### http://www.sirinc.org/MemInfo/HowTo/Logo2019.png SONS IN RETIREMENT

### MODESTO BRANCH 144

#### Dedicated to the promotion of independence

#### C:\Program Files (x86)\Microsoft Office\MEDIA\OFFICE12\Lines\BD21318_.gif and dignity of retirement

December 2019 Newsletter Volume 12-201

**Message from Big Sir Jerry Strain**

To all of the members of Branch 144 and their families:

As this will be my last input to the monthly news, I would like to thank all of you for a very good year.

This month will be our annual Ladies Day. I look forward to seeing all of you with your wives, girlfriends, or that special lady friend. I also want to say thanks to all of you who signed up for the December Luncheon. It turned out to be better than we expected. We have 124 members and guests as of last count. I think everyone will enjoy the food and entertainment lined up for you.

By the time you receive this newsletter you will be beyond Thanksgiving, with Christmas and the birth of our Lord, Jesus Christ just around the corner. Rejoice and be thankful for all that we have and all that we give in this joyous season. God bless our troops and those who keep us from harm.

I would like to say a special “Thanks” to all of the members of the Branch Executive Board, the Committee Chairmen and their assistants who have worked hard to keep our branch working. As members, please stop occasionally and shake their hand and tell them what a good job they are doing. After all they are doing it for you. People selling lunch tickets, handing out your badge and collecting them at the end of the meeting, putting out the books for your pleasure, making sure the flag and the staff is out, preparing and mailing you this newsletter, keeping up our membership status, and many more duties than I can list here.

My last word as your Big SIR is to have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Big SIR Jerry Strain

***Message from State President Ed Benson***

Hi Fellow Sirs,

We have two (or maybe two and a half) major challenges facing SIR. The first is a critical need for volunteers in many branches. An offshoot of this challenge is the inability of some Branches to recruit members into leadership positions. The second major challenge is recruiting first time guests to Branch activities and luncheons. It is only by bringing guests that we can replace those Sirs who leave us – primarily for unpreventable reasons.

I had a very interesting telephone conversation today with the Big Sir of a 70-member Branch who was concerned that the lack of volunteers and leaders stepping up would eventually cause his Branch to dissolve. He was a realist – he understood that many of the Branches’ members had served their time and felt they had already done their part. That’s understandable.

That brings us to our second major challenge, bringing guests to activities and luncheons and converting them to Sir members. New members are much more likely to volunteer, and we can also recruit leaders from the new member ranks. Thus, our two challenges are intertwined, and a greater emphasis on recruiting might solve both.

Several years ago, we introduced a program called the “Legacy of One...or More.” Its purpose was straightforward – it encouraged each of us to sponsor one or more new members as our replacement when we have to leave SIR. I’m giving serious thought to re-vitalizing the program.

In the meantime, remember that all of us will eventually leave SIR. Please don’t leave an empty chair when you’ve gone.

Best regards, Ed Benson, State President

Ladies Day tickets will be sold until December 13. To get tickets call Biff Galbraith at 575-2724 or email at [biffer@pacbell.net](mailto:biffer@pacbell.net).

You can also call Edd Santwier at 605-9638.

**THANK YOU!**

**SONS IN RETIREMENT**

**BRANCH 144 BEC MEETING MINUTES**

**November 21, 2019**

The meeting was called to order, by Jerry Strain, at **9:32 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 Secretary Fernando Gonzalez. Directors: Andre Dodd, Gaylan King, Bill Burchell, Gary Williams, Guests and Committee members present: Bob Lewis, Julius Manrique, Bill Stires, Vince Sereno, Ed Santwier, Pete Dutton, Jack O’Brian.

Jerry Strain entertained a motion to approve the October 17th, 2019 BEC Minutes 1st Andre Dodd, 2nd Gaylan King, Motion Passed.

**Treasurers Report:**

The Treasurer’s Report for October was Presented by Treasurer Nilo Casiano

Checkbook balance October 2019………………………. $ 5,240.10

Total receipts……………………………………………………... $ 2,389.00

Total disbursements…………………………………………... $ 1,872.39

Total checkbook and cash October 2019……….…….$ 5,956.71

Motion by 1st Andre Dodd, 2nd Ed Santwier, to accept the Treasurer’s Report, Motion Passed

Motion to approve vouchers: Bob newsletter Oct. $15.87, and Nov. $15.87. 1st Gaylan King, 2nd Ed Santwier. Motion Passed.

**Membership Report:**

Gaylan King presented the Membership Report.

One Inductee: David L. Yarbrough {Vote Required}

One applicant: Gerald Miller (Vote Required)

One Resignation: C. K. Gottschalk {Vote Required}.

Death: Fred Cassidy.

SHLM: Julius Manrique and Ted Nagel

State SHLM: Jerry Strain

HLM: Gary Williams and Sam Graham

Disabled Members: Vincent (Vinny) Altadonna, Charlie Brunn.

Total Members: 140 active

Motion by 1st Gary Williams, 2nd Bill Burchell, to approve Membership Report. Motion Passed

**Committee Reports:**

**Travel**: Bill Stires: Reno trip might be cancelled need 4 more sign-up’s. **Check some trips and payments are time sensitive.** Beach Blanket Babylon, was great fun and enjoyed by all**.**

**Dining**: Vince Sereno, all groups are finished until January. Next year will start with four groups, check in January for night and location you might be interested in joining.

**Newsletter:** Doing fine.

**Programs:** Musical group for December Ladies Day is Jake Kliatchko Family Band.

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

**Old Business:** Bill Burchell reminding members to respond to meeting request, about 60% response for yes and no. About 40 members still not responding.

**Check your E-Mail and please respond as to your attendance.**

**New Business:**  Ladies Day in December you can still buy tickets from Biff Galbraith

Ladies Day tickets on sale Until Friday December 13th. 3 meal choices, Steak, Chicken, Salmon. $23.00 per person. Biff Galbraith will be taking checks. Send check to 1532 Jackellen Ln. Modesto, Ca. 95356. You can Phone me at 209 575-2724 or E-mail Biffer@pacbell.net

UOP Girls Basketball at Spanos center Stockton. UOP girls won big against Kansas City. Future dates will be advertised, hope more from SIR 144 can attend in the future. Seniors $6.00 and free parking.

**Meeting adjourned: 10:03 AM**

The time of the next BEC meeting with be at 9:53 AM, December 19, 2019

Respectfully submitted by Biff Galbraith Secretary

**Area 18 Travel**

**If interested in any trips call Bill at home phone 209-544-2684,**

**cell phone 209-988-5445 or email** [**bstires46@gmail.com**](mailto:bstires46@gmail.com) **to receive a reservation form.**

**Friends, neighbors and relatives can go on any of the SIR trips.**

**xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx**

**THIS TRIP IS CURRENTLY SOLD OUT. WE ARE TAKING WAITLIST NAMES.**

**August 29- September 9, 2020**

**Switzerland, Austria, and Germany. Stay in Oberammergau, Germany for**

**the Passion Play** (**only performed once every 10 years, performed since 1634)**

**The play is a staging of Jesus' passion, covering the short final period of his life from**

**his visit to Jerusalem and leading to his execution by crucifixion.**

**Price:** $5,875.00 Double Occupancy

**Price includes all transportation, hotels, gratuities for tour manager, and more.**

**$500.00 deposit per person holds spot. Final payment not due until February 1**

11 days that includes airfare, transfers, hotels, some meals, along with tour guide and bus driver

**xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx**

**HOLLAND TULIP FESTIVAL TOUR**

**FEATURING MACKINAC ISLAND’S GRAND HOTEL**

**May 7- 14, 2020**

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

GREAT NEWS**; the Airfare price of $249 per person has been extended**

**again to November 30, 2019**

Sign up early as this trip will fill up fast and the tour group will be full.

Tour Includes: Airfare into Chicago, returning from Detroit, and allAirport 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, and $40 in Mayflower Money.

All gratuities for Tour Guide and Bus Driver.

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

$500 deposit per person by November 30, 2019 to hold these great prices. Final payment due on January 15, 2020.



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| **DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS**  **Name Date Age**   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | Patton | Brooks | 12/24/39 | 80 | | Charles | Brunn(D) | 12/03/31 | 88 | | Anthony | Butera | 12/05/55 | 64 | | Glenn | Davis | 12/18/34 | 85 | | Pete | Dutton | 12/23/35 | 84 | | Michael | Moncure | 12/01/52 | 67 | | Don | Sullivan | 12/14/41 | 78 | | David | Yarbrough | 12/03/46 | 73 | |  |  |  | |  |  |  |  | |  |  |  |  | |  |  |  |  | | DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES  Name Spouse Date Years |  |  |  | | |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | Scott | Anderson | Janice | 12/30/74 | 45 | | Mike | Boyd | Rayne | 12/30/99 | 20 | | Ron | Brown | Anita | 12/26/59 | 60 | | Phill | Coffman | Beverly | 12/28/56 | 63 | | Terry | Fix | Edna | 12/14/91 | 28 | | Biff | Galbraith | Verann | 12/19/81 | 38 | | Vernon | Jones | Rochon | 12/29/79 | 40 | | Don | Jordan | Mary | 12/10/66 | 53 | | David | Marino | Donna | 12/26/64 | 55 | | Max | Maxwell | Melissa | 12/29/62 | 57 | | Jerry | Strain | Merlyne | 12/30/60 | 59 | |  |  |  | |  |  |  |  | |  |  |  |  | |  |  |  |  | |  |  |  |  | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | |  |  | | | | | |  | | | |  | | | |  | | | | |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | |  |  |  |  |  | |  |  |  |  |  | |  |  |  |  |  | |  |  |  |  |  | |  | | | | | |  | | | |  | | | |  | | | |  |  | | | | | |  | | | |  | | | |  | | | |  |  | | | | | |  | | | |  | | | |  | | | |  | | |  | | | | |  | | | | |  | | | |  | | | | |  | | |  | | | | |  | | | | |  | | | |  | | | | |  | | |  | | | | |  | | | | |  | | | |  | | | | |  | | |  | | | | |  | | | | |  | | | |  | | | | |  | | |  | | | | |  | | | | |  | | | |  | | | | |  | | |  | | | | |  | | | | |  | | | |  | | | | |  | | |  | | | | |  | | | | |  | | | |  | | | | |  | | | |  | |  | | | |  | | | |  | | | | |  | | | |  | | | |  | |  | | | |  | | | |  | | | | |  | | | |  | | | |  | |  | | | |  | | | |  | | | | |  | | | |  | | | |  | |  | | | |  | | | |  | | | | |  | | | |  | | | |  | |  | | | |  | | | |  | | | | |  | | | |  | | | |  | |  | | | |  | | | |  | | | | |  | | | |  | | | |  | |  | | | |  | | | |  | | | | |  | | | |  | |  | | |  | | | |  | | |  | | | |  | | | |  | | |  | |  | | |  | | | |  | | |  | | | |  | | | |  | | |  | |  | | |  | | | |  | | |  | | | |  | | | |  | | |  | |  | | |  | | | |  | | |  | | | |  | | | |  | | |  | |  | | |  | | | |  | | |  | | | |  | | | |  | | |  | |  | | |  | | | |  | | |  | | | |  | | | |  | | |  | |  | | |  | | | |  | | |  | | | |  | | | |  | | |  | |  | | |  | | | |  | | |  | | | |  | | | |  | | |  | |  | | |  | | | |  | | |  | | | |  | | | |  | | |  | |  | | |  | | | |  | | |  | | | |  | | | |  | | |  | |  | | |  | | | |  | | |  | | | |  | | | |  | | |  | |  | | |  | | | |  | | |  | | | |  | | | |  | | |  | |  | | |  | | | |  | | |  | | | |  | | | |  | | |  | |  | | |  | | | |  | | |  | | | |  | | | |  | | |  | |  | | |  | | | |  | | |  | | | |  | | | |  | | |  | |  | | |  | | | |  | | |  | | | |  | | | |  | | |  | |  | | |  | | | |  | | |  | | | |  | | | |  | | |
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**“DINING OUT” CLUBS**

**C:\Users\Test\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\6B3XGZRO\MC900215906[1].wmf**

Dining Out Club News

Evening Dining Clubs- *Since 2001*

***Why do we have 80+ members in 4 separate Groups? Is it the food, the good times talking & laughing with old & new friends, or is it a secret?***

***To discover why, check us out!***

***Call Vince at 524-9630 for Info.***

*Dining Club operating procedures:*

*>Membership open to SIR members, couples,* **singles, widows & family.**

**>Members choose the restaurant locations.**

**>Members choose their meal & drinks from the restaurant Menu.**

**>Members pay for their own meal & drinks.**

***January 2020***

***Dining Out Club Locations***

**1st Wednesday Club**

**Jan. 8 – Javi’s (Mexican)**

**2nd Tuesday Club**

**Jan. 14 — Shangri-La**

**4th Tuesday Club**

**Jan. 28 -- Marcella's**

**4th Thursday Club**

**Jan. 23 – Fuzio’s**

**2019 was a very successful year for each of the 4 evening Dining Out Clubs. Thank you to all for making our dinners a happy enjoyable social event. I want to wish everyone a Happy Holiday Season. May you have a Merry Christmas, a Happy Hanukkah, a Happy Kwanzaa & a Happy New Year--2020. --- Vince**

**Humor . . .**

*Grubbs played golf every weekend with the same friend. One Saturday he was sitting around the house reading. “Sweetheart,” said his wife, aren’t you playing golf today with George?” Grubbs -- “Absolutely not! Would you play golf with a man who lies, cheats and moves his ball?” Wife -- “No!”*

*Grubbs -- “Neither will George!”*

**BIRTHDAYS**

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DECEMBER GOLF 2019



**This is the new URL for Area 18 Golf:**

[https://sirinc2.org/public\_html/area18golf/](https://nam02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fr20.rs6.net%2Ftn.jsp%3Ff%3D0018k0uCvPm2J8PY1SQgUWdAW-4XfcUmqPFhf_PTLxvk6mGWaskDb9rxlIKMq-cq4U9_ysP-idRvRmItTnJENveMFUixpJA0plpQiZwGUJjdzoeJpF0Bwodl1CXWb4dD0qHMXyRdm_6Wt8gJ69llKAnVIiua5XHCJLVoB-PKDQbeZRVVS4_Xofy6Q%3D%3D%26c%3DZMJ8NEcd5UZX3tc-OhM8G2Or-yvsYmJkhN0TvHcLR2jANmJpio5goQ%3D%3D%26ch%3DRoUmdbapdIDwVd5aUyG7j-QymrtmxkjeTo0kLs-usDXNQFxmvG3uDQ%3D%3D&data=02%7C01%7C%7Cf9e2e55e25124adffff108d76fb416e0%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C637100691569574333&sdata=W4wRUbpFlI67tswGEOFLPuYvp%2F5M%2FAJTXaw2fBCZ7cg%3D&reserved=0)

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December 2019 Bowling Report

High Scratch and Handicap Series and Games

Scratch Games Handicap Games

Week 12 October 29

Series: Dan Erreca 699 Ernie Lewis 721

Game: Jerry Strain 247 Steve Holly 286

Dan Erreca 247

Week 13 November 5

Series: David Brown 666 Steve Hughes 771

Game: David Brown 246 Steve Hughes 271

Week 14 November 12

Series: Larry Sallee 683 Jack Faria 705

Game: Larry Sallee 248 Tom Mickelson 267

Week 15 November 19

Series: Jim Wirowek 598 Chuck Nichols 718

Chuck Nichols 598

Game: Jim Wirowek 247 Jim Wirowek 279

Come out for our hometown tournament.

  -- 2019-2020   UPCOMING STATE TOURNAMENTS--

December 4-5 Danville Bowl, Danville

John Monahan 925-837-1598

January 21-22 Napa Bowl, Napa

Keith Knox 707-257-7537

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

[vnr03@sbcglobal.net](mailto:vnr03@sbcglobal.net)

**Officers and Directors 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

***255***

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*Social Section for non-sanctioned events*

SIR family and friends enjoy breakfast at the Modesto Airport. Here is the information if anyone would like to attend.

COMMEMORATIVE AIR FORCE BREAKFAST: WHERE:  700 Tioga Drive (private side of airport and has a sign by the street). WHEN: Second Saturday of each month. TIME: 7:30AM TO 11:00AM. COST: $7 each person. There is a new seating area reserved for Sons In Retirement members, families and friends. Directions: Going West on Mitchell Rd: Turn right at Tenaya Dr, then left at S. Conejo Ave, then left at Tioga Dr. It’s on the left.

***Also, check out mint airplanes in Hanger 7***

A group of people posing for a photo

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2020 Officers and Directors sworn in by Julius Manrique. L-R: Director Jerry Strain, Asst. Secretary Jack O’Brian, Treasurer Nilo Casiano, Secretary Fernando Gonzalez, Big SIR Anthony Butera, Little SIR Biff Galbraith, Directors Gary Williams, Andre Dodd, and Gaylan King. ( Missing: Directors Sam Graham and Jim Toepfer.)

Calendar of EventsC:\Users\Test\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\NG9HOPSJ\MC900290073[1].wmf

**HOLLAND TULIP FESTIVAL TOUR**

**MAY 7-14, 2020**

**SWITZERLAND, AUSTRIA, AND GERMANY FOR THE PASSION PLAY. STAY IN OBERAMMERGAU, GERMANY. AUGUST 29-SEPTEMBER 9, 2020**

**Program for December 19, 2019**

**The musical group The Jake Kliatchko Family Band will be performing for Ladies Day**

**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 848-3436 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

**Accessories:**………….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 and Gary Williams

**Membership:** Gaylan King 380-9896

**Book Club:**…. Joe Venturini 524-657

**A group of people wearing military uniforms

Description automatically generated** A person standing in front of a group of people posing for the camera

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Jack O’Brian won the Birthday drawing  Speaker Doug Nunes (L) and Little Sir

Anthony Butera. Doug spoke about WWII

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

Please visit our website at [www.sirinc2.org/branch144](http://www.sirinc2.org/branch144)

**The SIR website for the latest edition of SIR Happenings at:** [**http://sirinc.org/sirhappenings/**](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!**

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

STATE HLM: Jerry Strain