

**It's Time to Pay Your 2021 Branch 98 Annual Dues!
The Dues Cover Membership for the Year 2021 From January 1 to December 31.**

By Bill Kemper, Treasurer



Good morning fellow SIR Branch 98 members. This year (2020) has been a challenging year considering the effects the World Pandemic Coronavirus has had on all SIR Events and activities. Nonetheless, we are still functioning effectively as an organization and promoting whatever can be done in light of the restrictions being imposed by the State of California. Consequently, Branch 98 still requires funding to carry out its basic func-

tions. The Branch 2021 budget has been approved by the Branch Executive Committee (BEC) and annual dues will remain at \$25. Payment of 2021 dues are required January 1st through March 31st. Despite the Coronavirus, the Branch has still inducted numerous new members in 2020. Historically, most annual dues payments have been received at the January – March monthly luncheons. However, since monthly luncheons have been suspended for the foreseeable future, the purpose of this communication is to ensure all our new members are familiar with the Branch 98 annual dues remote payments processes, and serves as a refresher for the rest of the membership.

There are two primary methods that are very easy and straightforward to pay your dues before March 31, 2021.

1. **Use the US Mail.** In the past, some Branch Members have paid their dues by writing a personal check to “SIRS Branch 98” and sending it via US Mail to the Branch 98 Treasurer (Bill Kemper) at his home address. This process can still be used for paying your 2021 annual dues as long as your check is received by the Treasurer no later than (NLT) March 31, 2021. Please annotate on the check that the payment is for 2021 annual dues. Payments received after March 31, 2021 are considered late and per Branch Chapter 98 rules, B. (5), Membership dues received in April shall be considered late, and a \$5 late penalty fee will be added, for a total of \$30.00. However, there is an even easier and faster method that can be used to pay your dues as enumerated in item 2.
2. **Use the on-line Bill Pay process associated with your banking account.** We all likely pay some or most of our bills using the on-line Bill Pay process that is linked to our banking account(s). The process is straightforward and can be completed as follows;
 - A. Open the On-line “Bill Pay” activity for your bank account and designate “SIRS Branch 98” as a Payee (this is a one-time activity (please do not make the Treasurer (Bill Kemper) the payee)). If desired, a nickname can be designated for this Payee, such as “Branch 98 Annual Dues payment.”
 - B. If your bank’s on-line Bill Pay process requires an account number, suggest using the Branch’s Tax ID no.942883907.
 - C. Provide the Treasurer’s address (Bill Kemper’s address in this case, 3466 Paseo Mira Vista, Lincoln, CA 95648) as the payee’s billing address (i.e., where the bank will send the check--**free of charge to you**), and then your bank will send out a payment check just like any other bill payment. Again, please ensure the check will arrive NLT March 31, 2021.
 - D. **And, you are done!** No checks need to be written or stamps required, and nothing needs to be mailed by you. Once this Payee (SIRS Branch 98) is set up in your on-line Bill Payment Process you can simply select this Payee whenever desired, designate the payment amount, designate the date the payment should be received, annotate the check as “Payment of 2021 Annual Dues, then select “make payment” and that is all that is required to pay your annual dues! If desired, these payments can be set up to be made automatically each year.

In Summary, these payment processes are the methods to be used immediately to pay your 2021 annual dues. Once your payment is received by the Treasurer he will have the Branch 98 database updated to indicate your dues status as “Paid.” Once we have all received the vaccine for the virus we can go back to our normal practices next year.

Finally, the Branch has also evaluated using other on-line payment processes such as Zelle, PayPal, and credit cards for annual dues and Event payments (e.g., luncheons, picnic and Christmas party tickets). However, these processes all require various service fees/charges to process, which would increase the cost of these items. The BEC has chosen not to adopt processes which will increase the member’s costs for these items.

Hope this is helpful and please do not hesitate to contact Bill Kemper (billkemper63@gmail.com) if you have questions or need additional information on this matter.

Just one more thing. These dues are **not for 2021 GOLF dues. They are totally separate.**

**MEMBERSHIP
RENEWAL**
Annual Dues