

# SIR INC. MODESTO BRANCH 144 THE ALMOND CAPITAL BULLETIN

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



October 2022 Newsletter

Volume 10-2022

## Message from Big Sir Biff Galbraith



Welcome to our 144 Big SIR newsletter article. I can't believe that October is already here. I don't know if you are aware that 50 percent of the U.S. Population buys a pumpkin in October. The great Chicago fire occurred on October 8<sup>th</sup>, 1871, leaving 100,000 people homeless. In October of 1886 France gifted the United States the Statue of Liberty.

In the Bavarian region of Germany, Oktoberfest takes place, and over 6 million visitors consume more than 7 million liters of beer. Here in America, I'm sure that millions of pints of beer are also consumed. President Harry S. Truman delivered the first ever Presidential speech on television from the White House on October 5<sup>th</sup>, 1947. More presidents of the United States have been born in October than any other month of the year.

Nevada became the 36<sup>th</sup> state on October 31<sup>st</sup>, 1864. Finally, Greenwich, in London England was established on October 13<sup>th</sup>, 1884. From that location Longitude's East and West set the universal time from which the standard times are calculated throughout the world.

My Big SIR award will be presented to Patton Brooks. Patton has been doing the inductions for our new members for many years. I appreciate all that he has done for our Branch 144 family. I am starting to notice that many of our members are now stepping up and assisting with Branch leadership and other Branch activities. We will always encourage new and existing members to help fill the voids left when the need arises.

Our speaker for October will be Chris Murphy, President and CEO of Sierra Pacific Warehouse Group, and Publisher and founder of Modesto View Inc. He is also the Founder of the Modesto Historic graffiti cruise route. Chris will be speaking mainly about the Modesto Graffiti Museum. I hope all of you have a wonderful October and look forward to seeing you at our Branch 144 meeting on October 20<sup>th</sup>.

*Big Sir Biff Galbraith Branch 144*

See page 6 for information on New Member Procedures

## New Member



New Member Mike Martinez (R) and Big SIR Biff Galbraith. Mike worked at Modesto Meat Co. He likes Antique Cars, Baseball, Bowling, Football, Game Night, Golf, All Sports and was a Baseball Catcher.

**Speaker will be Chris Murphy from the Modesto View and will talk about the Graffiti Museum. 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 October 16 (Luncheon is October 20). Thank you!**

**SIR INC**  
**BRANCH 144 BEC MEETING MINUTES**  
**SEPTEMBER 15, 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 1<sup>st</sup> Bob Lewis, 2<sup>nd</sup> 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

1<sup>st</sup> Andre Dodd, 2<sup>nd</sup> 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, 1<sup>st</sup> Andre Dodd, 2<sup>nd</sup> 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, OCTOBER 20, 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](mailto: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.**

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

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

**\$50.00 Discount extended to November 30, 2022. Still room for the trip.**

**Airfare and transportation to and from the airport is included**

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

Highlights: 12 nights in First Class Hotel Accommodations

1 night in Limerick, 1 night in Clifden, 1 in Sligo, 2 nights in Belfast in Northern Ireland, 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

#### Last 2022 Dining Out Clubs Dates

**2nd Tues. Oct. 11: Outback Stkhse.**  
**Tues. Nov. 8: Javi's**

**4th Tue: Oct. 25th: STRINGS Italian**  
**Next scheduled Dinner -- January 2023**

**4th Thurs: Oct. 27th George's Stkhse.**  
**Next scheduled Dinner -- January 2023**

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

### FOOD FOR THOUGHT

**English is the only language where you drive in parkways and park in driveways.**

**The word QUEUE is just a Q followed by four silent letters.**

**Your fingers have fingertips, but your toes don't have toetips. Yet, you can tiptoe but not tipfinger.**

**Jail and prison are synonyms, but jailer and prisoner are antonyms.**

**When you transport something by car, it's called a shipment, but when you transport something by ship, it's called cargo.**

**Every box of raisins is a tragic tale of grapes that could have been wine.**

**They say we can have gatherings with up to eight people without issues. I don't even know eight people without issues.**

**Theme parks can snap a crystal-clear picture of you on a roller coaster going 70 mph, but bank cameras can't get a clear shot of a robber standing still.**

**Dear paranoid people, who check behind their shower curtains for murderers ..... if you do find one, what's your plan?**

**The more I get to know people, the more I realize why Noah let only animals on the boat.**

**Facial recognition software can pick a person out of a crowd, but the vending machine at work can't recognize a dollar bill with a bent corner.**

**Do not vaccinate health care workers first. If it fails, we're all in trouble. Vaccinate the politicians first. If we lose a few of them, it won't matter.**

## OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

<i>Name</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Age</i>	
Alford	Randy	10/03/56	66
Castillo	Tony	10/23/55	67
Leffingwell	Charlie	10/11/52	70
Grieshaber	Howard	10/08/49	73
Moran(D)	Paul	10/21/47	75
Pinkston	Ernie	10/18/46	76
Quintanal	Ron	10/30/45	77
Masse	Vern	10/24/45	77
Adams	Chuck	10/29/42	80
Oehrlein	Ken	10/18/42	80
Strain	Jerry	10/10/42	80
Miceli	Joseph	10/24/40	82
Stroud	Gary	10/18/39	83
Duran	Jim	10/12/37	85
Davis	Leonard	10/03/36	86
Sanford	Don	10/05/23	99

## OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

<i>Name</i>	<i>Spouse</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Years</i>	
Cecil	Brown	Carolyn	10/10/08	14
John	Kincanon	Sharon	10/27/01	21
Fernando	Gonzalez	Josie	10/04/99	23
Fred	Sherman	Norma	10/15/88	34
Chuck	Gentry	Patricia	10/30/82	40
Thomas	Weiss	Nancy	10/23/71	51
Sam	Graham	Claire	10/29/61	61
Merle	Liebert	Diane	10/22/59	63

## OCTOBER INDUCTIONS

<i>Last Name</i>	<i>First Name</i>	<i>Inducted</i>	<i>Years</i>
Bistodeau	Fred	11/18/21	1
Alford	Randy	11/16/21	1
Castillo	Tony	10/21/21	1
Fallentine	Wayne	10/07/10	2
Yarbrough	David	10/17/19	3
Erreca	Dan	10/18/18	4
Liebert	Merle	10/19/17	5
Santwier III	Edd	10/01/15	7
Maxwell	Max	10/03/12	10
Moran(D)	Paul	09/02/10	12
Solario	Henry	10/02/03	19



## October 2022 Bowling Report

### High Scratch and Handicap Series and Games

#### Scratch Games

#### Handicap Games

##### Week 1 September 6

Series: Bob Abujen 647    Jim Long 659  
Game: Joe Miceli 241    Joe Miceli 251  
   Jerry Strain 251

##### Week 2 September 13

Series: Bob Abujen 646    Fred Bistodeau 680  
Game: Arnold Fidalgo 256    Arnold Fidalgo 267

##### Week 3 September 20

Series: Joe Miceli 601    Al Sterling 697  
Game: Al Sterling 255    Al Sterling 298

##### Week 4 September 27

Series: Bob Abujen 712    Rick Wilcox 719  
Game: Bob Abujen 279    Bob Abujen 279

**Come out for our hometown tournament.**

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

**October 18-19 Fireside Lanes, Citrus Heights**

**Art Tourtillot 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](mailto:bobalew69@msn.com)**

### Chris Murphy bio:

Chris Murphy is the President and CEO of Sierra Pacific Warehouse Group and Publisher and Founder of Modesto View Inc. Chris worked globally in the cycling industry returning to Modesto in 1996. He is also the founder of the Modesto Historic Graffiti Cruise Route, Legends of the Cruise Walk of Fame, Modesto Rockin' Holiday, the Modesto Music History Organization, and co-founder of the Modesto Area Music Association. Chris is married to his artist wife Rebecca since 1985 and has two daughters Madison and Abigail, both graduating from Modesto High and UC Berkeley. He is lead singer and guitarist for his band, Third Party that donates their performances to non-profits.

## October 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. OCT. 10</b>	DRYDEN	<b>COST: \$ 47.00</b>
HOST: 103	<b>9:00 AM</b>	<b>CARTS: INCLUDED</b>
<b>MON. OCT. 17</b>	TRACY CC	<b>COST: \$ 52.00</b>
HOST: 144	<b>9:00 AM</b>	<b>CARTS: PREPAID</b>
<b>MON. OCT. 24</b>	CREEKSIDE	<b>COST: \$49.00</b>
HOST: 103	<b>9:00 AM</b>	<b>CARTS: INCLUDED</b>
<b>MON. OCT. 31</b>	MANTECA	<b>COST: \$47.00</b>
HOST: 164	<b>9:00 AM</b>	<b>CARTS: INCLUDED</b>
<b>MON. NOV. 7</b>	MICKE GROVE	<b>COST: \$49.00</b>
HOST: 144	<b>9:00 AM</b>	<b>CARTS: INCLUDED</b>

REMEMBER, OCTOBER 1<sup>ST</sup> WE START OUR **9:00 AM** TEE TIMES. ALSO IN OCTOBER, IT IS TIME FOR NCGA RENEWAL. \$48.00 TO RENEW, \$58.00 FOR NEW MEMBERS. I WILL START COLLECTING CHECKS AT OUR OCTOBER MEETING ON OCTOBER 20<sup>TH</sup>. PRIZE FUND MONEY WILL BE GIVEN OUT AT THE OCTOBER MEETING. SEE YOU THEN.

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

Sirs John Gasper, Art Pargament, Sam Graham, and Chuck Adams (pictured below), the first four members of Central Valley Pickleball (CVP) attended the City of Modesto/CVP ribbon cutting ceremony of the 12 new pickleball courts at Graceada Park on September 29th. Working with the city of Modesto, CVP provided over 1500 manhours to clean, resurface, paint, and install nets for 12 new courts.

The ribbon cutting ceremony was attended by Mayor Sue Zwahlen, Councilpersons Tony Madrigal and Chris Ricci, city staff and over 100 CVP members and guest.

Central Valley Pickleball was started by Chuck Adams in 2012 with help from Sam Graham, Art Pargament, and John Gasper. They played at Zerillo Park. As membership increased the club added 8 courts using portable nets.

When the club membership reached 200 members the club needed to expand. Under the leadership of Modesto's Jay Pierce, CVP added 16 courts at Beyer Park and recently 12 permanent courts at Graceada. Club membership is now at 480 members and growing.

Pickleball is an ideal sport for Seniors. Sir members are invited to play. No equipment or experience is needed. If you are interested in playing pickleball play at Beyer Park is on Tuesday and Thursday morning or daily at Graceada Park.



## **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

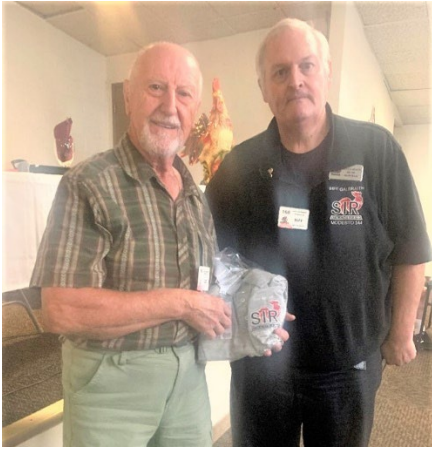
STATE PRESIDENT OF SIR Inc ..... Rick Kindle 209-652-8608  
STATE VICE PRESIDENT OF SIR Inc ... Dale Decker 209-533-0455  
DIRECTOR, REGION 2..... Dale Decker 209-533-0455  
GOVERNOR AREA 18..... Richard Provost 209-577-8219

### 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





Joe Miceli (L) receives Big SIR Award from  
Big SIR Biff Galbraith



Speaker Jason Coulie (L) receives Certificate  
of Appreciation from Big SIR Biff Galbraith

**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: [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!**

**Joe Venturini passed away. RIP**

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