist me but also to keep our branch functioning in these unusual times. It hasn't been easy and we've had a lot to learn.

Speaking of learning, have we got a great speaker for our February meeting. We are fortunate to have Russell Downing back again for Part 2 of his global travels. His pictures are of National Geographic caliber and his knowledge and background of the places he's been is indeed awesome!

As a reminder, we are still looking for volunteers for many vacant positions: Assistant treasurer, assistant secretary, directors and advisors. That's it for now. See you at the branch meeting on Feb 11th at 7:00 PM

-Ed Shpiel



### Executive Committee

Big Sir	Ed Shpiel	408-379-3388
Little Sir	Julian Luci	408-268-5876
Secretary	Mike Conley	831-801-3863
Asst. Sect.		
Treasurer	Neil Keever	408-257-1345
Asst. Treas.		
Director	Ted Head	408-440-7137
Director		
Director		
Director	Rich George	408-258-1438
Director	John Sargent	408-225-3556
Director	Ron Carter	408-996-1285
Advisor	Chuck McCoy	408-371-6988
Advisor	Leo Pursley	408-997-7739
Advisor	Chris Monahan	408-375-4743
Advisor	Darrell Jones	408-262-6273
	<a href="#">SIR Organization.</a>	
State President	Stuart (Stu) Williams	510-865-5000
Region 4 Director	Pat Reed	209-289-3314
Area 11 Governor	Phil Thomas	408-410-3626

State Sir Web Site = [www.sirinc.org](http://www.sirinc.org)

Branch 94 Web Site = [branch94.sirinc2.org](http://branch94.sirinc2.org)

Branch 94 Webmaster/Newsletter Editor:

Darrell Jones, 408-262-6273, [dbjs04@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dbjs04@sbcglobal.net)

Newsletter Photography by Chuck McCoy

### Branch 94 Meeting

This meeting will be on the internet using the Zoom program /app at 7:00 PM on February 11.

Try this link --> [URL:](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84030967639)

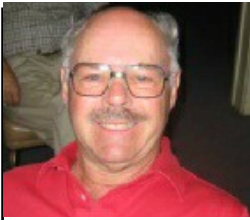
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84030967639>

Or use the program/app:

Meeting ID: 840 3096 7639

Password: SIR94

<b>Speaker:</b>	Russell Downing
<b>Topic:</b>	Global Travels part 2



**Treasurer's Report  
Submitted by  
Neil Keever**

	<b>B of A</b>	<b>COH</b>	<b>Total</b>
Carry Over	\$2075.77	\$75.00	\$2150.77
January Income:			
Luncheon Receipts	\$0.00		
Contributions	\$0.00		
Total Income	\$0.00		
January Expenses:			
Elks - Luncheon	\$0.00		
State Assessment	\$0.00		
Bank Service Fee	\$16.00		
January Ending Balance	\$3059.77	\$75.00	\$2134.77



**February Birthdays**

Wayne Crane	Sal Garcia
Gary Auclair	Phil Ignoffo
Bill Lee	Lon Winter
Rex Krivanek	Bill Campbell
Frank Polllifrone	

**February Anniversaries**

Thom & Glee Huenergardt, 54  
Ron & Mary Raecker, 46  
Dave & Diane Garelick, 10

**Zoom**

Branch 94 has been using the Zoom Application to hold the Branch 94 during the Covid-19 epidemic.

Zoom may be run on your smart phone or computer. For computer use you need speakers or earphones/buds to hear plus camera and microphone to partipate. For the Smartphone version, I found it on the app store. To obtain a Windows version, go the Zoom website.

[URL: https://zoom.us/download](https://zoom.us/download)

**Newsletter Access**

If you would like to access any Branch 94 Newsletter published since January 2019, they are available on our website at [URL: branch94.sirinc2.org](https://branch94.sirinc2.org). At the bottom of the page click on "Newsletters", then select the issue you would like to read.

**Sons In Retirement**

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## SIR Branch 94 January 2021 BEC Meeting Minutes

CALL TO ORDER by Big SIR Mike Conley

1. Present: Ed Shpiel, Treasurer; Ron Carter, Membership Chair; John Sargent, director; Chris Monahan, Program Chair; Ted Head, director; Julian Luci, Little Sir; Neil Keever, branch auditor; Mike Conley, Big Sir; Darrell Jones, branch webmaster; Jim Stonehouse, Secretary. 7 of the 11 officers and directors.
1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA. All present had copies of e-mailed agenda. Moved Ron Carter/Second by Ed Shpiel/Approved by unanimous voice vote.
2. MINUTES of November 12, 2020, meeting were not available due to the fact that a quorum was not in attendance. The officers who were present, Ed Shpiel, Neil Keever and Mike Conley, decided not to meet in December.
3. TREASURER'S REPORT. Ed Shpiel showed the Form 28, which indicated a balance of \$2,150.71. Only expense was the \$16.00 BofA charge. Report was accepted by a unanimous voice vote.

### II. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- 1.i. LITTLE SIR REPORT. Julian Luci led discussion of Attendance and the present Callers' list and the reasons for low attendance at ZOOM meetings. Replacement callers suggested were Guy Pound and Don Slama.
2. MEMBERSHIP. Chairman Ron Carter indicated that the Form 27 "temperature of the Branch" report was in preparation. Membership numbered 102; Treasurer Shpiel stated that State indicated 105 for the annual dues estimate. Ron will solidify the count for the Year End form 29 due January 31.
3. In the absence of Rich George there was no RECRUITING report. Big SIR Conley stressed the importance of building a program to develop future leaders.
4. PROGRAM Chairman Chris Monahan spoke highly of guest speaker Russell Downing "a wild photographer of wild life" all around the world. Big Sir Mike will contact him about the ZOOM preparations required. Monthly virtual Branch Monthly Meeting is 1/14/2020 at 7:00 PM.

### III. NEW BUSINESS

#### 1. ANNUAL AUDIT

- 1.i.1. Chair Neil Keever indicated that material is being collected and be complete by month end.
  - 1.i.1.a) Treasurer Ed Shpiel moved to approve Neil as Branch Auditor for 2020, seconded by Julian, approved by voice vote without exception.
  - 1.i.1.b) Neil and Ed Shpiel will meet and complete by month end.
  - 1.i.1.c) Paul Berg, Darrel Jensen and Mike Conley will provide committee reports.
2. Treasurer-Elect Neil Keever led discussion to change the Branch 94 bank account to Union Bank to eliminate BofA's monthly charges. He will be Treasurer after installation. Ed Shpiel moved /Second Julian Luci/Approved by unanimous voice vote.
3. INSTALLATION of the 2021 Branch Executive Committee NOMINEES will take place at the Branch Monthly ZOOM meeting that will take place tomorrow January 14, led by Ron Carter. Positions nominated for installation :
  - 3.i.1.a) Ed Shpiel – Big SIR
  - 3.i.1.b) Mike Conley – Secretary replacing Jim Stonehouse.
  - 3.i.1.c) Ted Head – Director
  - 3.i.1.d) Neil Keever – Treasurer replacing Ed Shpiel
  - 3.i.1.e) Several Vacant Positions remain for Officers and Directors

Respectfully Submitted,  
Secretary Michael Conley

January 15, 2021

Darrell Jones  
1959 Conifer Lane  
San Jose, CA 95132

Return Service Requested

# SIR BRANCH 94 FEBRUARY 2021 NEWSLETTER



## Golf

### SIR Golf Resumes

The State SIR has announced via their website that SIR branches may re-open golf activities provided that their BEC first approves the specified resolution and protocol. I will request that approval at the February BEC meeting. If other Area 11 branches approve, I expect that a revised Area tournament schedule will be developed. I have already received tentative approval to continue planning for the May 24, 2021 SIR Golf event (not sure if we can call it a tournament yet) at Pacific Grove. Watch this space for more information next month.

- Darrell Jones, Branch 94 Golf Chairman

### Planning Golf Schedule For 2021 Area 11 Monthly Events

This planning schedule is subject to change.  
To sign up for these events, please see Darrell Jones

Date / Time	Course / Format	Price / Host(s)
May 24, 2021 10:00 AM First tee time	Pacific Grove 4 man 2 Best Ball 40 Golfers	\$80 Darrell Jones (94)

## Editorial

The following thoughts are mine alone. They have not been authorized by the SIR organization or any SIR official. Last month Santa Clara County Health began to offer Covid-19 Vaccine to seniors over age 75 and older. I received my first Moderna injection last month. I am scheduled to receive the second next week. Yesterday, I became aware that the county has now lowered the class 1B requirement to anyone over the age of 65. An age which I suspect makes all of Branch 94 members eligible. I strongly encourage each of you and your spouses consider taking advantage of this opportunity. My understanding is that every resident of Santa Clara County 65 or older can now schedule an appointment at the Santa Clara County website.

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URL: <https://www.sccgov.org/sites/covid19/Pages/COVID19-vaccine-information-for-public.aspx>