

The Town Crower

Volume 41, Number 5

The Monthly Newsletter for SIR Branch 103

May 2024



Modesto SIR Branch 103

DEDICATED to the PROMOTION of INDEPENDENCE and DIGNITY for MEN

Branch 103 Website: www.sirinc2.org/branch103

Big Sir Crows By Paul Bender



May is upon us with a lot of activities. Starting off with Cinco de Mayo on Sunday May 5th. Mexico celebrating the victory over the second French empire in 1862. That will be followed by Mother's Day on the 12th of May. Last, but not least, is Memorial Day, which honors the US Military personal died in serving this great country of ours.

Did you know there are three requirements to be a Sir member:

1. You should be a friendly guy.
2. You are expected to participate in the running of the branch.
3. You are expected to help recruit new members.

Big Sir Paul Bender The branch does not run itself and it seems much of the effort is made by a small number of members. Some of you are familiar with the Pareto Principal that states 20% of the perform 80% of the effort in running an organization. It may be less than 20% in our branch. The fact is our branch has difficulty each year in filling our officer and director positions, in getting people to take on tasks.

Teddy Roosevelt once said, "Complaining about a problem without posing a solution is called whining" If we want a more active, interesting, growing branch, we need your help.

We have a great group in Branch 103, I know we can get the job done.

Happy Mother's day to all, be safe over the holiday.

SIR Branch 103 BEC May Minutes

By Assistant Secretary Ray Tillery (First Draft)

Attending: Big Sir Paul Bender, Little Sir Juan Salinas, Assistant Secretary Ray Tillery, Treasurer Brian Donahue, Lance Underwood, Dennis Imhoff, Dave Cooper, Gary Del Nero, Kerry Newman, Dick Nelson, Roger Smith, and Tom Evans.

ABSENT: Don Rowe and Ted Bracht

COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVE PRESENT: None

GUEST: Bob Kredit

CALL TO ORDER : Big Sir Paul Bender called the meeting to order at 7:31 am at Denny's Restaurant.

BIG SIR: Big Sir Paul Bender made a motion to accept the minutes from last month, seconded and approved. The Treasurer report was seconded and approved. Discussion about what could be done to encourage members to come to the monthly luncheons

LITTLE SIR: Juan Salinas made suggestion about handing out cards with Sir's info to prospective members.

MINUTES: Accepted and approved.

TREASURER: report was submitted from e-mail by Ted Bracht, accepted and approved.

MEMBERSHIP: NA

LUNCH REPORT: NA

PROGRAM: NA

CORRESPONDENCE: NA

SUNSHINE: Gary Del Nero reported that Don Locke has passed.

SAFETY AND HEALTH: NA

THURSDAY GOLF: NA

GOLF: Roger Smith made a hole-in-one the 17th hole at Dryden.

NEWSLETTER: NA

BOWLING: League Championships to be held next week.

TRAVEL: Two cruises available, information and contact information in newsletter.

MERCHANDISING: nothing to report

DATA PROCESSING: NA

COMPUTER CLUB: NA

OLD BUSINESS: Letters were sent out to people not attending the required 6 luncheons per year.

NEW BUSINESS: After discussion, 9 members will be dropped from our active list and letters to be sent out

OTHER: NA

ADJORN: 8:42 AM

ALL ABOUT ME

Branch 103 has 99 members. A member will be chosen to tell all about themselves. Dick Nelson will interview members each month. The member who Dick interviewed is Ted Bracht.

Ted Bracht showed up for Thursday golf decked out in a blue fleece vest and matching hat, complete with matching Yankee logos. "I grew up in the Bronx a mile from Yankee Stadium. We used to sneak in all the time and watch the games for free. We'd go in through the Player's entrance, and up the stairs. The Yankees didn't seem to mind too much. They used the kids as a marketing ploy.

My Dad was a diesel mechanic at the Brooklyn Navy Yard. He liked to go over to the Polo Grounds and watch the Giants. When they left for California, I was heart broken. I hated the Giants until 2010, when they won the World Series.

After one year of college, I decided that it was not for me and went into the Air Force. I served from 1966-1970. I was a missile implementation tech at Vandenberg, part of a team which attached two packages to the Minute Man Missile, one, a self-destruct package. I was going to work for Boeing in the Minuteman 2-3 Program, however, Boeing eliminated the program. I worked for Ford Aeronautics for a year and a half and went to Greenland tracking satellites. One interesting thing was carrying on a long distance relationship with my girl friend in California. We tapped into a company in Mountain View and were able to make free phone calls from Greenland. Ford lost the contract and I decided to go to school.

I went to Arizona State, got a B.A. in accounting and went to work for Earnst & Earnst, on an audit team for 10 years out of their San Jose office. One of our clients owned an Ohio newspaper, the Toledo Blade, which had an affiliate in Monterey. We would always schedule the audit around the time of the Crosby Clambake, later known as the AT&T championships. We would get press passes and got quite an eyeful. I worked for Gallo for 10 years, and then worked for Max Foster at Foster Farms for 17 years as the Controller of Foster Farm for all the dairies. I retired in 2013 to take care of my wife, Linda. We were married for 41 years and had one daughter, and four grandchildren ages 5-12. Linda died in 2013.

In 2019, I married my current wife, Sheryl. We moved to Oakdale in 2021. I like to play golf, complain about golf, and read mysteries. I sing in the choir at Centenary Methodist, attend a weekly men's Bible study, and like old hymns with great lyrics. I enjoy Sir. It gives me a structure for golf and I like the social aspect."

(Ted has been our Treasurer of Branch 103 for the last couple of years bringing both professional gravitas and saavy to our group. Ted stands out, a courageous man, a Yankee fan amidst a sea of orange and black clad Giant fans in Branch 103.)

Creekside Golf



All payments for golf must be made by 6:00 PM Wednesday before the Monday Tournament. There will be NO payments at the golf course. **Mail all checks to Roger Smith, 3612**

Incline Ct., Riverbank, CA 95367-3123. Make all checks to SIRs Golf. Write on the bottom of the check the date of the tournament and the course. All fees, golf and cart fees must be paid with check.

Mon. May 6-Atwater, 8:00, \$54 (cart incl) Host 103A

Mon. May 13-Creekside, 8:00, \$34 (cart opt. \$20) Host 103B

Mon. May 20-Manteca, 8:00, \$49 (cart incl) Host 144

Tue. May 28-Dryden, 8:00, \$32 (cart opt. \$20) Host 103A

Mon. June 3-Elkhorn, 8:00, \$53 (cart incl) Host 144

Mon. June 10-Creekside, 8:00, \$34 (cart opt. \$20) Host 144

Mon. June 17-Manteca, 8:00, \$49 (cart incl) Host 103A

Mon. June 24-Dry Creek, 8:00, \$53 (cart incl) Host 103B

Mon. July 1-Dryden, 8:00, \$32 (cart opt. \$20) Host 144

Mon. July 8-Castle Oaks, 8:00, \$58 (cart incl) Host 103A

Mon. July 15-Creekside, 8:00, \$34 (cart opt. \$20) Host 103B

Mon. July 22-Swenson, 8:00, \$49 (cart incl) Host 144

Mon. July 29-Elkhorn, 8:00, \$53 (cart incl) Host 103A

Mon. Aug 5-Manteca, 8:00, \$49 (cart incl) Host 103B

Creekside Golf is an activity that was created by Bob Kredit and Don Reed. This is **now** a SIR sponsored event. This is a weekly event held at Creekside Golf Course on Thursday mornings. Tee times are first come, first serve, and requests must be made by email or message to Bob Kredit at 6:00 pm the prior Wednesday to the golf tee time. You must have a tee time before coming to the course.



Bowling

League Bowls Tuesdays at 1 p.m.

McHenry Bowl, 3700 McHenry Ave., Modesto

The 2023-2024 SIR League Championship was held on April 30, 2024. Roll-offs were held the previous week between the three part champions, Team 4 (R. Burrichter and M. Webb), Team 10 (M. VanMiddendorp, T. Mickelsen, and M. Bowers), and Team 1 (S. Gibson, J. Long, J. Hott, and A. Sterling), and the wild card team, Team 9 (J. Salinas, R. Wilcox, P. Reed, and J. Chin). Team 1 and Team 9 won, and bowled for the championship.

Team 9, Balls of Fire, defeated Team 1 for the championship. The championship was close with both teams winning a game. The determining third game was won by 7 pins. The League Champions team are Juan Salinas, Rick Wilcox, Phil Reed and Jeff Chin.



The Pickleball Activity is be scheduled the first and third Fridays of every month at the courts at Beyer Park at 9:00 am. Please come out and give it a try. There will be experienced players to help introduce you to the game. All the equipment will be provided. All members and their spouses are invited.

Branch 103 General Membership Luncheon

May 22, 2024

10:30 am - 1:00 pm

Masonic Temple

800 Rose Ave. Modesto, CA

Luncheon Price \$25.00

Couples Dine Out

The April Couples Dine Out will be on May 15, 2024 at MiMi's Bistro, 3401 Dale Rd., Modesto at 5:00 PM. If you would like to attend, please call Juan Salinas at (209)605-6762 or at juan-golfnut@yahoo.com.



LADIES' DINE-OUT

The Ladies' Dine-Out will be at the Secret Garden Cafe, 1109 Oakdale Rd, Modesto on May 23 at 11:30 AM. No reservations required.



COMMEMORATIVE
AIR FORCE

The Commemorative Air Force Central California Valley Squadron holds fund-raising meals twice a month. A Second Saturday Pancake Breakfast and a Fourth Saturday Lunch. The breakfast time is 7:30 am to 11:00 am. The lunch time is 11:30 am to 1:00 pm. The cost is \$10 per person. No reservations required. The meals are served at the hangar 1-S at 700 Tioga Dr., Modesto. The breakfast will be on May 11, 2024 and the lunch will be on May 25, 2024.



Dom Genova	5/07/1935	89 Yrs. Old
Richard Ramirez	5/07/1944	80 Yrs. Old
Bret Silveira	5/12/1964	60 Yrs. Old
John Reedy	5/19/1943	81 Yrs. Old
Brian Café	5/20/1975	49 Yrs. Old
Gary Goodman	5/21/1944	80 Yrs. Old
Don Fitzgerald	5/21/1948	76 Yrs. Old
Lance Underwood	5/27/1954	80 Yrs. Old
Coe Barnard	5/31/1939	85 Yrs. Old
Jerry North	5/31/1944	80 Yrs. Old
Ray Tillery	5/31/1952	72 Yrs. Old

2024 SIR BRANCH 103 OFFICERS

Big Sir—Paul Bender
 Little Sir-Juan Salinas
 Secretary-Don Rowe
 Assist. Sec.-Ray Tillery
 Treasurer-Ted Bracht
 Assist. Treas.-Brian Donahue
 Director-Dick Nelson
 Director-Ray Tillery
 Director-Dennis Imhoff
 Director-Roger Smith
 Director-Kerry Newman
 Director-Dave Cooper
 Director-Lance Underwood

Sunshine

By Gary Del Nero

Sunshine report: Sad news, Don Locke has passed. Over the past few years, Don and his wife, Bette, were the longest married couple at our Christmas luncheon, 77 years last December. How amazing, what a great couple and nice man. He will be missed. Don Rowe has been in the hospital, due to heart valve issues, with surgery scheduled for May 2nd. Our thoughts and prayers are with him and family. Both Al Sterling and Tom Evans had pneumonia and landed them in hospital. All much better now. Leo Havener ended up in the hospital with heart issues where he got COVID... yikes, but, he is better, joining us at the last SIR Luncheon. The last Good word, Joe Savage was bitten by black widow spider and landed him in hospital. Thankfully, he is getting better now.

Respectfully Gary Del Nero Sunshine 103

Health and Safety

By Kerry Newman

Getting vaccinated against COVID-19 has many benefits. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the COVID-19 vaccines available in the United States are safe and effective at protecting people from getting seriously ill, being hospitalized, and dying. Here are some of the benefits of getting vaccinated against COVID-19:

Prevents serious illness: COVID-19 vaccines are effective at preventing serious illness, hospitalization, and death.

A safer way to build protection: Getting vaccinated is a safer and more reliable way to build protection than getting sick with COVID-19.

Offers added protection: COVID-19 vaccines can offer added protection to people who had COVID-19, including protection against being hospitalized from a new infection.

It's important to note that getting vaccinated not only protects you but also helps protect others around you. By getting vaccinated, you can help reduce the spread of COVID-19 and protect those who can't be vaccinated and those for whom the vaccine is less effective, such as children under 12 and people with certain medical conditions.



Bring a book, take one!

Earl Glenn is using the new book cabinet to display selections. You are encouraged to bring in your used books and take something back to read.

There are usually some interesting and entertaining books available.

Branch 103 Website

www.sirinc2.org/branch103

Travel

John Cardoza (209) 483-7722



ARRANGED BY ALAMO WORLD TRAVEL
FOR SIRS AREA 18, BRANCH 143 & FRIENDS



11 NIGHT INSIDE PASSAGE CRUISE ABOARD THE CROWN PRINCESS

SAILING ROUND-TRIP SAN FRANCISCO,
MAY 26-JUNE 6, 2024

PORTS OF CALL

Ketchikan, Alaska, Juneau, Skagway, Endicott Arm and Dawes Glacier
(Scenic Cruising Alaska) and Victoria, Canada

THE CROWN PRINCESS



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**Add the Princess Plus Package for \$560 per person
Includes: Beverage package, WIFI, Crew appreciation, Premium
desserts (2 per day), Fitness classes (2 per cruise) and unlimited Juice Bar**



16 NIGHT PANAMA CANAL CRUISE ABOARD THE CORAL PRINCESS

**SAILING FROM
SAN FRANCISCO TO FT. LAUDERDALE
JANUARY 20-FEBRUARY 5, 2025**

PORTS OF CALL

**Puerto Vallarta, Mexico/ Puerto Quetzal, Guatemala/ Puntarenas,
Costa Rica/ Fuerto Amador, Panama/ Full Transit through the historic locks
and Cartagena, Columbia**

THE CORAL PRINCESS



****Add the Princess Plus Package for \$960 per person
Includes: Beverage package, WiFi, Crew appreciation, Premium
desserts (2 per day), Fitness classes (2 per cruise) and unlimited Juice Bar, 2 Casual
Dining meals per guest, Room service delivery****

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Call John Cardoza for more information

(209) 483-7722

SIR STATE OFFICERS

State Pres. Dale Decker..... 209 573-0833
State Vice Pres. Stu Williams..... 510 865-5000
Area 18 Rep. Rick Kindle 209 652-8608

SIR BRANCH 103 OFFICERS

Big Sir Paul Bender..... 209 324-1793
Little Sir Juan Salinas..... 209 605-6762
Secretary Don Rowe 209 634-0100
Asst. Secretary Ray Tillery 209 499-0955
Treasurer Ted Bracht..... 209 573-1690
Asst. Treas. Brian Donahue..... 209 988-2748
Dick Nelson 209 701-8108
Dennis Imhoff 209 846-9529
Ray Tillery 209 499-0955
Kerry Newman 209 579-7747
Dave Cooper 209 578-3789
Roger Smith 209 614-8684
Lance Underwood..... 209 681-6989



COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Membership: Dave Cooper 209 578-3789
Assistant
Program Chair: Tom Evans 209 551-1836
Assistant:
Member Orient.: Dick Nelson 209 701-8108
Public Relations: Bob Kredit 209 672-0326
Bowling: Vern Masse 209 544-1953
Bowling: Jeff Chin 209 602-3912
Golf Chair: Roger Smith..... 209 614-8684
Golf Co-Chair: Kerry Newman 209 579-7747
Golf Co-Chair: Gerald Hott 209 602-2910
Golf Handicap: Jerry Strain..... 209 574-9301
Book Exchange: Earl Glenn 209 537-7254
Travel Area 18: John Cardoza..... 209 483-7722
Merchandise Sales: Dennis Imhoff 209 846-9529
Lunch Menu: Richard Nelson..... 209 681-6989
Computer Club: Jeffery Chin 209 602-3912
Activity Chair
Sunshine Chair: Gary Del Nero..... 209-681-1100

Health & Safety: Kerry Newman... 209 579-7747
Chaplain: Joe Stackhouse..... 209 543-0972
Asst. Chaplain: Gary Goodman 209 578-0848
Meal Tickets: Don Rowe, Roy Bruk
Raffle: Roy Bruk, Jim Bickner
Table Setup: Don Rowe 209 634-0100
Table Setup: Jim Bickner 209 522-4345
Lead Singer:
Backup Singer: Gary Goodman 209 578-0848
Audit Committee: Kerry Newman, Coe Barnard
Nominating Committee:
Ladies Dine Out: Barbara Webb..... 209 526-6511

HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS

Bob Kredit

SENIOR HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS

Lon Loudermilk and Don Reed

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Jeffery Chin jefferygaryc@msn.com 602-3912

SIR DISCLAIMER and ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS

All trips and other activities arranged by and for SONS IN RETIREMENT, Inc., and its branches are for the convenience and pleasure of the members and their guests who desire to participate. Sons In Retirement, Inc. and its branches do not assume responsibility for the well-being or safety of the passengers, or their property, in any matter pertaining to said tours or other activities. Regular members missing three (3) consecutive meetings shall be notified by Form Letter 4 of their pending membership termination. Certification of attendance at another Branch meeting will be considered as a credit to the attendance record. Individual Branches may limit the number of make-ups during a twelve (12) month period.

Stanislaus Branch #103
1613 Poust Rd.
Modesto, CA 95358-1084
A Non-Profit Organization

INCORPORATED



May

2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
				Creekside Golf	Pickleball-Beyer Park, Modesto	
5	SIR Golf-Atwater	7	8	9	10	11
				Creekside Golf		CAF Breakfast-Modesto Airport Hangar- 1S
12	SIR Golf-Creekside	14	15	16	17	18
				Creekside Golf	Pickleball-Beyer Park, Modesto	
19	SIR Golf-Manteca	21	22	23	24	25
			General Membership Luncheon	Creekside Golf Ladies Luncheon	BEC Meeting	CAF Lunch-Modesto Airport Hangar-1S
26	SIR Golf-Dryden	28	29	30	31	
				Creekside Golf		