Message from Big Sir Sam Graham

Well, the year 2017 is now in the past, and we can look forward to a New Year! I hope each of you found the Holidays, both Christmas and the New Year, enjoyable!

I’d like to thank Gary Williams, all the officers and committees for a job well done. Nothing is handed to you without a lot of dedication and dealing with the different challenges that continue to pop up.

I hope that most of you are as happy as I am, being back at the Seasons. They are dedicated to working with us, and have made the transition from the Elks very enjoyable. On that subject, our meal will be $17, which will continue with the two entrees, and includes the sales tax. We feel that this is fair in comparing it to other venues.

I’m looking forward to the coming year and all the challenges that will be ahead of our branch. We need to continue bringing in our friends, neighbors, fellow golfers, bowlers, etc...... to see what they are missing!! SIR is a great organization and so many men have no idea we exist......we need to make it happen in 2018! Please approach me or any officer with any suggestions.

Respectfully, Sam Graham, Big SIR Branch 144

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

SHLM: Julius Manrique & Ted Nagel
HLM: Jerry Strain, Gary Williams, and Sam Graham

Please see bottom of page 8 about Jerry Hawkins

See important message on Page 6

Meals will cost $17 starting in January. $24 dues are due at January luncheon and will be collected next to golf table.

Remember if you cannot attend the luncheons please call Gaylan King at 380-9896
SONS IN RETIREMENT  
BRANCH 144 BEC MEETING MINUTES  
December 19, 2017

1. Meeting called to order at 10:05 AM  
2. BEC members present is: Gary Williams, Edd Santwier, Bill Burchell,  
   Pat Brooks, Ernie Lewis  
3. Visitors present: Sam Graham, Roy Hardison, Keith Rogers, Bob Lewis, Nilo Casiano  
4. Treasurers Report:  
   Check book balance 11/1/2017…………$4,060.36  
   Total receipts……………………………………………….$1,694.00  
   Total disbursements…………………………………………..$1,780.74  
   Check book balance 11/30/2917…………………………$4,173.62  
   Report approved M/ Santwier S/Lewis  
   Vouchers: Bob Lewis (newsletter) …. $35.80  
   Sam Graham (flowers)…..$86.94  
   Vouchers approved: M/Burchell . S/Santweir  
   Additional cost for Ladies Day meal (extra $1.00 for enhanced menu) $132.00  
   Approved: M/Santwier S/Lewis  
5. Membership Report: Will be submitted at the January 18, 2018  
6. BEC members for 2018 Sworn in:  
   Big Sir….Sam Graham, Assistant Secretary…..Roy Hardison, Assistant Treasurer…..Nilo Casiano  
   Directors: Gary Williams, Bill Burchell, Keith Rogers, Pat Brooks, Edd Santwier  
7. Discussions were held on details of Ladies Day to clarify different procedures

Respectfully submitted by Dan Huffstatler, Secretary.

Officers and Directors sworn in on December 19, 2017 for 2018 are L-R: Gary Williams, Roy Hardison, Keith Rogers, Sam Graham, Edd Santwier, Nilo Casiano, Bill Burchell, and Patton Brooks
“Chocolate Makes Everything Better!!”
Rachel Dunn Chocolate Workshop
Tuesday, February 20, 2018
Price: $169.00 per person including all transportation and tips.

Come join your friends as we test our candy making skills at the Rachel Dunn’s Chocolate Workshop in Concord. We will be dipping and decorating a generous and delicious assortment of confections to take home along with your own apron. Then we will experience a very delicious and generous lunch at the Claim Jumper Restaurant in Concord. Menu attached to reservation form.

Call for more information or reservation forms: 544-2684

Save the Dates for Future Trips:
Information to come!

Sounds and Taste of the South – Memphis, Nashville and New Orleans – October 24-November 2, 2018

Panama Canal Cruise – January 31-February 15, 2019

Remember Friends, Relatives, and Neighbors along with SIR members may join us on all our trips.

Annual “Adult Spring Break” trip to Scottsdale
February 25, 2018 to March 2, 2018
Price: $1,482.00 per person double occupancy

Minimum passengers needed is 30 and 44 maximum

This trip is always a popular one that provides lots of fun in the sun in Scottsdale.
Day one: travel to Palm Springs with stops on the way to enjoy some adult beverages, goodies and lunch in Bakersfield. Dinner at Sammy G’s Tuscan Restaurant. Stay at the Palm Mountain Resort.
Day two: breakfast at Ruby’s, and on to Scottsdale for 3 nights stay at the Homewood Suites.
Day 3: breakfast at the hotel, take in the Odysea Aquarium, an A’s vs. Cleveland Indians game and a dinner show at the Silver Star Theater.
Day 4: breakfast at the hotel, visit the famous Anchor and Mast monument park and tour the old capital in downtown Phoenix. Then it is off to see the Giants vs. Milwaukee Brewers game. Dinner is at the very popular Rustlers Rooste Restaurant overlooking Phoenix.
Day 5: back to Palm Springs to stay at the Palm Mountain Resort and time to relax and visit the street fair in downtown Palm Springs.
Day 6: headed home after breakfast at Ruby’s. Lunch is at Black Bear Diner in Arvin.

If interested in signing up call 544-2684 or 988-5445 or email Bill to receive a reservation form with more details.

Deadline is February 1, 2018 to reserve hotels and tickets to events.
**Dining Out Club News**

To join one of our clubs, **Contact Vince Sereno at 524-9630.**

**New for 2018**

We are adding a 1st Wednesday Evening Dining Out Club. The first meeting will be on Wednesday January 3rd at Mike's Grillhouse at 5 pm. Contact Vince if you wish to join us.

**January Locations**

**January 3rd -- (1st Wed. Club)**
Mike's Grillhouse - Arrive by 5 pm
3801 Pelandale Ave. -- Confirm your Reservations with Vince at 524-9630

**January 9th -- (2nd Tues. Club)**

**January 23rd -- (4th Tues. Club)**

**January 25th -- (4th Thurs. Club)**
Marie Callender’s Arrive by 4:30-- 4:45 pm—Corner of Coffee & Sylvan. Confirm Regrets or new Reservations with Vince Sereno at 524-9630 No later than Thurs. January 18th.

**Feb. Club Dates & Locations**

Feb. 7th—1st Wed—To be Determined
Feb. 13th--2nd Tues—La Parilla
Feb. 27th--4th Tues-Johnny Carino’s
Feb. 22nd--4th Thurs—Marcella’s
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 jzpierce@sbcglobal.net

JANUARY GOLF 2018

MONDAY JAN. 8 ATWATER CARTS INCLUDED
HOST: 143 $43.00  9:00 AM
TUESDAY JAN. 16 CREEKSDIE CARTS: $15.00
HOST: 144 $29.00  9:00 AM
MONDAY JAN. 22 MANTECA CARTS: $15.00
HOST: 164 $31.00  9:00 AM
MONDAY JAN. 29 MICKE GROVE CARTS INCLUDED
HOST: 103 $39.00  9:00 AM
MONDAY FEB. 5 PHEASANT RUN CARTS INCLUDED
HOST: 143 $43.00  9:00 AM
MONDAY FEB. 12 THE RESERVE CARTS INCLUDED
HOST: 144 $51.00  9:00 AM

NOTE THE CHANGE IN COST’S FOR 2018
THE PRIZE FUND IS NOW $9.00

HOPE EVERYONE HAD A GOOD CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR

WE HAD OUR LADIES DAY AT THE DEC. MEETING. LOOKED LIKE WE HAD A GOOD TURN OUT IT WAS A COOL EVENT! HEATING SYSTEM WAS DOWN.

SOME BAD NEWS FOR GOLF:
LOCKEFORD SPRINGS CLOSED DEC. 31ST ALSO LA CONENTA IN VALLEY SPRINGS CLOSED IN MID DEC.

WE WERE GOING TO PLAY LOCKEFORD 2 TIMES IN 2018, HAVE TO FIND ANOTHER COURSE.

JAY NORRIS BR. 144 GOLF CHAIRMAN 209-606-1475
3328 VINE CLIFF WAY MODESTO, CA 95355

SIRGOLFER144@GMAIL.COM

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The committee met at the Old Mill and formulated the following to be submitted to the BEC

1. The details for the Branch to handle dues next year:
   A. Each member is required to pay a dues fee of $24.00 annually
   B. The dues will be due January 1, 2018 and delinquent if not paid by March 31.
   C. There will be a table at the January luncheon to collect the payments
   D. Members not at the January luncheon should send a check to the Membership/Data Chairman at 3549 Fawndale Drive Modesto, CA 95356
   E. The newsletter will carry a notice of this requirement in the November, December, and January issues.
   F. Additionally a letter will be sent to all members the First week of January with a notice that dues are payable.
   G. The Membership/Data Chairman will maintain a spreadsheet tracking the payments and non payments of members.
   H. A letter will be sent to all members who have not paid by the end of February notifying them that if not paid March 31, 2018 their membership could be cancelled.
   I. New members will pay a prorated portion based on the number of months.

2. Proposed contract with Season’s for 2018:
   Proposal “A” $16.00 cost includes meal, tax, tip and room use:
   1 Protein (main dish), 1 Salad (garden). $25.00 room charge for BEC meeting.

   Proposal “B” $17.00 cost includes meal, tax, tip and room use:
   2 Proteins (main dish), plus 2 Salads (Caesar and Garden), no room cost for BEC.

   All other provisions of the contract will remain unchanged for the proposal.

We have accepted Proposal “B”. The cost of meals will be $17 Starting in January

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

Calendar of Events
Rachel Dunn Chocolate Workshop
Tuesday February 20, 2018
Annual “Adult Spring Break” Trip to Scottsdale February 25 – March 2, 2018
Future Trips:
Sounds and Taste of the South – Memphis, Nashville and New Orleans – October 24-November 2, 2018
Panama Canal Cruise – January 31-February 15, 2019

Program for January 18, 2018
Speaker will be Bret Silveira
Deputy Director
Stanislaus County Police Activities League
Modesto Branch No. 144 Officers

OFFICERS FOR 2018

Big Sir: ......................Sam Graham 552-0960
Little Sir: ......................OPEN
Secretary: ......................Dan Huffstatler 691-8028
Assistant Secretary: ........Roy Hardison 575-4667
Treasurer: ......................Tom Watson 577-4390
Assistant Treasurer: ........Nilo Casiano 324-5926

DIRECTORS FOR 2018

Bill Burchell 529-6039   Patton Brooks 522-6417
Gaylan King 380-9896             Keith Rogers 527-2639
Edd Santwier 605-9638       Gary Williams 578-3471

STATE, REGION, & AREA OFFICERS

STATE PRESIDENT OF SIR, Inc … Derek Southern 925-253-1646
STATE VICE PRESIDENT OF SIR, Inc ..Ed Benson 925-943-7011
DIRECTOR, REGION 2.......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 Ill: 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,
   Norman Lawrence 551-5081
House: Bill Burchell 529-6039
Attendance:......Tony Salonga
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
Sam Graham receives HLM from Jerry Strain with wife Claire by his side. Congratulations!

If anyone knows if someone has an illness, accident, or passes, please let Ted Nagel (869-6304) or Julius Manrique (576-1077) know. Thanks!
Joe Costa passed. Frank Leo fell and broke 3 ribs.

Jerry Hawkins Celebration of Life will be at 10:30 AM January 13 at Spring Creek Country Club (1580 Spring Creek Drive)