

SONS IN RETIREMENT

MODESTO BRANCH 144

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



August 2019 Newsletter

Volume 08-2019

Message from Big Sir Jerry Strain



This month is election month of our Branch Executive Committee. The names of all those who have been nominated appeared in the July Newsletter. Since that time, we have a volunteer to act as Assistant Secretary in the name of Jack O'Brian. Thanks, Jack, for volunteering.

We are still looking for an Assistant Treasurer. Please consider volunteering for this final position on the BEC. Sir is a volunteer run organization and without the volunteers we will collapse. These positions do not take a lot of time from your schedule. The only skill needed is a minimum of computer knowledge. Some simple spreadsheet work or a minimal amount of word processing to type up minutes or other small items.

Gentlemen, our membership in Branch 144 is declining faster than I would like to see. When I was Big Sir in 2011, our membership was approximately 225. Today our membership is 146, a decline of 35% over 8 years. Of that 146, only about 60% are attending our monthly luncheon meetings. We are continually paying for lunches we did not use. In June and July we have paid \$198 for lunches we did not use. This practice cannot continue. We have an obligation to The Season's for a set number. If you do not show, we end up paying for you.

When you joined Sir, we only asked two things. One, that you attend the luncheons, and two, that you pay the annual dues. You indicated that you were either retired or semi-retired, or otherwise available and that you could meet these obligations. **You are required to attend one-half of the regular Branch monthly luncheon meetings within the previous twelve consecutive month period.** Our lunch price is very reasonable and should not create a burden on anyone. There are Sir Branches who pay up to \$27 monthly and if they do not call to cancel, they are billed for the lunch. Our branch is seriously considering billing you if you do not call and you do not show.

This year is half over, and we still have 12 members who have not paid their dues. If you are one of these members (and you know who you are), we would appreciate the submittal of your dues.

I did not mean to come across with doom and gloom, but these are realistic numbers, and realistic problems we must solve within our Branch. We have a great number of good members who enjoy our luncheons and would like to continue. Help us make Branch 144 healthy again. I have faith in you as members and I know we can do better.

Big SIR Jerry Strain

New Member



Pictured L-R: (Sp) Ed Jackson- (NM) Charlie Leffingwell- Little Sir Anthony Butera. Charlie was a Building Contractor for Leffingwell Construction. He enjoys Baseball Day, Bocce, Cribbage, Dominoes, Fishing, and Golf. His wife is Jan.

Officers and Directors Nominees for 2020 under Bowling on Page 5



**Remember, if you cannot
attend the luncheons, please call
Gaylan King at 380-9896 by
Sunday August 11. Thank you!**

SONS IN RETIREMENT

BRANCH 144 BEC MEETING MINUTES

JULY 18, 2019

The meeting was called to order, by Jerry Strain, at 9:33 AM.

A quorum was established with the following members present:

Big Sir Jerry Strain, Little Sir Anthony Butera, Secretary Biff Galbraith, Treasurer Nilo Casiano, Assistant Treasurer C.K. Gottschalk, Assistant Secretary Fernando Gonzalez. Directors: Andre Dodd, Jim Toepfer, Gaylan King, Bill Burchell, Sam Graham, Gary Williams, Guests and Committee members present: Bob Lewis, Julius Manrique, Bill Stires, Vince Sereno, Patton Brooks, Edd Santwier, Richard Provost.

Jerry Strain entertained a motion to approve the June 20th, 2019 BEC Minutes 1st Jim Toepfer, 2nd Sam Graham, Motion Passed.

Treasurers Report:

The Treasurer's Report for June was Presented by Treasurer Nilo Casiano

Checkbook balance June 2019.....	\$ 5,805.24
Total receipts.....	\$ 1,685.00
Total disbursements.....	\$ 1,732.63
Total checkbook and cash June 2019.....	\$ 5,957.61

Motion by 1st Edd Santwier, 2nd Gaylan King, to accept the Treasurer's Report, Motion Passed

Motion to pay for additional expenses (vouchers): Bob Lewis Newsletter \$20.10, 1st Gary Williams, 2nd Andre Dodd, Motion passed.

Membership Report:

Gaylan King presented the Membership Report.

No Inductees

Two applications: Charlie F. Leffingwell (Vote Required) and James E. (Jim) Walker Jr. (Vote Required)

One Resignations: Jerry Emery (Vote Required)

SHLM: Julius Manrique and Ted Nagel

State SHLM: Jerry Strain

HLM: Gary Williams and Sam Graham

Disabled Members: Vincent (Vinny) Altadonna, Howard Grieshaber.

Total Members 144 active

One Death: Gary Nerland

Motion by 1st Gary Williams, 2nd Andre Dodd, to approve Membership Report. Motion Passed

Committee Reports:

Travel: Bill Stires: Reminder to members to check newsletter for trip information and dates, new trip available **Holland Michigan**, deposit due by August 2nd. Several spots open for Beach Blanket Babylon contact Bill Stires soon.

Bowling: SIR Bowling meeting August 6th, 12:00 noon with 3 free games of bowling after. League starts August 13th, 1pm

Dining: Vince Sereno, all groups are doing well.

Newsletter: Doing fine.

Sunshine: Edd Santwier: Sunshine Chair contact at (605-9638)

Gary Nerland has died.

Old Business: Review Nominations, General election next month August meeting. We still need an assistant Secretary and Treasurer.

Give ideas for Christmas entertainment to Anthony Butera.

New Business: Area Governor vote taken by area Big SIRS. Jerry will vote to support Pat Reed to continue as Area Governor. Anthony Butera and Biff Galbraith will attend the Annual meeting only.

We are still looking for activity chair and recruitment chair also. We need to tighten up membership rolls, many non-attenders, our goal is 70% at each luncheon. We pay for 105 plus or minus 10 so we pay for 95 lunches, if only 90 show we pay for 5 extra lunches.

Meeting adjourned: 10:10 AM

The time of the next BEC meeting will be 9:30 AM August 15th, 2019

Respectfully submitted by Biff Galbraith Secretary

Area 18 Travel

**Minden – Reno – Apple Hill
Overnight stay at Eldorado
October 9-10, 2019**

**Prices: \$286.00 Per Person, Double Occupancy
Single \$319.00**

*** TOUR INCLUSIONS:**

- * Deluxe Storer Coachways Motorcoach Transportation**
- * Free time gambling at the Carson Valley Inn Casino**
- * Accommodations in Reno at the Eldorado Hotel & Casino**
- * Dinner & The Illusionists Experience Show at the Eldorado Showroom**
- * Eldorado Hotel Breakfast Buffet coupon**
- * Free time for gambling at a Casino**
- * High Hill Ranch Apple Fritter with free time for browsing**
- * \$17.00 total in Casino Bonus Packages (subject to change without notice)**
- * Driver Gratuity plus coffee & donuts upon departure of the**

**Mark your calendars for future trips:
Holiday Show and overnight in Reno December 4-5,
2019**

WAIT LIST/SOLD OUT

SIR Area 18, and Friends Presents*

Beach Blanket Babylon

Swiss Louis Italian & Seafood Restaurant Tour

November 17, 2019

Price: \$190.00 per person

The SIR Area 18 & Friends will be traveling to San Francisco for a day of fun! You don't want to miss out on this! After 45 years of many extraordinary performances, Beach Blanket Babylon will be closing their doors this year. The outrageous, gargantuan, tremendous hats and hairdos are a sight to see. Plus the comedy will leave you laughing. Before the show, the group will visit famous Pier 39 for a hosted savory early dinner / late lunch at the Swiss Louis Italian & Seafood. After the performance, we will leisurely travel back to the Central Valley.

**Minimum of 30 passengers needed by October 3,
2019 or the trip will be cancelled**

HOLLAND TULIP FESTIVAL TOUR FEATURING MACKINAC ISLAND'S GRAND HOTEL

May 7- 14, 2020

**Price: \$3,365 Double Occupancy \$4,415
Single**

Airfare price is \$249 per person if sign up
before July 31, 2019 Airfare goes up on
August 1

Tour Includes: Airfare into Chicago,
returning from Detroit

Airport transfers, 2 nights in Holland
Michigan, visit Tulip Gardens and a
working Windmill, attend the Festival along
with the Music Parade.

2 nights at the Grand Hotel, the crown jewel
on Mackinac Island with horse-drawn
carriage tour

A tour of the Ford factory and watch a F150
pickup truck being built

Plus optional tours and much, much more.
\$40 in Mayflower Money all gratuities for
Tour Guide and Bus Driver

**Remember that the price will go up on
August 1, 2019.**

**\$500 deposit per person by July 31, 2019
to hold these great prices.**

**If interested in any trips call Bill at home
phone 209-544-2684, cell phone 209-988-
5445 or email bstires46@gmail.com to
receive a reservation form with more
details.**

**SEE PAGE 6 FOR TRIP TO SWITZERLAND,
AUSTRIA AND GERMANY IN 2020.
(PASSION PLAY)**

“DINING OUT” CLUBS



Dining Out Club News

If you like to eat out, have fun, joke & laugh with old and new found friends, Call 524-9630 to join us.

August Info & Sept./Oct. Locations

August 7th--(1st Wed. Club)

*George's Steakhouse ---Arrive at 4:45 pm
-- Hosted by Vince & Kathy Sereno*

August 13th--(2nd Tues. Club)

*La Parrilla on McHenry---Arrive at 4:45
Confirm YES/NO Reservations with Hosts Norm & Janet Lawrence
at 551-5081 A.S.A.P.!*

August 27th--(4th Tues. Club)

*MARIE CALLENDER'S---Arrive by 4:45 pm
Confirm YES/NO Reservations with
Host Gene Toschi at 402-4242 No later than
Tuesday, August 20th*

August 22th--(4th Thurs. Club)

*Velvet Grill & Creamery---Arrive by 4:45 pm
Confirm YES/NO Reservations with
Host Roy Hardison at 575-4667 - No later than
Thursday, August 15th.*

1st Wednesday Club

*September 4th - Bella Italia
October 2nd - Happy Garden in Escalon*

2nd Tuesday Club

*September 10th - Mimi's Cafe
October 8th - Marie Callender's*

4th Tuesday Club

*September 24th - Beijing
October 22nd - Tasty Thai*

4th Thursday Club

*September 26th - Mimi's Cafe
October 24th - Marie Callender's*

Quotes to Think About:

There is one thing that I've learned in my career. It is to do more of what's working, and less of what's not working.

--- Jimmy Wales

The minute that you're not learning, I believe that you are dead.---Jack Nicholson

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

Name		Date	Age
Beckett	Charles	08/22/28	91
Bernard	John	08/13/37	82
Fallentine	Wayne	08/25/46	73
Fetzer	Bruce	08/19/56	63
Galbraith	Biff	08/01/58	61
Griffin Jr.	Jack	08/13/39	80
Hodge	Doug	08/18/36	83
Lawrence	Norm	08/06/36	83
Liebert	Merle	08/05/40	79
Martinez	Joseph	08/19/41	78
Mensingher	Mike	08/05/32	87
Tabacco	Ed	08/31/46	73
Watson	Bob	08/16/45	74

AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

Name	Spouse	Date	Years
Chuck	Adams	Linda	08/10/63 56
Charles	Beckett	Barbara	08/15/54 65
Red	Bell	Sharon	08/18/62 57
John	Bohling	Patty	08/04/84 35
John	Bree	Deborah	08/10/57 62
Charles	Brunn	Miry	08/25/56 63
Cal	Campbell	Marina	08/02/75 44
Deane	Cook	Sigrid	08/28/99 20
Howard	Grieshaber	Theresa	08/08/76 43
Conrad	Haines	LaDean	08/25/67 52
Rick	Irwin	Bonnie	08/10/68 51
Herb	Long	Alleen	08/03/55 64
Mac	McCoy	Bev	08/22/64 55
Keith	Rogers	Elaine	08/04/73 46
Vince	Sereno	Kathy	08/26/61 58
Chuck	Shoup	Karen	08/18/62 57
Roger	Townsend	Ruth	08/23/69 50
Joe	Venturini	Diane	08/23/53 66
Bob	Watson	Flora	08/08/71 48



August 2019 Bowling Report

Come out for our home town tournament.

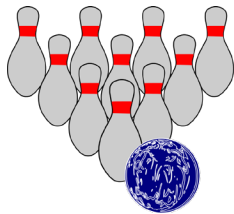
----- 2019 UPCOMING STATE TOURNAMENTS-----

August 12-15 Gold Dust West, Carson City
 Ray DiBasilio 530-558-9727
 September 13-14 Carson Lanes, Carson City
 Tim Hall H-775-246-1027 C-530-409-3494

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

vnr03@sbcglobal.net

Any bowlers interested in joining SIR league, we meet at McHenry Bowl in Modesto 1:00 PM on Tuesdays. We would appreciate all bowlers to come and check it out. It's fun, and we have a good time. The meeting is August 6 at 12:00 P.M. (Fun bowling after meeting). New season starts August 13 at 1:00 PM. Thank you!



Officers and Directors Nominees for 2020

BIG SIR.....ANTHONY BUTERA
 LITTLE SIR.....BIFF GALBRAITH
 SECRETARY.....FERNANDO GONZALEZ
 ASST SECRETARY.....JACK O'BRIAN
 TREASURER,,,,,,.....NILO CASIANO
 ASST TREASURER.....(OPEN)

DIRECTORS: ANDRE DODD, JIM TOEPFER,
 GARY WILLIAMS, SAM GRAHAM, GAYLAN KING, and
 JERRY STRAIN

AUGUST GOLF 2019



MONDAY AUG. 5	ATWATER	CARTS: INCLUDED
HOST: 144	\$ 44.00	8:00 AM
MONDAY AUG. 12	MANTECA	CARTS: INCLUDED
HOST: 164	\$44.00	8:00 AM
MONDAY AUG. 19	CREEKSIDE	CARTS: \$ 15.00
HOST: 103	\$32.00	8:00 AM
MONDAY AUG. 26	PHEASANT RUN	CARTS: INCLUDED
HOST:143	\$ 43.00	8:00 AM
MONDAY SEPT. 3	ELK HORN	CARTS: INCLUDED
HOST: 144	\$44.00	8:00 AM

NOTE THAT DRYDEN ON AUG. 5 HAS BEEN CHANGED TO ATWATER DUE TO THE CART ISSUE. GREEN FEES ARE \$44.00. CREEKSIDE IS GETTING 50 NEW CARTS IN AUGUST, DRYDEN IS GETTING 40. THAT SHOULD HELP WITH THE CART ISSUE. ALSO, IT'S GOING TO GET HOT, SO REMEMBER TO BRING WATER.

Jay Norris br#144 golf chairman

Sirgolfer144@gmail.com 209-606-1475

3328 Vine Cliff Way, Modesto, Ca 95355

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
2017 Gary Williams
2018 Sam Graham

Modesto Branch No. 144 Officers

OFFICERS FOR 2019

Big Sir:.....Jerry Strain 551-8220
Little Sir:.....Anthony Butera 985-3473
Secretary:.....Biff Galbraith 575-2724
Assistant Secretary:.....Fernando Gonzalez 415-420-2440
Treasurer:.....Nilo Casiano 324-5926.
Assistant Treasurer:.....Open

DIRECTORS FOR 2019

Bill Burchell 529-6039 Andre Dodd 527-0482
Sam Graham 552-0960 Gaylan King 380-9896
Jim Toepfer (360) 477-0930 Gary Williams 578-3471

STATE, REGION, & AREA OFFICERS

STATE PRESIDENT OF SIR, Inc ...Ed Benson 925-943-7011
STATE VICE PRESIDENT OF SIR, Inc .. Jim Johnson 536-1595
DIRECTOR, REGION 2.....Rick Kindle 652-8608
GOVERNOR AREA 18.....Pat Reed 289-3314

COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

RAMP

Recruitment:.....Open
Activities:.....Open
Member Relations:....Gary Williams 578-3471
Publicity/Relations:...Sam Graham 552-0960
Travel: Area 18: ..Bill Stires 544-2684
Area 18 Golf Chairman: Joe Adams 632-8197
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
Programs:.....Anthony Butera 985-3473
Newsletter: ... Bob Lewis 523-7387
Data:..... Gary Williams 578-3471
Chaplain:...Vernon Jones 683-8033
Dining: Vince Sereno 524-9630, Henry Solario 578-5607
Attendance:.....Tony Salonga
Sunshine:.....Edd Santwier 605-9638
Assistant: Julius Manrique 576-1077
Nominating Committee: Julius Manrique, Patton Brooks & Bill Burchell
Membership:.. Gaylan King 380-9896
Book Club:.... Joe Venturini 524-6577



Jerry Strain sworn in as Big SIR



Red Bell won the Birthday drawing



Speaker John Scheuber receives Cert. of Appreciation from Anthony Butera

To save 15% on tickets to the Gallo Center use code: *SIRS1920*

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

The SIR website for the latest edition of SIR Happenings at: <http://sirinc.org/sirhappenings/>

If anyone knows if someone has an illness, accident, or passes, please let Edd Santwier (605-9638) or Julius Manrique (576-1077) know. Thanks!

Gary Nerland passed away.

SHLM: Julius Manrique & Ted Nagel

HLM: Gary Williams and Sam Graham

STATE HLM: Jerry Strain