

SONS IN RETIREMENT

MODESTO BRANCH 144

*Dedicated to the promotion of independence
and dignity of retirement*



July 2017 Newsletter

Volume 07-2017

Message from Big Sir Gary Williams



Here it is July already. I hope everyone celebrated the 4th and gave thanks for the blessings we have as citizens' of this great country. In as much as it is now the summer season, many will have the opportunity to travel and enjoy the many sights of this

county. That is one of the blessings we have as retired members. I pray that many will have that opportunity and get out and enjoy retirement. I am also aware that some of our members do not have that opportunity due to health issues. This leads me to mention one aspect of our group that needs attention. Whenever a member has a health issue it is very important for him, or his friends that are aware of the situation, to notify the Sunshine Chairman so the information can be passed on to the group. There have been several cases where a member has a health problem and we do not know about it. It is very important that the group embrace the fundamental foundation of the Sons in Retirement of "meeting old friends and making new friends" and that includes being concerned for the wellbeing of our "friends". This mutual concern for each other is very important to the common bond that makes membership in Sons in Retirement worthwhile and not just something we do to pass time. Let's all gather together on the 20th and have a great time at the meeting with our friends.

Respectfully, Big SIR Gary Williams

Please visit our website at
www.sirinc2.org/branch144

SHLM: Julius Manrique

HLM: Ted Nagel, Jerry Strain & Gary Williams

NEW MEMBERS



Pictured (L-R) (Sp) Doug Montgomery, (NM) Jim Eastwood, Julius Manrique, Transfer Nilo Casiano

Jim Eastwood was a Rural Mail Carrier with United States Postal Service. He enjoys Golf. His wife is Chris.

Nilo Casiano enjoys Golf. His wife is Rachel.

Please visit The SIR website for the latest edition of SIR Happenings at:

<http://sirinc.org/sirhappenings/>



Remember if you cannot attend the luncheons please call

[Gaylan King](tel:380-9896) at 380-9896

**SONS IN RETIREMENT
BRANCH 144 BEC MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 15, 2017**

1. The meeting was called to order, by Big Sir Gary Williams, at 9:37 AM.
2. A quorum was established with the following BEC members present: Big Sir, Gary Williams; Little Sir, Jerry Emery; Pat Brooks; Gaylan King; Ernie Lewis; Dan Huffstatler, Ron Vigus. Chairman present: Vince Sereno, and Sam Graham. Visitors included: Area Governor, Rick Kindle; Jared Hawkins; Julius Manrique; and, Bill Stires.
3. Vote to approve the minutes of the May 18, 2017 BEC Minutes. Motion by Galen King, 2nd by Ron Vigus motion passed
4. The Treasurer's Report was presented by Jared Hawkins
 - Checkbook balance 5/1/2017.....\$5495.15
 - Total receipts.....\$1860.00
 - Total disbursements\$2215.49
 - Checkbook balance 5/31/2017(inc petty cash).....\$5339.66

Motion by Ron Vigus, 2nd by Jerry Emery motion passed
Vouchers presented: \$52.29 Ted Nagel-Sunshine supplies
\$43.17 Bob Lewis-newsletter
\$100.00 Speaker expense
Motion to pay by Galan King 2nd by Ron Vigus motion passed
5. Gaylan King presented the Membership Report.
 - One applicant: Dennis Cervantes
 - Two transfers to 143: John Togliatte and Tony Ruggirello
 - Three dropped: David Tucker, Randell Hill and Wally Ruch
 - Motion by Gaylan King, 2nd by Ron Vigus to approve the changes
 - Active members.....186
 - Inactive members.....16
6. Brief reports were given from Dining Club (Vince Sereno), Accessories (Sam Graham) and Travel (Bill Stires).

NEW BUSINESS

1. Gary Williams discussed the possible solutions to the on-going attendance concerns and the impact on the budget. He'll ask for suggestions from the entire membership and will bring it back to the next BEC meeting.
2. Gary Williams brought up the idea of a small committee organizing the Speaker's Bureau. Discussion was held and, for now, the entire membership will be encouraged to share their personal knowledge and experiences and let the Little Sir know of any possible speakers of interest.
3. Area Governor Rick Kindle presented license plate holders for purchase. Cost is \$2 each and orders can be taken through our September meeting. Rick also suggested a membership survey to ask about speakers, meals, costs, etc. He also shared that there will be a meeting of new officers, with ideas to RAMP up membership. Date to TBD.

Respectfully submitted,

Jerry Emery, Secretary.

Area 18 Travel

12 NIGHT BRITISH ISLES CRUISE

AUGUST 28 – SEPT. 10, 2017

Transfer from Turlock/ Modesto to SFO for an overnight flight to London. After a day in London board the Caribbean Princess for a 12 night British Isles Cruise.

1st port of call is St. Peter Port and the picturesque harbor of Guernsey.

2nd port is the town of Cork in Ireland, with a chance to visit to visit the Blarney Castle and kiss the Blarney Stone.

3rd port is the capital of Ireland, Dublin with many attractions and history.

4th port takes us to Belfast in Northern Ireland and fantastic renaissance.

5th port takes us to the Firth of Clyde and Greenock and a fishing community.

6th port is at the Orkney Islands and the 9th century Viking settlement.

7th port is on to Iverness and the legend of the Loch Ness monster.

8th port is Queensferry north of Edinburgh.

9th port is off to the Normandy beaches in France.

10th port is back to London before disembarking for the trip home.

Prices: \$3195 per person Interior
Oceanview Wait list only
\$4495 per person Balcony
\$5175 per person Mini-Suite

Valid passport needed for trip 6 months past sailing date

SACRAMENTO UNDERGROUND TOUR Lunch on the Delta King Leland Stanford Museum September 12, 2017 Price \$140.00 Per Person

Travel to Sacramento and learn about how and why they built a city upon another city in the underground tunnels. Enjoy a great lunch at the Pilothouse Restaurant on the Delta King on the Sacramento River. After lunch we take a tour of the Leland Stanford Mansion built in 1856.

Minimum needed for trip 30 passengers by August 10, 2017 or it will be cancelled.

Maximum of 44 passengers. Sign up early to reserve your space.

APPLE HILL, RENO Overnight October 5-6, 2017 \$274.00 Double Occupancy \$300.00 Single Occupancy

Our annual overnight trip up the hill to see the Fall colors and on to Reno for a stay at the Eldorado Hotel. Enjoy a leisurely lunch at the Carson Valley Inn and some free time for gambling. On to Reno and a buffet dinner before seeing a fantastic show "Adam Trent" the Illusionist. He brings his Broadway show of magic, comedy and music that is perfect for the entire family. Have a breakfast buffet before heading to John Ascuaga's Nugget for some free time and lunch.

After lunch head to Apple Hill and High Hill Ranch for an apple pie or apple fritter before heading for home.

Receive gambling money, and food credit during the trip.

Minimum of 20 passengers needed for trip to be a go before August 22, 2017 or the trip will be cancelled.

EASTERN CARIBBEAN CRUISE ABOARD THE REGAL PRINCESS INCLUDING A PRE-NIGHT STAY IN FT. LAUDERDALE January 6-14, 2018

Book by July 5, 2017 with the deposit and take advantage of the Red, White, and Blue rates from \$60.00 to \$375.00 per person savings

Final payment not due until October 1, 2017

Join your friends and members aboard the Regal Princess built in 2014 for an exciting and fun cruise in the Eastern Caribbean. Enjoy a night in Ft. Lauderdale at the Embassy Suites before we board the ship for a 7 night cruise.

We will visit the following ports:

Princess Cays; enjoy a private beach party on the Island of Eleuthera in the Bahamas.

St. Thomas (Charlotte Amalie) the US Virgin Islands; enjoy the scenery and some duty free shopping.

St. Maarten (Phillipsburg); the island has 2 side a Dutch side and a French side dating back to the early 17th century.

Plus 3 days of cruising and all the activities on the Regal Princess.

Price: Interior Stateroom \$2375 per person double occupancy

Balcony \$2550 to \$2598 per person double occupancy

Mini Suite \$2895 per person double occupancy

Single prices available upon request

Must have valid passport up to June 30, 2018

Call for more information or reservation forms: 544-2684
Minimum of 10 passengers needed for the trip

Contact Bill Stires for detailed information and reservation forms for all SIR travel. 209-544-2684 or go online at sirinc2.org/branch144 and print out any of the reservation forms.

POSSIBLE FUTURE TRIPS/SAVE THE DATES

Dec. 7-8, 2017 Reno Holiday Show

"DINING OUT" CLUBS



Dining Out Club News

GOLF Humor for July!

1. Golf is a game that has turned the cows out of the pasture and let the "bull" in.

2. Doctor to patient. -- "If I were you, I'd play golf for my health." -- "But I do play golf, doctor." -- Doctor -- "In that case, I'd quit."

To join & reserve a seat at one of our fun groups, **Contact Vince Sereno at 524-9630.**

July Locations

July 11th -- (2nd Tues. Club)

Velvet Grill & Creamery--Arrive 4:45 to 5:00 pm--2204 McHenry Ave. -- Confirm any Regrets or new Reservations with Host Joe & Mary Miceli at 527-5818, No later than Tuesday July 4th.

July 25th -- (4th Tues. Club)

Beijing Restaurant--Arrive 4:45 to 5:00 pm--3848 McHenry--(next to WalMart) Confirm YES/NO Reservations with Hosts Vince & Kathy Sereno at 524-9630 by Thurs. July 18th.

July 27th -- (4th Thurs. Club)

Velvet Grill & Creamery--Arrive 4:45 to 5:00 pm--2204 McHenry Ave. -- Confirm any Regrets or new Reservations with Host Roy Hardison at 575-4667, No later than Thursday July 20th.

AUG. Club Dates & Locations

AUGUST 8th--2nd Tues--Tahoe Joe's
AUGUST 22nd--4th Tues--Famiglia Bistro
Restaurante
AUG. 27th--4th Thurs--Coach's Corner

JULY BIRTHDAYS

Name		Date	Age
Alves	John	07/06/19	98
Baggett(I)	Otis	07/22/33	84
Bartels	Lonnie	07/23/47	70
Bell	Red	07/29/38	79
Berg	Gordon	07/02/41	76
Campbell	Cal	07/23/48	69
Graham	Sam	07/10/36	81
Hawes	Jack	07/07/40	77
Irwin	Rick	07/26/44	73
Lang	Dick	07/01/31	86
LeSage	Frank	07/16/51	66
Levin	Louis	07/14/37	80
Lewis	Bob	07/14/51	66
Lewis	Ernie	07/02/31	86
Lombardi	Lou	07/18/36	81
Morrow	Wally	07/13/23	94
Partridge	Cliff	07/18/55	62

JULY ANNIVERSARIES

Name		Spouse	Date	Years
Anderson	Lee	Sandy	07/03/65	52
Cose	Dave	Anne	07/26/64	53
Dutton	Peter	Vivien	07/01/06	11
Grove(I)	Fred	Carol	07/31/71	46
Harris	Ron	Karen	07/05/80	37
Manrique	Julius	Barbara	07/20/63	54
Miceli	Joe	Mary	07/01/67	50
Morey	Mike	Phyllis	07/12/53	64
Pinkston	Ernie	Connie	07/17/01	16
Quintanal	Ron	Glenna	07/05/02	15
Salonga	Tony	Seny	07/06/76	41
Schamante	John	Cheri	07/19/03	14
Williams	Wayne	Sharrol	07/08/66	51

CONGRATULATIONS



July 2017 Bowling Report

High Scratch and Handicap Series and Games

Scratch Games Handicap Games

Week 35 April 4 2016

Series: David Brown 651 Richard Chandler 717

Game : David Brown 235 Larry Maxwell 278

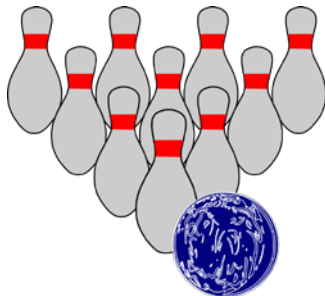
Larry Maxwell 235

Congratulations to Team #10: Don Reed. Ron Flagel, Charles Fox and Joe Miceli 2017 Champions.

OUR TOURNAMENT IS NOV 3&4 COME BOWL
Come out for our home town tournament.

Branch 144 Bowling Chairman: SIR Vern Masse
209-538-4275

vnr03@sbcglobal.net



Central Valley Pickleball

Schedule

Riverbank - Zerillo Park
8 am Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday (Winter hours 9am)

Contact John Gasper 209 863-9565 or email
johngasper47@yahoo.com

Turlock
Crane Park Tuesday evening 5:30 pm
Columbia Park Thursday 9am
Contact: Art Pargament 209 620-8249 or email
arthurpargament@icloud.com

Modesto: Coming Soon
Beyer Park
Contact: Jay Pierce 209 602-0901 email
izpierce@sbcglobal.net

JULY 2017 Golf



JULY 3, 8:30 AM	DRY CREEK	CARTS : INCLUDED
HOST: 103	\$ 42.00	
JULY 10 8:00 AM	CREEKSIDE (IQ)	CARTS \$ 15.00
HOST: 143	\$ 39.00	
JULY 17 , 8:00 AM	THE RESERVE	CARTS: INCLUDED
HOST: 144	\$ 45.00	
JULY 24 8:00 AM	MANTECA	CARTS \$15.00
HOST: 164	\$ 30.00	
JULY 31, 8:00 AM	DRYDEN	CARTS: \$15.00
HOST: 103	\$27.00	
AUGUST 7, 8:00 AM	DIABLO GRANDE	CARTS: INCLUDED
HOST: 143	\$43.00	

NOTE TEE TIME FOR DRY CREEK 8:30 AM

GUYS, WE NEED TO SIGN UP FOR GOLF SOONER RATHER THAN LATER. OUR NEXT MEETING IS ON JULY 20TH

WE STILL HAVE A LOT OF NO SHOWS, CALL ME IF YOU ARE NOT ABLE TO PLAY. CONTACT INFO BELOW.

HOPE EVERYONE HAS A GREAT 4TH , HOPE TO SEE EVERYONE OUT ON THE COURSE.

JAY NORRIS BR. 144 GOLF CHAIRMAN 209-606-1475

3328 VINE CLIFF WAY MODESTO, CA 95355

SIRGOLFER144@GMAIL.COM

Shifty of the 101st Airborne

Shifty volunteered for the airborne in WWII and served with Easy Company of the 506th Parachute Infantry Regiment, part of the 101st Airborne Infantry.

If you've seen Band of Brothers on HBO or the History Channel, you know Shifty His character appears in all 10 episodes, and Shifty himself is interviewed in several of them.

I met Shifty in the Philadelphia airport several years ago I didn't know who he was at the time. I just saw an elderly gentleman having trouble reading his ticket. I offered to help, assured him that he was at the right gate, and noticed the "Screaming Eagle," the symbol of the 101st Airborne, on his hat.

Making conversation, I asked him if he'd been in the 101st Airborne or if his son was serving. He said quietly that he had been in the 101st. I thanked him for his service, then asked him when he served, and how many jumps he made. Quietly and humbly, he said "Well, I guess I signed up in 1941 or so, and was in until sometime in 1945 ..." at which point my heart skipped.

At that point, again, very humbly, he said "I made the 5 training jumps at Toccoa, and then jumped into Normandy . . . do you know where Normandy is?" At this point my heart stopped. I told him "yes, I know exactly where Normandy is, and I know what D-Day was." At that point he said "I also made a second jump into Holland, into Arnhem .." I was standing with a genuine war hero ... and then I realized that it was June, just after the anniversary of D-Day.

I asked Shifty if he was on his way back from France, and he said "Yes... And it's real sad because, these days, so few of the guys are left, and those that are, lots of them can't make the trip." My heart was in my throat and I didn't know what to say.

I helped Shifty get onto the plane and then realized he was back in coach while I was in First Class. I sent the flight attendant back to get him and said that I wanted to switch seats When Shifty came forward, I got up out of the seat and told him I wanted him to have it, that I'd take his in coach.

He said "No, son, you enjoy that seat. Just knowing that there are still some who remember what we did and who still care is enough to make an old man very happy." His eyes were filling up as he said it. And mine are brimming up now as I write this. Shifty died on Jan. 17 after fighting cancer.

There was no parade. No big event in Staples Center. No wall-to-wall, back-to-back 24x7 news coverage. No weeping fans on television. And that's not right!

Let's give Shifty his own memorial service, online, in our own quiet way. Please forward this email to everyone you know. Especially to the veterans

Rest in peace, Shifty.

Chuck Yeager, Maj. General [ret.]

P.S. I think that it is amazing how the "media" chooses our "heroes" these days...Elvis, Michael Jackson, Whitney Houston & the like. "SHIFTY" - an incredible American hero.

Please do me a favor and pass this on so that untold thousands can read it.
We owe no less to our REAL Heroes.

"Any society that would give up a little liberty to gain a little security will deserve neither and lose both." -Benjamin Franklin

Psalms 97:6

The heavens proclaim His righteousness, and all the nations see His glory.

Pictures on last page

Joe Venturini would appreciate that our Members would bring Military books in for the Book Club

Calendar of Events



**August 27- September 10, 2017--12 Night
British Isles Cruise aboard The Caribbean
Princess**

**Sacramento Underground Tour
September 12, 2017**

**Apple Hill, Reno Overnight
October 5-6, 2017**

**Eastern Caribbean Cruise January 6-14 2018
aboard the Regal Princess**

Program for July 20, 2017

Mark Jensen (a local
attorney) will speak on
Legal Issues Facing
Seniors



Past Big Sirs

1988 Lynn Wood
1989 Elbow Jones
1990 Dick Benevento
1991 Warren Lawson
1992 Al Evans
1993 Joe Underwood
1994 Homer Jorgensen
1995 Don Singer
1996 Max Norton
1997 Charles Cox
1998 Dick Bachman
1999 George Harden
2000 John Shores
2001 Bob Curley
2002 Frank Pierson
2003 Julius Manrique
2004 Ed Boyle
2005 Ted Nagel
2006 George Ditman
2007 Herman Vigil
2008 Michael Mensinger
2009 Charles Shoup
2010 Gary Williams
2011 Jerry Strain
2012 Sam Graham
2013 Jerry Emery
2014 Leonard Davis
2015 Patton Brooks
2016 Bill Burchell

Modesto Branch No. 144 Officers

OFFICERS FOR 2017

Big Sir:.....Gary Williams 578-3471

Little Sir:.....Edd Santwier III 605-9638

Secretary:.....Jerry Emery 838-1562

Assistant Secretary:.. Charlie Brunn 524-3614

Treasurer:.....Tom Watson 577-4390

Assistant Treasurer:...Gene Toschi 402-4242

DIRECTORS FOR 2017

Bill Burchell 529-6039

Patton Brooks 522-6417

Gaylan King 380-9896

Dan Huffstatler 691-8028

Ron Vigus 524-1569

Ernie Lewis 523-7387

STATE, REGION, & AREA OFFICERS

STATE PRESIDENT OF SIR, Inc ... Jerry Strain 551-8220

STATE VICE PRESIDENT OF SIR, IncDerek Southern 925-253-1646

DIRECTOR, REGION 8.....Jerry Morrow 586-2979

GOVERNOR AREA 18.....Rick Kindle 652-8608

COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Travel: Area 18: ..Bill Stires 544-2684

Area 18 Golf Chairman:.. Joe Adams

Branch 144 Golf Chairman: Jay Norris 606-1475

Assistant:....Gary Hubbard 551-5253

Area 18 Bowling Chairman:Jim Pastorelli. 406-8156

Branch 144 Bowling Chairman:Vern Masse 538-4275

Branch 144 Pickleball Co- Chairmen: Cal Campbell 380-0523

Joe Maxwell 524-2826

Programs:.....Edd Santwier III: 605-9638

Newsletter: ... Bob Lewis 523-7387

Data:..... Gary Williams 578-3471

Chaplain:...Tom Hampson 402-9908

Dining: Vince Sereno 524-9630, Henry Solario 578-5607

House: Bill Burchell 529-6039, Bill Holloway 832-1421

Attendance: Tony Salonga, 541-1944;

Sunshine:..... Ted Nagel 869-6304

Assistant: Julius Manrique 576-1077

Nominating Committee: Sam Graham, Julius Manrique, Patton Brooks

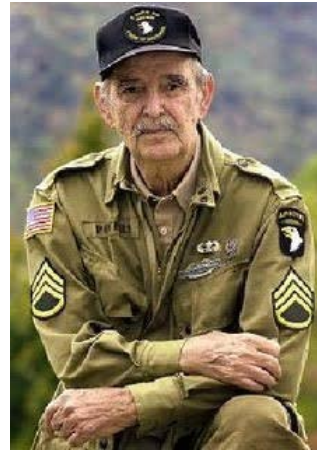
Membership:.. Gaylan King 380-9896

Book Club:.... Joe Venturini 524-6577

Accessories:..Sam Graham 552-0960



His medals



Shifty

If anyone knows if someone has an illness, accident, or passes, please let Ted Nagel (869-6304) or Julius Manrique (576-1077) know. Thanks!

Pert Manabat passed on June 14th