

SENIOR TIMES

**“ OUR MISSION IS TO IMPROVE THE LIVES OF OUR MEMBERS THROUGH FUN ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS WHILE MAKING FRIENDS FOR LIFE”
JANUARY 2025 Newsletter - Turlock Branch #143**

**FIND US ON FACEBOOK: SIR #143 - Also Find Us on the
WEB: sirinc2.org/branch143**



**PLEASE FIND
BELOW OUR
QR CODE.**

The way it works if you don't know already, take your cell phone, open your camera app and take a picture of the QR code. If you have a QR code reader app you simply open your QR code reader on your cell phone and hold it over the QR code and your cell phone will open the SIR BRANCH 143 WEBSITE.



Message From The Big Sir...

A very Happy New Year, gentlemen!

As one year ends and another begins, may I wish you happiness and lightness of heart. May you experience a wonderful New Year. And be sure to help make this one extra special for everyone you care about.

As with any new year we all set goals. But those goals need to be reasonable and attainable!

My goals for our group this year are the following:

- ◆ Let's be sure we are connecting to others both in and out of our organization. We have every opportunity to participate and get to know one another on a more personable level through the many activities SIR provides.
- ◆ Reach out and bring just ONE friend, neighbor or relative to SIR and encourage that person to join us!
- ◆ Take on some of the work that builds our organization. This is called community!



Each of these goals is simple and attainable. Please consider doing your part! Remember, we are no good when we are alone, but when we are united, we are unstoppable—Happy New Year and best wishes to everyone.

Activities for January:

- Date: Golf - Monday Mornings – (Ken Kajioka)
- Date: January 3 and 17 - Bocce Ball at the Dust Bowl at 10:00 a.m. (Mike Johnson)
- Date: Every Tuesday - Bowling at McHenry Bowl (Tom Mickelsen)
- Date: Thursday, January 9 and 10, 2025, Reno Train Trip via Amtrak. (John Cardoza)
- Date: Thursday, January 16, Dine Out at New Town Café in Turlock. (Gary Toombs)
- Date: Monday, January 20, 2025, marks the birthday of Martin Luther King Jr.

January Quote of the Month:

“Approach the New Year with resolve to find the opportunities hidden in each new day”
- Michael Josephson

NEXT DEADLINE: FEBRUARY 1-2 and 3 of 2025

REMEMBER LUNCHEON

11:00 am - Sir Lunch meeting Wednesday, JANUARY 15th - WILL BE HELD AT BLACK BEAR DINER, doors open at 10:30.

NOTE: When you arrive at Black Bear Diner Order your food as soon as possible. Our speaker will start at 12 noon, also please try to finish your meal by 12 noon.

Luncheon Location: BLACK BEAR DINER
3050 N. Tegner Rd., Turlock



SIR TRAVEL

Travel Chairman John Cardoza



RIVER CRUISE

9-Days **MEMPHIS**
to **NEW ORLEANS**

★ **Cruise the Lower Mississippi**
in style, from Memphis to
New Orleans aboard the ★
180 guest American Splendor
9 Days-September 30-October 8, 2025

- ★Roundtrip airfare from Sacramento
- ★Transfers to and from the Sacramento Airport
- ★1 night pre-cruise hotel stay at the Guest House at Graceland with free ground-transfers airport to hotel and hotel to ship
- ★Post cruise Premium New Orleans City excursion with drop off at the New Orleans Airport
- ★All meals and snacks
- ★24/7 alcohol/non-alcoholic beverages and nightly evening cocktail hour with hors d'oeuvres and top-shelf liquors
- ★WI-Fi
- ★Prepaid gratuities
- ★Onshore featured excursions
- ★Full enrichment package with guest speakers and nightly entertainment



Price Per Person Based on
Double Occupancy

\$6655 pp to \$7900 pp

BOOK BY JANUARY 15,
2025 and RECEIVE A \$100
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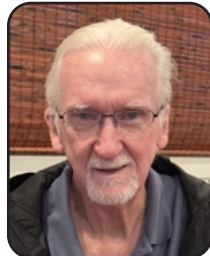
QUESTIONS? Please contact John Cardoza (209) 483-7722

SIR 143 - 2025 OFFICERS

Working For You!



Roger Jackson
Big Sir



Dan Gorman
Little Sir



Greg Back
Secretary/Web Master



Rock Libby
Assistant Secretary



Leonard Zumstein
Treasurer



John Cardoza
Travel Chairman



Mike Johnson
Membership



Fred Courter
Newsletter



Vern Segars
Assistant Treasurer



Gary Toombs
Dine Out

REMEMBER!!!

**It is Now
Time to pay
your SIR
Dues for 2025
DUES ARE \$40
for the year**

please send your check
(\$40 made out to "SIR") to:
Leonard Zumstein
2645 Mira Flores, Turlock, CA 95380

NEXT BEC MEETING

to be held at
MY GARDEN CAFE
FRIDAY January 17th

Meeting Starts at 8:30am
Be there early for breakfast starting at 7:30am

SIR BRANCH #143 BOWLING EVERY TUESDAY



at McHenry Bowl
CONTACT:
Tom Mickelson
209-632-2917

Turlock SIR #143 BEC Meeting
My Garden Cafe, Turlock
December 20, 2024 - 8:30AM

Officers Present: Bob Holly, Roger Jackson, Greg Back, Leonard Zumstein, Gary Toombs, Fred Courter, John Cardoza, Mike Johnson.

Members/Guests Present: Rick Ahlborn.

Quorum: Secretary Greg Back reported that a quorum is present.

Minutes from Previous Meeting: Motion to accept the minutes as published in the newsletter by Greg Back and seconded by Gary Toombs. Motion carried unanimously.

Treasurer Report: Treasurer Leonard Zumstein reviewed Form 28 from last month and reported –

Checking = \$5,881.98

Cash on hand = \$275.00

Receipts = \$1329.00 (dues, Xmas lunch tickets, raffle)

Expenditures = \$98.41 (printing/misc, speaker lunch)

Expense reimbursements submitted for approval:

Fred Courter \$20.08 printing/postage, Roger

Jackson \$17.48 misc., Greg Back \$30.00 Constant

Contact, Rick Kindle \$375.02 poinsettias/gift basket/SIR coasters.

Total \$442.58. Motion to approve these reimbursements by John Cardoza, second by Fred Courter. Motion carried unanimously.

Membership Report: Chairman Mike Johnson reported that he has a membership application from Ed Aubert to be reviewed. After review a motion to approve was made by Greg Back with second by Leonard Zumstein. Motion carried unanimously.

Committee Reports

Bocce Ball: Chairman Mike Johnson reported averaging 8-10 players with 5-6 staying for lunch at the Dust Bowl.

Golf: Chairman Ken Kajioka was not present.

Travel: Chairman John Cardoza reported that 24 have signed up for the Reno train trip Jan 9-10. John also proposed a riverboat cruise from Memphis-New Orleans in Sept 2025 with info

on actual schedules and fares tbd. Motion to approve as a SIR event by Mike Johnson with second by Leonard Zumstein. Motion carried unanimously.

RV: Wagon Master Roger Jackson reported on the upcoming spring 2025 RV trip to Jackson Rancheria with 11 rigs signed up.

Dine Out/Other Activities; Chairman Gary Toombs reported an excellent turnout for the Don Tito's dine out. Next dine out will be Jan 16 at the New Town Café in Turlock. Call Gary for more info or to RSVP.

Recruitment and Publicity: Chairman Rick Kindle not present no report.

Old Business:

Little SIR Roger Jackson reviewed the schedule of branch operations and reported that he has provided an updated list of lunch meeting dates to Black Bear Diner and BEC meeting dates to My Garden Cafe. Bob Holly discussed the new program committee and types of speakers and topics.

Discussion of next years ladies day luncheon and Roger Jackson reported that Fruit Yard will be more expensive in 2025 and that he is looking at other possible venues if we want to change.

New Business:

Nominating Committee Chairman for 2025 will be outgoing Big SIR Bob Holly.

Bob Holly discussed the requirement for our branch finances audit in 1Q25 that must be done by a member who is not on the BEC. Rick Ahlborn volunteered to meet with treasurer Leonard Zumstein and assistant treasurer Vern Segars to complete the audit and submit to State SIR as required.

Greg Back and Gary Toombs discussed having an informal "Hackers" golf group to get together weekly for 9 holes at River Oaks. Roger Jackson will bring up at next lunch meeting and see if there is member interest.

Motion to Adjourn: Motion by Bob Holly and seconded by Greg Back. Motion carried and meeting adjourned at 10:05am.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Secretary Greg Back



RV TRAVEL

Roger Jackson
RV Chairman



Jackson Rancheria RV Park

Sunday, April 27 – Friday, May 2, 2025

**11407 Dalton Road,
Jackson, CA 95642**
Deadline to book is
March 15th, 2025

1. Call to make your reservation: (800) 822-9466 Mention you are with SIRS2025
2. Once you have confirmed your reservation Call or text Roger, RV Chairman 209-658-2673 or Email: rogjaxn@me.com
3. **IMPORTANT: Reservations are transferrable: Please call Roger before cancelling**
10 rigs = a 15% group discount

Dine-In or Dine Out



Thursday, January 16th
NEW TOWN CAFE
811 West Hawkeye Ave., Turlock
Drinks at 5:30pm - Dine 6pm
Join us for a fun night with your fellow SIR's and guests. Please RSVP right away:
Gary Toombs at 209-604-8406



THE WINE LINE

By Russ Winton

Wine Investigation for Novices and Oenophiles (W.I.N.O.)



Why Champagne Is the Most Versatile of All Wines

I like Champagne. I'm pretty sure you know that. I covered the basics of bubbly just two months ago. Here is the problem, we tend to drink it just two or three times a year, if that. I personally think you should have a glass whenever you want maybe just because it's Monday or when you pay all your bills and maybe money left over. Champagne should be just like daily wine because it is superb with food. It pairs well with most everything. Actually, according to Wes Marshall in his book "What's a Wine Lover to Do?" Champagne is the most versatile of all wines because of three secrets. One, the carbonation acts like tiny scrubbing bubbles to cleanse the palate to ready you for the next bite. Two, the acidity works to make each taste as rousing as the first, like adding a lemon spritz on raw oysters. Three, it is available in levels of sweetness so you can even fine-tune the pairing. The most common levels of sweetness in Champagne, from driest to sweetness are brut, extra dry and demi-sec.

Marshall's book recommends the following pairings: Brut Blanc de Blanc (100% Chardonnay) pairs well with delicate white fish, shell fish or pasta with light sauces. Brut Blanc Noir (100% Pinot Noir) works well with dark poultry and oily fish like tuna. Brut Cuvee (a mixture of grapes) pairs well with light poultry, most cheeses, sushi, and lightly smoked fish. Brut Rose' is ideal for pink meats such as pork and veal, salmon and rich shellfish. Extra-dry is tasty with spicy Asian foods and demi-sec works with cheese and unsweetened berries.

The best thing and my secret number Four is California bubbly are a good deal. Under \$15: I like Korbel Brut Rose',

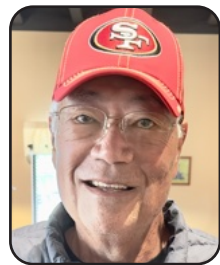
Domain Ste. Michelle Brut and two Spanish Cavas, Freixenet Cordon Negro Brut and Segura Viudes Reserve Brut. Above \$15: Chandon Brut Rose', Mumm Napa Brut Rose' and Roederer Estate Brut. And a true French Champagne for just \$20 at Costco. So, pop a cork for that Monday or try a Brut Cuvee with your favorite sushi.

What's on Our Table

The Navigator and I got the jump on the Come Over October campaign. We were invited to Santa Rosa for a two night stay from a good friend we haven't seen in years. She wasn't aware of the COO campaign. I explained that it promotes friends, family, and colleagues to "come over" during the month of October to share wine and celebrate friendships. We were "Coming Over" just a wee-bit early. We had a great time catching up, enjoying wonderful wines, food and plenty of laughter. This is what Come Over October advocates—a chance to share stories, be together, celebrate events and a chance to reconnect in this crazy digital world. Yes, our phones were turned off.

Here are a few wines that made our table. The 2021 Puerta Plata is a Spanish red wine with 60% Tempranillo and 40% Garnacha. This is a Trader Joe's steal at \$7.95. We also set up a five bottle Cabernet Sauvignon tasting, all with a 'cellared and bottled by' designations. The North Coast 2019 Complicated Cabernet (\$9.99) and the Alexander Valley 2020 Bound Cabernet (\$9.99) tied for first. The 2021 California Pyramid Scheme Cabernet came in second (\$5.99). With plenty of good bulk wine available, these are great buys, all from Costco. Cheers!

Comments? Find me on Facebook or rgwinton@yahoo.com.



GOLF
Chairman
Ken Kajioka

SIR AREA 18 GOLF SCHEDULE 2025

MO	DATE	DAY	TIME	HOST	COURSE	GF	CART	PRIZE	TOT	REMARKS
Jan	6	Mon	9:00 SG	103A	Creekside	\$27	\$20	\$9	\$56	Carts Optional
	13	Mon	9:00 SG	103B	Elkhorn	\$44		\$9	\$53	Carts Included
	21	Tue	8:00 SG	144	Manteca	\$41		\$9	\$50	Carts Included
	27	Mon	9:00 SG	103A	Dryden	\$25	\$20	\$9	\$54	Carts Optional
Feb	3	Mon	9:00 SG	103B	Swenson	\$45		\$9	\$54	Carts Included
	10	Mon	9:00 SG	144	Creekside	\$27	\$20	\$9	\$56	Carts Optional
	18	Tue	9:00 SG	103A	Atwater	\$50		\$9	\$59	Carts Included
	24	Mon	9:00 SG	103B	Dryden	\$25	\$20	\$9	\$54	Carts Optional

Every Thursday we will have Golf at Creekside Golf Course 9 hole or 18 hole, contact Ken Kajioka for more info or to sign-up.

REMINDER: When you sign-up for golf it also means you will attend 50% of the luncheons Every Third Wednesday.

Speaker for month of JANUARY will be

AARON ALLAIRE

Athletic director at Stan State

Aaron Allaire officially became the Stanislaus State University Director of Athletics on June 13, 2022, after serving as the interim director since February of 2022.

A long-time member of the Stan State athletics department as a student-athlete, coach and administrator, Allaire began his career in athletics administration at Stan State in 2014 serving initially as assistant athletics director for facilities and game operation. He was promoted to associate athletics director for facilities and game operations, and taking on more responsibilities, he was promoted again to senior associate athletics director. He has also served as a lecturer in the Department of Kinesiology since 2008.

Prior to his fully administrative roles, Allaire served as Stan State's head assistant baseball coach for eleven years beginning in 2003. The Warriors won a


program-record 37 games in 2008 during his tenure on the staff. In 2009, the team was ranked No. 1 nationally by Collegiate Baseball Newspaper. Stanislaus State baseball saw 47 all-conference players and sent 17 players to play professional baseball while he was on staff. In addition, he has managed game operations for Stan State since 2005, and he stepped in to assist with sports information for two years during a critical vacancy.





**It is Now Time to pay
your SIR Dues for 2025
DUES ARE NOW \$40 for the year**

please send your check
(\$40 made out to "SIR") to: Leonard Zumstein
2645 Mira Flores, Turlock, CA 95380



BIRTHDAYS IN JANUARY

Gene Evans, Edward Friedberg, Charles Golding, Charles Greer,
James Hackler, Bill Nixon, Walter Ott, Marvin Sousa,
Wally Spycher, Kevin Storms



ANNIVERSARIES IN JANUARY

Russ Winton - 1/26/69

Honorary Life Member (HLM) Awarded to Greg Back

The Honorary Life Member Award (HLM) is the highest and most prestigious award available within SIR. It is bestowed only to those who, upon careful review and scrutiny by the State Honorees Committee, are found to have:

- ♦ been a member for 5 years or more.
- ♦ earned it through exceptional and extraordinary service.
- ♦ steps forward whenever the need arises.
- ♦ His peers would recognize him as having earned it.

The HLM is not to be treated lightly or awarded merely based on good fellowship. On July 17, 2024, the SIR Branch 143 Executive Committee voted unanimously to present the application to the State Honorees Committee to have an Honorary Life Membership awarded to Greg Back.

Branch 143 has a membership of slightly less than 100, which allows for the awarding of only 2 HLMs. On December 18th, at our Annual Lady's Day Christmas Luncheon, Big Sir Bob Holly and Little Sir Roger Jackson awarded the HLM certificate and lapel pin to Greg Back. Greg has been a SIR member for over 7 years. He has served and continues to serve in many capacities in Branch 143. Greg joined the Turlock SIR Branch in 2017, and his leadership skills became apparent. He attended the BEC meeting to provide his support and became Little Sir in 2019. In 2020, Greg was elected Big Sir and took on the role of Webmaster, which he continues to fill. He most recently assisted in introducing the QR codes for our branch publicity and QR links to our Branch web page. He modified our web page to open automatically on the "open page" which opens a video on "Why we joined SIR". When asked, Greg again served as Big Sir in



Greg Back receiving the HLM Award at Christmas Luncheon. Pictured from left to right: Greg's wife Barbara, Greg Back, Bob Holly and Roger Jackson.

2022. Greg continues to support our Branch in many capacities. When no one stepped forward to be Secretary, Greg assumed this position in 2024. His minutes are always concise, accurate, and timely. He has served as our Nominating Chairman from 2021 to 2024. Greg has maintained our Constant Contacts program from 2020 to 2024. This program allows our branch to email all members to remind them of our meetings and activities. Greg serves as our Publicity Chairman and posts events on Facebook. Greg served as a director in 2021 and 2023. One of Greg's hobbies is flying RC. He started this activity in our Branch in 2019 and still provides all the resources for anyone who wants to start this hobby. Greg is a quiet, behind-the-scenes type of guy who works silently but steps forward to support his SIR Branch. Greg's counsel is well appreciated in our continuing challenge to maintain and grow our Branch.

When given the opportunity, please congratulate Greg for being awarded the HLM and thank him for all he does for our Branch.

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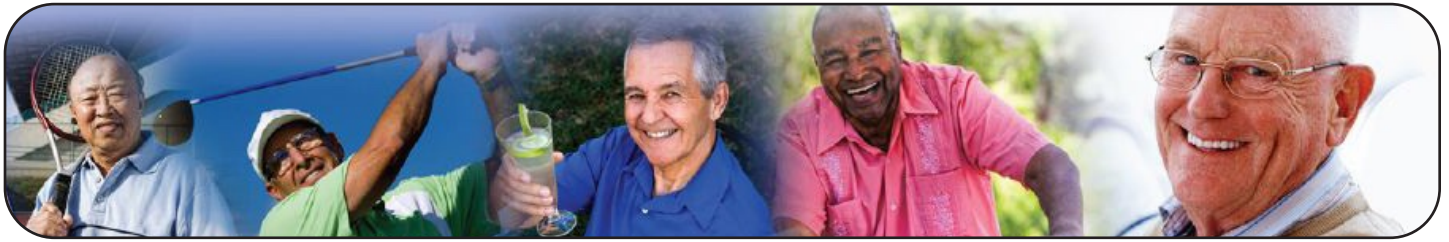

KEVIN STORMS

Agent

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kstorms@pmz.com
kstorms.pmz.com

3800 GEER ROAD, SUITE 105
TURLOCK, CA 95382





TURLOCK BRANCH NO. 143 OFFICERS & CHAIRMEN FOR 2025

Big Sir	Roger Jackson	658-2673
Little Sir	Dan Gorman	404-3799
Secretary	Greg Back	585-6862
Assistant Secretary	Rock Libby	634-6508
Treasurer	Leonard Zumstein	634-8878
Assistant Treasurer	Vern Segars	634-2142
Membership	Mike Johnson	613-6801
Assistant Membership/Mailing	Rick Kindle	652-8608
Recruiting	Rick Kindle	652-8608
Bowling	Tom Mickelson	632-2917
Travel Chairman	John Cardoza	483-7722
Travel Assistant	OPEN	
Golf	Ken Kajioka	602-8351
Assistant Golf	Ray Walker	606-9889
Sunshine	Rock Libby	634-6508
Newsletter Editor/Photo	Fred Courter	226-1173
Bocce Ball	Mike Johnson	613-6801
Program	Gary Potter	667-8516
Assistant Program	Ken Kajioka	602-8351
Chaplain	OPEN	
RV Chairman	Ken Kajioka	602-8351
Assistant RV Chairman	Roger Jackson	658-2673
Web Master	Greg Back	585-6862
Nominating Com. Chair	Greg Back	585-6862

Directors: Kevin Byrne, Gary Toombs, Fred Courter,
John Cardoza, Mike Johnson, Dan Gorman

STATE OFFICERS

State President: Richard Carlston - rich.carlston@icloud.com - 925-324-0838

State Vice President: Lee Lamp - lel4355@yahoo.com - 530-921-1375

Area 18 Representative:

Anthony Butera, Anthony.btr@gmail.com, 209-988-3473