

# SIR INC. MODESTO BRANCH 144 THE ALMOND CAPITAL BULLETIN

Dedicated to enriching the lives of members through  
social activities while making friends for life



June 2022 Newsletter

Volume 06-2022

## Message from Big Sir Biff Galbraith



June 6<sup>th</sup>, 1944. D-Day, the largest amphibious landing in history, began as Allied forces landed in Normandy, France. Operation Overlord took months of planning and involved 1.5 million soldiers in 47 divisions along with 4,400 ships and landing craft, and more than 11,000 aircraft. The Germans had about 60 divisions spread along France. American forces landed on two western beaches, Utah, and Omaha. British and Canadians landed father east on Gold, Juno, and Sword beaches. By the end of the first day, 150,000 allied soldiers and their accompanying vehicles had landed with 15,000 killed or wounded.

I will never stop being amazed that so many young men and women served for this country, and the high price that was paid for future generations to live in freedom and comfort. Thank you to all who have served, and we must never forget those that paid the highest price with their lives.

I am pleased that our mayor, Sue Zwahlen will speak at our June 16<sup>th</sup>, luncheon. She has been active in our community and having served on the Modesto City School Board. She worked for 38 years as a nurse and has raised 6 children. She is going to talk about her vision for Modesto, and where we are headed.

This month I am proud to select Vince Sereno as my Big SIR pick of the month. Vince has been active in our branch and has run the dining groups since 2008. Vince is taking a step back and will run for Director when Jim Toepfer becomes the new Secretary.

Have a great June! Looking forward to seeing you on June 16<sup>th</sup> at Season's on McHenry Ave.

*Big Sir Biff Galbraith Branch 144*

See page 6 for information on New Member Procedures

## Big SIR Award



Gary Williams (R) receives the Award from Big SIR Biff Galbraith.

**Speaker will be Modesto Mayor Sue Zwahlen, who will speak about the city. (Bio page 8)**

**\$24 dues are past due. Make check payable to "SIR Branch 144" and mail it to: "SIR" at 3549 Fawndale Drive, Modesto, CA 95356. Also, you can bring payment to the Luncheon. Thank You!**

**REMEMBER, if you cannot attend the luncheons, please call *Gaylan King* at 209-380-9896 by Sunday June 12 (Luncheon is June 16). Thank you!**

**SIR INC**  
**BRANCH 144 BEC MEETING MINUTES**  
**MAY 19, 2022**

The meeting was called to order, by Big SIR Biff Galbraith at 9:28 AM.

**A quorum was established with the following members present:**

Big Sir Biff Galbraith, Little SIR and Secretary Fernando Gonzalez, Assist. Treasurer John Santillano

Directors: Gaylan King, Bob Lewis, Andre Dodd, and Jerry Strain.

Guests and Committee members present Julius Manrique, Gary Williams, Sam Graham, Richard Provost.

Motion to approve minutes from April meeting. Motion made 1<sup>st</sup> Andre Dodd, 2<sup>nd</sup> Bob Lewis: Motion passed.

**Treasurers Report:**

The Treasurer's Report for March was presented by Assist. Treasurer Fernando Gonzalez:

Checkbook Balance as of April 1, 2022.....	\$7,776.39
Total Receipts.....	\$1,575.00
Disbursements.....	\$2,173.97
Checkbook and cash as of April 30, 2022.....	\$7,377.47

Motion to approve the Treasurer's report and voucher requests for Biff Galbraith and Bob Lewis. 1<sup>st</sup> Gaylan King, 2<sup>nd</sup> Bob Lewis: Motion Passed.

**Membership Report:**

Gaylan King gave the Membership Report for May 19, 2022: 117 Active members, 6 Disabled members,

Motion to accept report, 1<sup>st</sup> Andre Dodd, 2<sup>nd</sup> John Santillano, Motion passed.

**SHLM:** Julius Manrique

**STATE HLM:** Jerry Strain

**HLM:** Gary Williams and Sam Graham

**Committee Reports:**

**Bowling:** Bob Lewis: League over, nothing to report.

**Golf:** Jerry Strain: Nothing new.

**Travel:** Bill Stires: Not present.

**Dining:** Vince Sereno: Not present, schedule is, 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday Dining Club will be chaired by Jay and Kathy Norris, 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday Dining Club will be chaired by Hall Eubank. 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday Dining Club temporarily chaired by Henry Solario & Biff Galbraith (new chair to be determined).

**Sunshine:** Edd Santwier (Sunshine Chair) and Julius Manrique. Nothing to report.

**Walking Group:** Anthony Butera, not present.

**Old Business:** Discussed how many tables to have at lunch, we will have 10 which includes only 1 worker table.

**New Business:** President State Big Sir Rick Kindle is speaker for today.

**Meeting adjourned: 9:49 AM.**

**The time of the next BEC meeting will be at 9:30 AM, June 16, 2022.**

Respectfully submitted by Fernando Gonzalez, Secretary.



# SIR TRAVEL



BILL STIRES – TRAVEL CHAIRMAN 209-544-2684, cell phone 209-988-5445 or email [bstires46@gmail.com](mailto:bstires46@gmail.com)

## Top of Switzerland and Oberammergau, Germany and the Passion Play.

August 27 – September 7, 2022. Price: \$6,425 double occupancy

Deposit of \$750 per person to hold reservation

**This trip is full, but there are 2 cancellations.**

**If you are interested, call Bill Stires – 209-988-5445**

Highlights: The Passion Play takes place only once every 10 years.



## **Scenic Ireland Trip through Ireland and Northern Ireland**

**April 14-27, 2023**

**Price: \$5,395 Double Occupancy Single \$6,195**

**\$500.00 Deposit to hold your place. Sign up by June 15, 2022 to get \$50.00 discount**

**Final payment due on December 15, 2022**

**This is a small group Departure limited to 24 passengers.**

**Sign up early to reserve your spot on this exciting trip.**

Highlights: 12 nights in First Class Hotels Accommodations

1 night in Limerick, 1 night in Clifden, 1 in Sligo, 2 nights in Belfast in Northern Ireland, 2 nights in Dublin, 1 night in Waterford, 1 night in Kinsale, 2 nights in Killarney, 1 night in Limerick

**18 meals. Includes gratuities on tour for Tour Manager & Bus Driver**

Visit Cliffs of Moher, local farms, an Abbey, Giant's Causeway, Titanic Experience, Hillsborough Castle, Belfast's O'Connell Street, St. Patrick's Cathedral, Trinity College, House of Waterford Crystal, Blarney Castle and the Kissing Stone, Garnish Island, Ring of Kerry, Dingle Peninsula, and **much, much more.**

Leisure time to explore most of the towns and villages.



## **Autumn Colors trip to East Coast**

October 13 - 22, 2023. Price: \$4,330 double occupancy

Air Fare to be added in December 2022

Deposit of \$500 per person to hold reservation

Highlights: 2 nights stay in Boston. Tour of city, free time on own.

Visit Manchester, Vermont; Burlington, Vermont; North Conway, New Hampshire; Bar Harbor, Maine; Acadia National Park; Portsmouth, New Hampshire.

Scenic drives along the Mohawk Trail and Kancamagus Highway.

Professional local tour guide for entire trip.

9 nights of First-Class Hotel accommodations.

14 meals including a regional lobster feast.

This trip will fill up fast, so sign up early.

Call Bill Stires at 209-988-5445 or email at [bstires46@gmail.com](mailto:bstires46@gmail.com) to receive brochure.



## DINING OUT CLUB

**Dining Out Clubs Dates + Humor**  
**2nd Tues. Club: No dinner in June**  
**4th Tuesday: June 28th: Olive Garden**  
**4th Thurs: June 23rd: La Parrilla**  
Questions? Call Vince at 209-524-9630

### Middle Age in a Nutshell

1. "Who cares if it looks good? I'm comfortable."
2. "Have you seen my phone?"
3. "The scale . . . That cannot be right!"
4. "Did I already take my vitamin?"
5. "Huh, I wonder how I got this bruise!"
6. "Why is the print on these instructions so tiny?"
7. "\$5 for a box of cereal? They raised the price and shrunk the box . . . such a racket!"
8. "Software update again? I don't like updates."
9. "Who in the world is calling me at 9:30 pm?"
10. "Sorry, I forgot what I was going to say."
11. "Wait! What did I come in here for?"
12. "I could've sworn that was my password!"

### 6 Little Stories with Lots of Meanings!

1. Once all villagers decided to pray for rain. On the day of the prayer, all the people gathered, but only one boy came with an umbrella. That is faith.
2. When you throw babies in the air, they laugh because they know you will catch them. This is trust.
3. Every night we go to bed without any assurance of being alive the next morning, but we set the alarms to wake up. That is hope.
4. We plan big things for tomorrow in spite of zero knowledge of the future. That is confidence.
5. We see the world suffering, but still, we get married and have children. That is love.
6. On an old man's shirt was written a sentence: "I am not 80 years old; I am sweet 16 with 64 years of experience." That is attitude.  
*Have a happy day and live your life like these 6 stories. Remember – Good friends are rare jewels of life, difficult to find and impossible to replace!*

### WHY I LIKE RETIREMENT

**Question: How many days in a week?**

**Answer: 6 Saturdays, 1 Sunday**

**Q: When is a retiree's bedtime?**

**A: 2 hours after falling asleep on the couch**

**Q: How many retirees does it take to change a light bulb?**

**A.: Only one, but it might take all day.**

**Q: What's the biggest gripe of retirees?**

**A: There is not enough time to get everything done.**

**Q: Why don't retirees mind being called Seniors?**

**A: The term comes with a 10% discount.**

## JUNE BIRTHDAYS

<i>Name</i>		<i>Date</i>	<i>Age</i>
Prescott	Kevin	06/07/65	57
Brawley	Tom	06/24/54	68
Cervantes	Dennis	06/16/45	77
Haines	Conrad	06/08/47	75
Salvi	Lor	06/17/37	85
Harrison	Bryan	06/14/31	91

## JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

<i>Name</i>	<i>Spouse</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Years</i>	
Ron	Doring	Donnelin	06/06/97	25
Hall	Eubank	Judy	06/29/86	36
Andre	Dodd	Doris	06/06/81	41
John	Medrano	Jojo	06/11/77	45
Ed	Tabacco	Karen	06/13/70	52
John	Sai	Mary Jo	06/04/66	56
Jack	O'Brien	Ardyth	06/30/62	60
Bill	Burchell	Edith	06/26/59	63
Leonard	Davis	June	06/08/57	65

## JUNE SIR INDUCTIONS

<i>Last Name</i>	<i>First Name</i>	<i>Inducted</i>	<i>Years</i>
Michael	Slocum	06/21/18	4
Dennis	Cervantes	06/15/17	5
Nilo	Casiano	06/15/17	5
Ron	Vigus	06/05/14	8
Chuck	Adams	06/07/12	10
Conrad	Haines	06/02/11	11
Jerry	Strain	06/05/03	19
Tony	Salonga	06/04/98	24



## June 2022 Bowling Report

High Scratch and Handicap Series and Games

Scratch Games

Handicap Games

Week 31 April 5

Series: Joe Bradley 668      Jim Palkoner 735  
Game: Joe Bradley 265      Joe Bradley 286

Week 32 April 12

Series: Bob Abujen 658      Joe Miceli 665  
Game: Joe Miceli 236      John Kincanon 253

Week 33 April 19

Series: Jeff Chin 622      Jeff Chin 673  
Game: Bob Abujen 259      Bob Abujen 260

Week 34 April 26

Series: Bob Lewis 596      Lor Salvi 672  
Game: Bob Lewis 231      Jim Wirowek 258

Week 35 May 3

Series: Bob Abujen 695      Joe Miceli 758  
Game: Joe Bradley 265      Arnold Fidalgo 293

Playoffs: 4/26/2022 --Team 3(Dom Genova, Jim Sterling, Jim Wirowek, & Jeff Chin) defeated Team 8(Fred Sherman, Gene Cox, Norma Brey, & Jerry Strain). Team 1(Al Sterling, Jim Long, Jerry Hott, & Steve Gibson) Defeated Team 7(Don Reed, John Togliatti, Joe Bradley, & Joe Miceli).

Playoffs: 5/3/2022--Team 3 defeated Team 1 for the Championship.

**Come out for our hometown tournament.**

**----- 2022 UPCOMING STATE TOURNAMENTS-----**

June 9-10 Gold Country Lanes, Sutter Creek  
Ray DiBasilio 530-558-9727

July 7-8 Foothill Bowl, Auburn  
Ray DiBasilio 530-558-9727

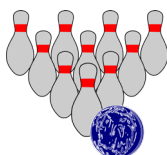
July 26-27 Clayton Valley Bowl, Concord  
Dan Weller 925-935-5510

August 8-10 National Bowling Stadium, Reno, NV  
Ray DiBasilio 530-558-9727

**Branch 144 Bowling Chairman:**

**Bob Lewis 209-523-7387**

[bobalew69@msn.com](mailto:bobalew69@msn.com)



## June 2022 Golf News



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

[https://sirinc2.org/public\\_html/area18golf/](https://sirinc2.org/public_html/area18golf/)

<b>MON. JUNE 6</b>	ELKHORN	COST: \$ 48.00
HOST: 144	8:00 AM	CARTS: INCLUDED
<b>MON. JUNE 13</b>	CREEKSIDE	COST: \$ 49.00
HOST: 103	8:00 AM	CARTS: PREPAID
<b>Mon. JUNE 20</b>	<b>TELELI</b>	COST: \$ 59.00
HOST: 164	8:00 AM	CARTS: INCLUDED
<b>MON. JUNE 27</b>	DRY CREEK	COST: \$48.00
HOST: 144	8:00 AM	CARTS: INCLUDED
<b>TUE. JULY 5</b>	DRYDEN	COST: \$47.00
HOST: 103	8:00 AM	CARTS: PREPAID

THE TEAM QUALIFIER IS OVER, I AM SURE WE WILL HAVE TEAMS GOING TO THE PLAYOFFS. THE RENO GOLF TRIP HAS BEEN CANCELED DUE TO LACK OF PARTICIPATION; A LOT OF US WERE LOOKING FORWARD TO THIS TRIP. WE NEED TO ENGAGE IN THESE EVENT'S OR THERE WON'T BE ANY MORE. ALSO, SUMMER IS HERE SO LET'S GET OUT ON THE GOLF COURSE.

JAY NORRIS Br#144 GOLF CHAIRMAN  
AND ASST. HANDICAP CHAIRMAN

[Sirgolfer144@gmail.com](mailto:Sirgolfer144@gmail.com)

3328 VINE CLIFF WAY MODESTO, CA 95355 209-606-1475

There is a SIR State Golf Tournament in Reno the week of June 13-17.

**THIS TOURNAMENT HAS BEEN CANCELED.**

### *Members who paid dues:*

Abujen	Bob	Fallentine	Wayne	King	Gaylan	Santillano	John
Adams	Chuck	Faulkner	Kent	Lawrence	Norm	Santwier	Amos
Bell	Red	Fetzer	Bruce	Lewis	Ernie	Sereno	Vince
Bernard	John	Fidalgo	Arnold	Lewis	Bob	Sheaffer	Chuck
Bica	Gus	Fix	Terry	Fidalgo	Arnold	Sherman	Fred
Bistodeau	Fred	Galbraith	Biff	Liebelt	Merle	Shoup	Chuck
Brawley	Tom	Gasper	John	Manrique	Julius	Slocum	Michael
Bree	John	Gentry	Chuck	Martinez	Joe	Solario	Henry
Brooks	Pat	Gonzalez	Fernando	Masciorini	Walt	Sterling	Jim
Brown	Ron	Graham	Sam	Masse	Vern	Strain	Jerry
Brown	Cecil	Griffin	Jack	Medrano	John	Stroud	Gary
Burchell	Bill	Haines	Conrad	Miceli	Joe	Sullivan	Don
Butera	Anthony	Hall	Wes	Miller	Jerry	Tabacco	Ed
Cardoza	Bill	Hardison	Roy	Morey	Mike	Toepfer	Jim
Carrington	Glen	Hardison	Brad	Mountain	Jeff	Toschi	Gene
Casiano	Nilo	Harrison	Bryan	Norris	Jay	Townsend	Roger
Chalk	Gary	Hawes	Jack	O'Brien	Jack	Walker	Jim
Conkey	Hal	Hockenberry	Larry	Oehrlein	Ken	Venturini	Joe
Cook	Deane	Hodge	Doug	Parks	Larry	Vigil	Vig
Davis	Glenn	Hollander	Tom	Persons	Craig	Vigus	Ron
Davis	Leonard	Hubbard	Gary	Pinkston	Ernie	Weiss	Thomas
DeArmond	Hal	Huffstatler	Dan	Provost	Richard	Williams	Gary
Dodd	Andre	Jackson	Ed	Prescott	Kevin	Yanko	Bob
Doring	Ron	Jones	Vernon	Rovere	Don	Yarbrough	David
Dutton	Pete	Leffingwell	Charlie	Solonga	Tony		
Eubank	Hall	Kincanon	John	Salvi	Lor		

## **Calendar of Events**

**SWITZERLAND, AUSTRIA, AND GERMANY FOR THE PASSION PLAY, AUGUST 27- SEPTEMBER 7, 2022. SCENIC IRELAND AND NORTHERN IRELAND, APRIL 14-27, 2023. OCTOBER 13-22, 2023, AUTUMN COLORS TRIP TO THE EAST COAST**

## **NEW MEMBER PROCEDURE**

A prospective member will attend a luncheon with a member as a guest. During the luncheon he will be introduced to the group, and he will be given a membership application. New members will fill out the application and submit it to the front desk after the meeting or mail the completed application to SIR at 3549 Fawndale Drive Modesto Ca. 95356. The application will be submitted to the Branch Executive Committee for acceptance. Upon acceptance the new member shall attend an Orientation session prior to the next meeting. At the luncheon the new member will be introduced to the membership.

## 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  
2019 Jerry Emery  
2019 Jerry Strain  
2020 Anthony Butera  
2021 Anthony Butera



## Modesto Branch 144 Officers

### OFFICERS FOR 2022

**Big Sir:**..... Biff Galbraith 209-575-2724  
**Little Sir:**..... Fernando Gonzalez 415-420-2440  
**Secretary:**.....Jim Toepfer (360) 477-0930  
**Assistant Secretary:**.....Open  
**Treasurer:**.....Nilo Casiano 209-324-5926.  
**Assistant Treasurer:**.....John Santillano 209-544-1953

### DIRECTORS FOR 2022

Anthony Butera 209-985-3473      Andre Dodd 209-527-0482  
Gaylan King 209-380-9896      Bob Lewis 209-523-7387  
Jerry Strain 209-551-8220

### STATE, REGION, & AREA OFFICERS FOR 2022

STATE PRESIDENT OF SIR Inc ..... Rick Kindle 209-652-8608  
STATE VICE PRESIDENT OF SIR Inc ...David Gonzales 408-621-8835  
DIRECTOR, REGION 2.....Dale Decker 209-533-0455  
GOVERNOR AREA 18.....Richard Provost 209-577-8219

### COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

#### RAMP

**Recruitment:**.....Open  
**Activities:**.....Open  
**Member Relations:**....Gary Williams 209-578-3471  
**Publicity/Relations:**...Sam Graham 209-552-0960  
**Accessories:**.....Sam Graham 209-552-0960  
**Travel: Area 18:**.....Bill Stires 209-544-2684  
**Area 18 Golf Chairman:**.....Jerry Strain 209-551-8220  
**Assistant:**.....Jay Norris 209-606-1475  
**Branch 144 Golf Chairman:** Jay Norris 209-606-1475  
**Assistant:**.....Gary Hubbard 209-551-5253  
**Area 18 Bowling Chairman:**.....Vern Masse 209-538-4275  
**Branch 144 Bowling Chairman:** Bob Lewis 209-523-7387  
**Programs:**.....Fernando Gonzalez 415-420-2440  
**Newsletter:** ... Bob Lewis 209-523-7387  
**Data:**..... Gary Williams 209-578-3471  
**Chaplain:**...Jack O'Brien 209-542-7177  
**Dining:** Vince Sereno 209-524-9630, Henry Solario 209-578-5607  
**Attendance:**.....Tony Salonga 209-505-0915  
**Sunshine:**..Edd Santwier 209-605-9638  
**Assistant:** Julius Manrique 209-576-1077  
**Nominating Committee Chairman:** Gary Williams 209-578-3471  
**Members:** Julius Manrique, Patton Brooks, Bill Burchell, and Sam Graham  
**Membership:**Gaylan King 209-380-9896  
**Book Club:**.....Gaylan King 209-380-9896

Our June speaker will be our Modesto Mayor Sue Zwahlen. She is Registered nurse with over 38 years' experience. She and her dentist husband have 6 children who all attended and graduated from Modesto city schools. Sue is a former 2 term member of the Modesto City School Board of Education, as well as two-time board president. She became Mayor of Modesto in February 2021. Our mayor will speak about Modesto, her vision, and update on the current direction of our city.

**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: [2022-May-SIR Happenings](#)**

**If anyone knows if someone has an illness, accident, or passes, please let Edd Santwier (209-605-9638) or Julius Manrique (209-576-1077) know. Thanks!**

**Tony Scoble and Russ Peck passed away. RIP**

**SHLM: Julius Manrique; HLM: Gary Williams and Sam Graham; STATE HLM: Jerry Strain**