

# SIR INC. MODESTO BRANCH 144 THE ALMOND CAPITAL BULLETIN

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



July 2022 Newsletter

Volume 07-2022

## Message from Big Sir Biff Galbraith



Welcome to July's Branch 144 Big SIR newsletter. I hope that each of you had a fantastic Father's Day in June. We began our summer on June 21<sup>st</sup>, and the hot weather is now upon us. I was recently playing golf and began to get dizzy. I thought that I was drinking plenty of water but forgot to consider my blood sugar. On my groups 16<sup>th</sup> hole, I passed out while standing over my fairway ball. My words of advice are to drink plenty of liquids this summer and take snacks, and from now on I will carry juice or other sugar snacks.

Now for July, I hope that you will have a wonderful 4<sup>th</sup> of July and stay safe. I thought you might be interested to know that the actual signing of the Declaration of Independence is now thought to be August 2, 1776. The original Declaration was ratified on July 2, 1776, then finalized on July 4, 1776. In 1938, FDR signed July 4<sup>th</sup> into a federal holiday with federal employees having the day off. In a remarkable coincidence, Thomas Jefferson, and John Adams both died on July 4, 1826. James Monroe, who did not sign the Declaration, but was a founding father, also died on July 4, 1831. The only president to be born on July 4<sup>th</sup> was Calvin Coolidge on July 4, 1872.

My July Big SIR award goes to Sam Graham. Most of you do not realize that he meets with Seasons staff each month and makes sure our meeting room is set up including our BEC meeting room as well. Sam is one of the numerous SIR's that step up to make sure we have a quality room and food menu each month. Thank you, Sam for all you do! I hope that all of you thank him yourself along with the others that make your SIR membership a great experience. There are numerous things that each of you can do to help. Just ask, we would welcome your assistance.

This month we are pleased to welcome Craig Hilliker from Sciabica's in Modesto. Craig will have different oils to taste and a presentation on Sciabica's California Olive Oil business. This is our first tasting and I hope it goes well and that we can do more of these types of presentations in the future. Gentlemen, have a great July and never forget the price many paid for us to live in the greatest country in the world.

*Big Sir Biff Galbraith Branch 144*

See page 6 for information on New Member Procedures

## Big SIR Award



Director Vince Sereno (R) receives the Award from Big SIR Biff Galbraith.

*Speaker will be Craig Hilliker from Sciabica's California Olive Oil. He is a Project Manager and Food Safety Coordinator.*

**\$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 July 17 (Luncheon is July 21).  
Thank you!**

**SIR INC**  
**BRANCH 144 BEC MEETING MINUTES**  
**JUNE 16, 2022**

The meeting was called to order, by Big SIR Biff Galbraith at 9:30 AM.

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

Big SIR Biff Galbraith, Little SIR Fernando Gonzalez, Secretary Jim Toepfer, 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, Vince Sereno, Patton Brooks, and Bill Burchell.

Motion to approve minutes from May meeting. Motion made: 1<sup>st</sup> John Santillano, 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 May 1, 2022.....	\$7,177.47
Total Receipts.....	\$1,354.00
Disbursements.....	\$1,378.84
Checkbook and cash as of May 31, 2022.....	\$7,352.63

Motion to approve the Treasurer's report and voucher request for Bob Lewis for \$15.61. 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: 118 Active members, 6 Disabled members.

Motion to accept report, 1<sup>st</sup> Bob Lewis, 2<sup>nd</sup> John Santillano, Motion passed with the following correction: inclusion of the passing of long time SIR Russ Peck.

**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: Local qualification for regional will be held July 18 at Creekside.

**Travel:** Bill Stires: Two new trips planned 1. Ireland, 2. New England Colors Tour. More to come.

**Dining:** Vince Sereno: 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 Vince Sereno (new chair to be determined).

**Sunshine:** Edd Santwier (Sunshine Chair) and Julius Manrique. Don Sullivan had an operation and is recuperating. Terry Fix passed away.

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

**Old Business:** Discussed on treating senior members to free meals who attain the age of 90-95.

Decision to be made at a later date. Biff Galbraith appointed Jim Toepfer as Secretary and Vince Sereno as Director.

**New Business:** Bob Lewis presented state by-laws that each branch can vote to keep members who pay their dues, do not have to attend meetings. To be voted on at a later time.

**Meeting adjourned: 10:00 AM.**

**The time of the next BEC meeting will be at 9:30 AM, July 21, 2022.**

Respectfully submitted by Jim Toepfer, Secretary Branch 144



# 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.

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## **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 July 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.

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## **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. July 12th: Fruit Yard**

**4th Tuesday: July 26th: Papapolloni's**

**4th Thurs: July 28th: Olive Garden**

**Questions? Call Vince at 209-524-9630**

### THE "WILL"

**Doug Smith is on his death bed and the end is near. His nurse, his wife, his daughter and 2 sons, are with him. He asks for 2 witnesses to be present, and a camcorder be in place to record his last wishes, and when all is ready, he begins to speak:**

**"My son, Bernie, I want you to take the Mayfair houses."**

**"My daughter Sybil, you take the apartments over in the east end."**

**"My son, Jamie, I want you to take the offices over in the City Centre."**

**"Sarah, my dear wife, please take all the residential buildings on the banks of the river."**

**The nurse and witnesses are blown away as they did not realize his extensive holdings, and as Doug slips away, the nurse says, "Mrs. Smith, your husband must have been such a hard-working man to have accumulated all this property".**

**The wife replies, "The jerk had a paper route."**

### THE BATHTUB TEST

**During a visit to my doctor, I asked him, "How do you determine whether or not an older person should be put in a Nursing Home?"**

**"Well," he said, "we fill up a bathtub, then we offer a Teaspoon, a Teacup & a Bucket to the person to empty the bathtub."**

**"Oh, I understand," I said.**

**"A normal person would use the Bucket because it is bigger than the spoon or the teacup."**

**"No" he said. "A normal person would pull the plug. Do you want a bed near the window?"**

## JULY BIRTHDAYS

<i>Name</i>		<i>Date</i>	<i>Age</i>
Fidalgo	Arnold	07/09/62	60
Campbell	Cal	07/23/48	74
Zabel	Larry	07/04/47	75
Lewis	Bob	07/14/51	71
Irwin	Rick	07/26/44	78
McNett	Tom	07/28/40	82
Hawes	Jack	07/07/40	82
Bell	Red	07/29/38	84
Graham	Sam	07/10/36	86
Lewis	Ernie	07/02/31	91

## JULY ANNIVERSARIES

<i>Name</i>	<i>Spouse</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Years</i>	
Pete	Dutton	Vivien	07/01/06	16
Ron	Quintanal	Glenna	07/05/02	20
Ernie	Pinkston	Connie	07/17/01	21
Dan	Erreca	Diane	07/18/98	24
Brad	Hardison	Daria	07/28/84	38
Ron	Harris	Karen	07/05/80	42
Tony	Salonga	Seny	07/06/76	46
Joe	Miceli	Mary	07/01/67	55
Julius	Manrique	Barbara	07/20/63	59
Mike	Morey	Phyllis	07/12/53	69

## JULY SIR INDUCTIONS

<i>Last Name</i>	<i>First Name</i>	<i>Inducted</i>	<i>Years</i>
Leffingwell	Charlie	07/18/19	3
DeArmond	Hal	07/19/18	4
Hardison	Brad	07/19/18	4
Jones	Vernon	07/19/18	4
Parks	Larry	07/19/18	4
Medrano	John	07/20/17	5
Hodge	Doug	07/20/17	5
Lewis	Bob	07/17/14	8
Huffstatler	Dan	07/05/12	10
Duran	Jim	07/05/12	10
Cook	Deane	07/05/12	10
Toschi	Gene	07/01/10	12
Oehrlein	Ken	07/03/08	14
Gasper	John	07/07/08	14
Bell	Red	07/07/08	14
Martinez	Joe	07/07/05	17



## July 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-----**

**STATE CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENT**

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

**State Tournament Application**

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

August 24-25 Prosperity Lanes, Grass Valley  
Charlie Babiarz 530-470-8964

Branch 144 Bowling Chairman:  
Bob Lewis 209-523-7387  
[bobalew69@msn.com](mailto:bobalew69@msn.com)

## July 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. JULY 11</b>	CASTLE OAKS	COST: \$ 59.00
HOST: 164	8:00 AM	CARTS: INCLUDED
<b>Mon. JULY 18</b>	CREEKSIDE IQ	COST: \$ 49.00
HOST: 144	8:00 AM	CARTS: PREPAID
<b>MON. JULY 25</b>	SWENSON	COST: \$46.00
HOST: 103	8:00 AM	CARTS: INCLUDED
<b>MON. AUG. 1</b>	MANTECA	COST: \$47.00
HOST: 164	8:00 AM	CARTS: INCLUDED
<b>MON. AUG. 8</b>	DRYDEN	COST: \$47.00
HOST: 144	8:00 AM	CARTS: PREPAID

HOPE EVERYONE HAD A GOOD 4<sup>TH</sup> OF JULY. WE WILL BE PLAYING CASTLE OAKS ON JULY 11, ABOUT A 45 MINUTE DRIVE TO IONE. WELL WORTH THE TRIP TO PLAY A GREAT COURSE. ALSO, THE INDIVIDUAL QUALIFER IS JULY 18<sup>TH</sup> AT CREEKSIDE. TOP TWO IN EACH OF SEVEN FLIGHTS ADVANCE TO MADERS C.C. ON WEDNESDAY AUG. 17<sup>TH</sup>. LET'S START PLAYING GOLF. NEXT MEETING JULY 21ST.

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 at the Blue Rock Springs golf courses in Vallejo, September 14th and 15th.**

**Press control and click to open below:**

State Golf Website

Tournament Info

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

## **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      Vince Sereno 209-524-9630

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

STATE PRESIDENT OF SIR Inc ..... Rick Kindle 209-652-8608  
STATE VICE PRESIDENT OF SIR Inc ...Dale Decker 209-533-0455(TBD)  
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 Modesto Mayor sue Zwahlen**

**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!**

**Terry Fix passed away. RIP --- Don Sullivan is recuperating after surgery. Speedy recovery Don.**

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