

SIR INC. MODESTO BRANCH 144

THE ALMOND CAPITAL BULLETIN

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



September 2022 Newsletter

Volume 09-2022

Message from Big Sir Biff Galbraith



September is here! Out of all the 12 months September is spelled with the most letters. September is nine letters long and is the ninth month. September has the fullest "harvest moon" of the year. The moon will appear larger and give lots of light. No other lunar spectacle is as bright and awesome.

This year the first day of fall will be on September 23rd. We will have equal day and night; hence it is the Autumnal Equinox. Another important day is September 17th. We call this date, Constitution Day, which marks the day the U.S. Constitution was adopted. The birthstone for September is the Sapphire. Sapphires are typically blue, but natural Sapphires can be yellow, purple, orange, and green.

My September big SIR award goes to Joe Miceli. Joe has greeted members at the entrance table for years and sold raffle tickets to those of you that try each month for a free lunch ticket. As always, I hope that lady luck smiles on all of you that buy a ticket.

I am sad that our old meeting place was sold, but the directors and officers as well as myself think that our new home at the Masonic Lodge at 800 Rose Avenue will be a great venue. For our catering we will have the same cook and staff and the price will still be the same for lunch. Our speaker this month will be retired baseball player Jason Coulie. He played for the Anaheim Angles in the early 2000's. I hope you are well and hope to see you on the 15th. Please Park on the north side of the Masonic Lodge. There is a large parking lot, but the lodge is still in use by the Masons.

Big Sir Biff Galbraith Branch 144

See page 6 for information on New Member Procedures

Big SIR Award



Fernando Gonzalez(R) receives the Award from Big SIR Biff Galbraith.

Speaker will be Jason Coulie, former baseball player from the California Angels. Bio page 5 at bottom of bowling.

WE ARE NOW MEETING AT MASONIC CENTER OF MODESTO. 800 ROSE AVE.

REMEMBER, if you cannot attend the luncheons, please call *Gaylan King* at 209-380-9896 by Sunday September 11 (Luncheon is September 15). Thank you!

SIR INC
BRANCH 144 BEC MEETING MINUTES
AUGUST 18, 2022

The meeting was called to order, by Big SIR Biff Galbraith at 9:31 AM.

A quorum was established with the following members present:

Big SIR Biff Galbraith, Little SIR Fernando Gonzalez, Secretary Jim Toepfer.

DIRECTORS: Gaylan King, Bob Lewis, Andre Dodd, and Jerry Strain, Vince Sereno.

GUESTS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Julius Manrique, Gary Williams, Sam Graham, Pat Brooks, Bill Stires, Area 18 Governor Richard Provost.

Motion to approve minutes from JULY 21 meeting. Motion made 1st Bob Lewis, 2nd Gaylan King: Motion passed.

Treasurers Report:

The Treasurer's Report for July was presented by: Acting Treasurer Fernando Gonzalez,

Checkbook Balance as of July 1, 2022.....\$7,122.76

Total Receipts.....\$1,251.00

Disbursements.....\$1,540.55

Checkbook and cash as of July 31,2022.....\$7,033.21

Motion to approve the Treasurer's report and voucher request for Bob Lewis, in the amount: \$16.03

1st Andre Dodd, 2nd Gaylan King. Motion Passed.

Membership Report:

Gaylan King gave the Membership Report as of August 18, 2022: 115 Active members, 6 Disabled members, 1 Pending Member, 128 Unused Badges, Total Badges 250. It was noted that Don Sullivan has passed.

Motion to accept report, 1st Andre Dodd, 2nd Bob Lewis. Motion passed.

SHLM: Julius Manrique

STATE HLM: Jerry Strain

HLM: Gary Williams and Sam Graham

Committee Reports:

Bowling: New league will start September 6, 2022.

Golf: Jerry Strain: Regionals were played on August 17, 2022. More information to follow.

Travel: Bill Stires: Final trip this year to Germany. Ireland trip in April 2023.

Dining: Vince Sereno: Dining is up and running.

Sunshine: Edd Santwier (Sunshine Chair): Not Present.

Walking Group: Anthony Butera, Not Present.

Old Business: Discussion was finalized that paid meals for all members who are 95 or older will be called "OLD TIMERS VOUCHERS". To start immediately.

New Business: Sam Graham notified BEC members that this will be our last month at Seasons. Our September meeting will be at Masonic Lodge, 800 Rose Ave. Modesto, California. Area 18 Governor, Richard Provost, made the recommendation that SIR Branches 144 and 103 place an AD for membership in our organizations in "THE VIEW", a Modesto periodical.

Meeting adjourned By Big Sir Biff Galbraith at: 9:58 AM.

The time of the next BEC meeting will be at 9:30 AM, September 15, 2022.

Respectfully submitted by Jim Toepfer, Secretary



SIR TRAVEL



BILL STIRES – TRAVEL CHAIRMAN 209-544-2684, cell phone 209-988-5445 or email bstires46@gmail.com

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 August 31, 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. **Airfare included.**

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 to receive brochure.



DINING OUT CLUB

Dining Out Clubs Dates + Humor

2nd Tues. Sept. 13: George's Steakhse
Tues. Oct. 11: Outback Stkhse.

4th Tue: Sept. 27th: Outback Stkhse.
Tues. Oct. 25th: Bella Italia

4th Thurs: Sept. 22nd: Bella Italia
Thurs. Oct. 22nd George's Stkhse.

[Questions? Call Vince at 209-524-9630](#)

MIRACLE

Murphy drops some buttered toast on the kitchen floor, and it lands butter-side-up. He looks down in astonishment, for he knows that it's a law of nature of the universe that buttered toast always falls butter-down. So, he rushes round to the parish house to fetch Father Flanagan.

He tells the priest that a miracle has occurred in his kitchen.

But he won't say what it is, so he asks Fr. Flanagan to come and see it with his own eyes.

He leads Fr. Flanagan into the kitchen and asks him what he sees on the floor.

"Well," says the priest, "it's pretty obvious. Someone has dropped some buttered toast on the floor and then, for some reason, they flipped it over so that the butter was on top."

"No, Father, I dropped it and it landed like that!" exclaimed Murphy

"Oh my Lord," says Fr. Flanagan, "dropped toast never falls with the butter side up. It's a mir...."

Wait... it's not for me to say it's a miracle. I'll have to report this matter to the Bishop and he'll have to deal with it. He'll send some people round; to interview you, take photos, etc."

A thorough investigation is conducted, not only by the archdiocese but by scientists sent over from the Curia in Rome. No expense is spared. There is great excitement in the town as everyone knows that a miracle will bring in much need tourism revenue.

Then, after 8 long weeks and with great fanfare, the Bishop announces the final ruling.

"It is certain that some kind of an extraordinary event took place in Murphy's kitchen, quite outside the natural laws of the universe. Yet the Holy See must be very cautious before ruling a miracle. All other explanations must be ruled out

Unfortunately, in this case, it has been declared 'No Miracle' because they think that Murphy may have buttered the toast on the wrong side!"

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

<i>Name</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Age</i>
Harris Ron	09/03/58	64
Gonzalez Fernando	09/25/46	76
Brown Cecil	09/10/44	78
DeArmond Hal	09/30/43	79
Brown Ron	09/15/34	88
Masciorini Walt	09/13/31	91
Hardison Roy	09/05/29	93

SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

<i>Name</i>	<i>Spouse</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Years</i>
Griffin Jr. John	Jean Marie	09/16/00	22
Cervantes Dennis	Nancy	09/08/90	32
Vigil Vig	Shirley	09/10/89	33
Yarbrough David	Melba	09/10/77	45
Sheaffer Chuck	Cherie	09/09/72	50
Sterling Jim	Sue	09/05/64	58

SEPTEMBER SIR INDUCTIONS

<i>First Name</i>	<i>Last Name</i>	<i>Inducted</i>	<i>Years</i>
Santillano John		09/16/21	1
Abujen Bob		09/16/21	1
Zabel Larry		09/19/19	3
Bica Daryl		09/05/13	9
Burchell Bill		09/05/13	9
Brown Ron		09/20/01	21
Lawrence Norm		09/02/99	23
Hall Wes		09/16/91	31
Conkey Hal		09/23/90	32

September 2022 Bowling Report

SIR LEAGUE WILL START SEPTEMBER 6 AT MCHENRY BOWL, WITH THE MEETING AT 12:00. LEAGUE PLAY WILL START AFTER THE MEETING.

Come out for our hometown tournament.

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

**September 12-14 Gold Dust West, Carson City, NV
Tim Hall 775-241-9080—Dave Moore 510-825-2654**

**September 27 Harvest Park Bowl, Brentwood
John Fry 925-783-5614**

**October 18-19 Fireside Lanes, Citrus Heights
Art Tourillot 916-635-6148
Ron Johnson 916-206-1483**

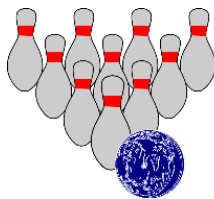
**November 3-4 McHenry Bowl, Modesto
Vern Masse 209-538-3640**

**November 30-December 1 Danville Bowl, Danville
John Monahan 925-837-1598**

Branch 144 Bowling Chairman:

Bob Lewis 209-523-7387

bobalew69@msn.com



Our September branch 144 SIR speaker will be Jason Coulie. Jason has had a fantastic athletic background. Jason was an All-American football player in college. He participated in Winter Olympics as a member of the Luge team. Jason was signed by the Anaheim Angels in the early 2000's and was active when the Angels beat the San Francisco Giants. Jason has had an interesting life and we will be looking forward to hearing him speak on September 15th.

September 2022 Golf News



This is the new URL for Area 18 Golf:
https://sirinc2.org/public_html/area18golf/

TUE. SEPT. 6	DRYDEN	COST: \$ 47.00
HOST: 144	8:00 AM	CARTS: PREPAID
MON. SEPT. 12	MANTECA	COST: \$ 47.00
HOST: 164	8:00 AM	CARTS: INCLUDED
MON. SEPT. 19	TELELI	COST: \$ 59.00
HOST: 103	8:00 AM	CARTS: PREPAID
MON. SEPT. 26	CREEKSIDE	COST: \$49.00
HOST: ALL	8:00 AM	CARTS: INCLUDED
MON. OCT. 3	CASTLE OAKS	COST: \$59.00
HOST: 144	9:00 AM	CARTS: INCLUDED

THE END OF THE YEAR TOURNAMENT WILL BE ON SEPT. 26 AT CREEKSIDE. YOU ONLY PAY FOR THE GREEN FEES AND CART, NO PRIZE FUND MONEY. OUR NEXT MEETING WILL BE AT THE MASONIC CENTER, 800 ROSE AVE. ON SEPT. 15. HOPE TO SEE EVERYONE THERE.

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

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



What is SIR?

SIR (Sons in Retirement) is a non-profit, public benefit corporation formed for men. Our Mission is to improve the lives of our members through fun activities and events while making Friends for Life! SIR is a term we use to collectively refer to our parent 501(c)(4) corporation, Sons In Retirement, Incorporated, established in 1959 (referred to as the State Organization) and 100+ purposefully independent 501(c)(4) corporations referred to as Branches. In 2018 we will be 60 years old. Our 120 plus branches include over 14,500 members. The branches cover Northern California from Bakersfield to the Oregon border and Lake Tahoe to the Pacific Ocean. Our member expectations are few. Have the free time, be a friendly, sociable guy, participate in our luncheons and activities and introduce others to SIR so they can join in the fun. Membership is open to men regardless of age, race, color or religion. We are an all-volunteer organization, so our members need to help out when called upon. SIR supports no outside causes or interests. We prohibit discussions of politics and religion, soliciting or selling anything to any member. Each Branch has monthly luncheon meetings where Sirs renew old friendships and establish new ones. Speakers are invited to speak on topical subjects of general interest. Most Branches have summer and winter luncheons and a BBQ where wives, partners and guests are invited. Of special interest are Branch activities like golf, bowling, travel, bocce, bridge, poker, walking, hiking, computers, dining out, wine tasting and investing. Our list of activities and events is almost endless and many are coed. If there is an activity you are passionate about and your selected branch doesn't have it, we will help you start it and involve others. Come join us and be part of the fun – and, better yet, Make Friends for Life.

Calendar of Events

**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
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



Pictured L-R: Jerry Strain, Julius Manrique (SHLM), Sam Graham and Gary Williams received HLM Pins

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

The SIR website for the latest edition of SIR Happenings at: [SIR Happenings-August 2022](#)

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!

Don Sullivan passed away. RIP

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