

SIR INC. MODESTO BRANCH 144

THE ALMOND CAPITAL BULLETIN

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



May 2023 Newsletter

Volume 05-2023

Message from Big Sir Fernando Gonzalez



One of my goals as your new Big Sir is to keep you informed about the health of our branch and any issues we may be facing. The State Sir asked for the board to vote last month whether we were open to allowing women to join in our branch and report the results back to State. The vote was most of the board voted not to allow women to join our branch.

At the board meeting we discussed the branch finances and bringing back the free birthday lunch was only going to cost \$23 for 8 months. We have kept our bank balance for the past year around \$5,000 to cover the lunch cost until the cater cashes the check plus state board assessments and any operating expenses we encounter within the branch.

Costs are an issue not just in the branch but at state level. In the past years the State Sir had fixed costs around 50k and though assessments and other revenue generated about 108k, today fixed expenses are expected to be 63k and revenue 78k.

Branches are having trouble with their costs and dwindling membership to the point that Branch 169, 175 and 179 merged into one Branch 169.

We are facing some cost issues; our lunches are \$23 but that does not include the \$1.84 sales tax. We also guarantee the catered 65 lunches. We are experiencing around 60. So, every month we are losing about \$234.60 for the end of the year we would reduce our bank balance by \$1892 and we would be operating with about \$3000 in our bank account. The other Modesto SIR branch with fewer members than ours keeps a balance of around \$5,000. Checking with other branches, they keep from \$5,000 to \$8,000 with some of the larger branches having upwards of \$10,000.

We will continue to discuss this at our board meetings but please remember this is your branch and we need your opinions, involvement, and ideas on how to keep your branch active and financially healthy.

Big Sir Fernando Gonzalez Branch 144

100 YEARS YOUNG



Pictured L-R Wes Hall & Big Sir Fernando Gonzalez. Wes is 100 Years Young.

Speakers for May are Gina Innex and Jose Michelle from Adult Protective Services and will discuss the program and what is available.

\$24 dues are past due. If paying by check, make it payable to: "SIR Branch 144" & mail it to: "SIR" at 2509 Portofino Dr. Modesto, CA 95356 or bring check or cash to the luncheon. Thank You!

REMEMBER, if you cannot attend the luncheon, please call *Gaylan King* at 209-380-9896 by Sunday May 14th. (Luncheon is May 18th). Thank you!

SIR INC
BRANCH 144 BEC MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 20, 2023

The meeting was called to order by Big SIR Fernando Gonzalez at 10:00 AM.

A quorum was established with the following members present:

Big Sir Fernando Gonzalez, Little SIR/Treasurer John Santillano, Secretary Jim Toepfer, Assistant Treasurer Jerry Miller, Assistant Secretary Jack O'Brien.

DIRECTORS: Gaylan King, Bob Lewis, Andre Dodd, Anthony Butera, Vince Sereno, Jerry Strain-absent.

GUESTS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Julius Manrique, Gary Williams, Bill Burchell, Sam Graham. Absent were Jay Norris, Bill Stires and Edd Santwier.

Motion to approve minutes from March 16, 2023, meeting: MSP

Treasurers Report:

The Treasurer's Report for March 16, 2023, was presented by Treasurer John Santillano:

Checkbook Balance as of March 1, 2023.....	\$ 5,160.59
Total Receipts.....	\$ 1,655.00
Disbursements.....	\$ 1,679.77
Checkbook and cash as of March 31, 2023.....	\$ 5,345.82

Motion was made to approve the Treasurer's report and the voucher request for Bob Lewis in the amount of \$17.42, SIR quarterly assessment \$238.00, Anthony Butera \$18.00. MSP.

Membership Report:

Gaylan King gave the Membership Report as of April 20, 2023: 112 Active members, 5 Disabled members, 1 Pending Member, 132 Unused Badges, Total Badges 250. The 5 disabled members include: Vinny Altadonna, Harold DeArmond, Brian Harrison, Ed Tabacco and Paul Moran. Motion to accept the membership report: MSP.

SHLM: Julius Manrique

STATE HLM: Jerry Strain

HLM: Gary Williams and Sam Graham

Committee Reports:

Bowling: Bob Lewis - All is well. Play off starts next week at McHenry bowl.

Golf: Jerry Strain - Absent.

Travel: Bill Stires - Absent. As per previous notice: Scenic Ireland Trip is sold out. However, there is a waiting list available. The Autumn Colors Trip to East Coast, October 13 – 22, 2023 still has 8 spots available. Call Bill Stires at 209-988-5445. Email: bstiles@gmail.com

Dining: Vince Sereno - All groups are up and running well.

Sunshine: Ed Santwier - Absent

Walking Group: Anthony Butera - Walking group will start again on May 6, 2023.

Old Business: Per the request of our state president David Gonzales, president Fernando Gonzalez called for a vote by the 2023 BEC of chapter 144 as to the desire of having women join our SIR organization. Resulting vote: YES 1, NO 12. President Fernando will report back to the state.

New Business: Discussion was held on the possibility of reinstating the "birthday free lunch." After much discussion, a motion was made to return for the remainder of this year, 2023. The BEC for branch 144 will reevaluate this again in 2024.

Meeting adjourned by big SIR Fernando Gonzalez at: 10:15 AM.

The time of the next BEC meeting will be at 10:00 AM, May 18, 2023.

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

Autumn Colors trip to East Coast

October 13 - 22, 2023

Price: \$5,130 double occupancy Single: \$6,127

Final Payment due June 15, 2023

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.

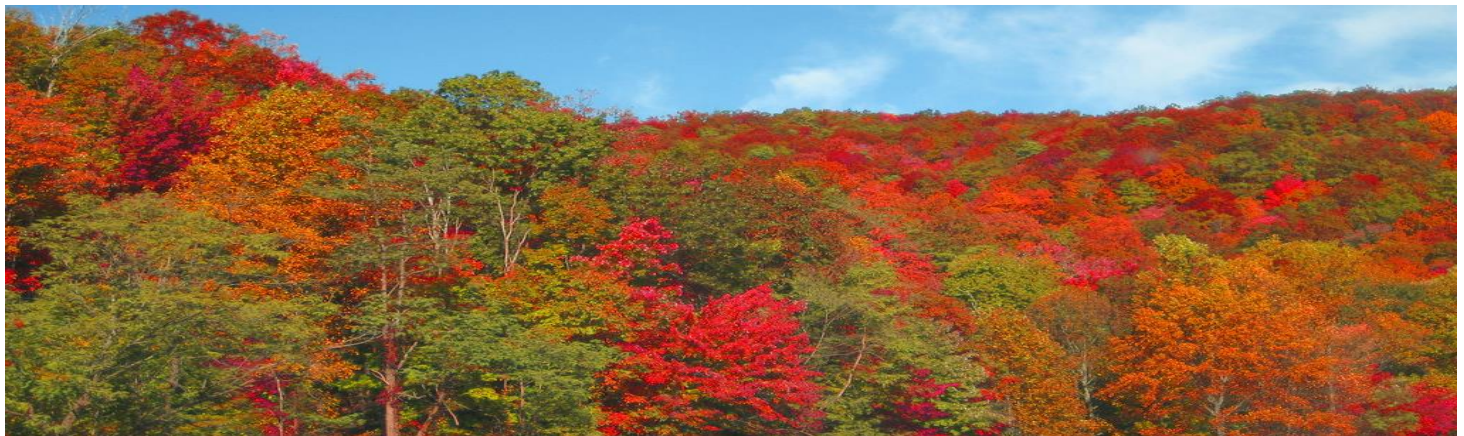
9 nights of First-Class Hotel accommodations.

14 meals including a regional lobster feast.

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

Remember that relatives and friends may also go on all trips.

Call Bill Stires at 209-988-5445 or email at bstires46@gmail.com to receive brochure.



Castle Air Museum

There will be a tour of the Castle Air Museum on May 17, 2023. **This will be open to all members and their spouses.** The cost of the tour will be \$7.50 per person. We will meet at the Museum at 9:00 am. Please call Jeff Chin at (209) 602-3912 or email jefferygaryc@msn.com if you would like to attend. The closing date will be May 10, 2023. Castle Air Museum is one of the largest aviation museums on the West Coast with over seventy restored vintage military aircraft. The address is: 5050 Santa Fe Drive, Atwater, CA.



DINING OUT CLUB

Dining Out Club + Humor

2nd Tues May 9th: Johnny Carino's
Tues. June 13th: Fruityard

Reservations-- Kathy Norris: 209-596-0416

4th Tues: May 23rd: Strings Italian Cafe
Tues. June 27th Johnny's Carino's

Reservations--Hall Eubank at: 209-649-4148

4th Thurs: May 25th: Modesto Sukiyaki
Thurs. June 22nd: Bella Italia

Reservations-- Vince at 209-524-9630

HUMOR:

JOKE of the Day!

A pirate walked into a bar and the bartender said: "Hey, I haven't seen you in a while. What happened? You look terrible!" "What do you mean?" said the pirate, "I feel fine." Bartender: "What about the wooden leg? You didn't have that before?" Pirate: "Well, we were in a battle & I got hit with a cannon ball, but I'm fine now." Bartender: "Well, ok, but what about that hook? What happened to your hand?" Pirate: We were in another battle. I boarded a ship & got into a sword fight. My hand was cut off. I got fitted with a hook. I'm fine, really . . . "

Bartender: What about that eye patch?"

Pirate: "Oh, one day we were at sea and a flock of birds flew over. I looked up & one of them crapped into my eye."

Bartender: "You're kidding, you lost an eye just from Bird Crap?"

Pirate: "It was my first day with the hook."

Irishman in Toronto!

An Irishman walks into a bar in Toronto and orders a drink. The bartender, noticing his accent, asks him, "What brings you to Canada?"

The Irishman says, "Well, I was in a pub in Dublin and the coaster under my glass said 'Drink Canada Dry', so, I thought I'd give it a shot."

Eat Your Words

Sometimes you have to: "Eat your Words." Chew Your Ego, Swallow your Pride, and Accept that you're wrong. It's not giving up. It's called: "Growing Up."

It is a Privilege: When you arise in the morning, think of what a special privilege It is to be alive, to breathe, to think, to enjoy, to live, -- then make that day count!

MAY BIRTHDAYS

<i>Name</i>		<i>Date</i>	<i>Age</i>
Jones	Vernon	05/13/58	65
Hardison	Brad	05/16/53	70
Eubank	Hall	05/26/49	74
Cardoza	Bill	05/14/49	74
Santwier III	Amos	05/23/44	79
Vigus	Ron	05/19/42	81

MAY ANNIVERSARIES

<i>Name</i>	<i>Spouse</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Years</i>	
Norris	Jay	Kathy	05/05/01	22
Jackson	Ed	Lynda	05/17/91	32
Masse	Vern	Ruth	05/13/84	39
Gasper	John	Teddie	05/31/69	54
Casiano	Nilo	Rachel	05/20/67	56

MAY INDUCTIONS

<i>Last Name</i>	<i>First Name</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Years</i>
Dodd	Andre	05/05/05	18
Shoup	Chuck	05/06/04	19
Masse	Vern	05/06/04	19
Sereno	Vince	05/17/01	22
Vigil	Vig	05/15/00	23
Kincanon	John	05/06/99	24



May 2023 Bowling Report

High Scratch and Handicap Series and Games

Scratch Games

Handicap Games

Week 30 April 4

Series: Bob Abujen 562 Jim Long 667
Game: Joe Miceli 255 Gary Del Nero 251

Week 31 April 11

Series: David Brown 618 Don Reed 680
Game: Bob Lewis 244 Bob Lewis 276

Week 32 April 18

Series: David Brown 643 David Brown 673
Game: David Brown 246 David Brown 256

Week 33 April 25

Series: Bob Abujen 719 Bob Abujen 719
Game: Bob Abujen 257 Bob Abujen 257

Week 34 May 2

Series: Bob Abujen 635 Al Sterling 659
Game: Bob Abujen 231 Murle Webb 243

Playoffs:

Team 1(Jerry Hott, Al Sterling, Jim Long, & Steve Gibson) def. Team 4(Juan Salinas, Rick Wilcox, Phil Reed, & Jef Chin). Team 10(Dolores Bavaro, Barbara Webb, & Clark Pearson) def. Team 3(Jim Sterling, Lor Salvi, John Kincaanon, & Arnold Fidalgo).

Championship:

Team 10(Dolores Bavaro, Barbara Webb, & Clark Pearson) def Team 1(Jerry Hott, Al Sterling, Jim Long, & Steve Gibson)

Come out for our hometown tournament.

----- 2023 UPCOMING STATE TOURNAMENTS-----

May 17-18 Fireside Lanes, Citrus Heights

Art Tourtillot 916-635-6148

Ron Johnson 916-206-1483

June 8-9 Gold Country Lanes, Sutter Creek

Ray DiBasilio 530-558-9727

Branch 144 Bowling Chairman:

Bob Lewis 209-523-7387 bobalew69@msn.com

May 2023 Golf News



This is the new URL for Area 18 Golf:

<https://sirinc2.org/area18golf/>

MON.MAY 8	ELKHORN	COST: \$48.00
HOST: 144	8:00 AM	CARTS: INCLUDED
MON. MAY 15	CREEKSIDE	COST: \$49.00
HOST: 103	8:00 AM	CARTS: PREPAID \$15.
MON. MAY. 22	MANTECA	COST: \$47.00
HOST: 103-B	8:00 AM	CARTS: INCLUDED
TUE. MAY 30	ATWATER	COST: \$47.00
HOST: 103-B	8:00 AM	CARTS: PREPAID \$15.
MON. JUNE 5	ELKHORN	COST: \$48.00
HOST: 103	8:00 AM	CARTS: INCLUDED

THE FOUR MAN SCRAMBLE WILL BE HELD ON JUNE 19TH AT MANTECA. TO FORM A TEAM YOU NEED 1 PLAYER FROM EACH GROUP, A, B, C, D. WE NEED TO HAVE THE TEAM'S FORMED BY JUNE 1ST. ANY QUESTIONS EMAIL ME.

JAY NORRIS Br#144 GOLF CHAIRMAN

Sirgolfer144@gmail.com

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





MEMBERS WHO HAVE PAID DUES IN 2023:

Chuck Adams	Fernando Gonzalez	Charlie Leffingwell	Tony Salonga
John Bernard	Sam Graham	Julius Manrique	John Santillano
Tom Brawley	Howard Grieshaber	Vern Masse	Vince Sereno
Patton Brooks	John Griffin Jr.	Joe Miceli	Chuck Sheaffer
Anthony Butera	Brad Hardison	Jeff Mountain	Chuck Shoup
Bill Cardoza	Roy Hardison	Jay Norris	Michael Slocum
Nilo Casiano	Ron Harris	Jack O'Brien	Henry Solario
Gary Chalk	Larry Hockenberry	Ken Oehrlein	Gary Stroud
Deane Cook	Doug Hodge	Ernie Pinkston	Jim Toepfer
Hall Eubank	John Kincanon	Richard Provost	Jim Walker
Bernie Fairfield	Gaylan King	Don Rovere	Bob Abujen
Bruce Fetzer	Norm Lawrence	Randy Alford	Pete Dutton
Bill Burchell	Glenn Davis	John Gasper	Jack Hawes
Gary Hubbard	Ed Jackson	Bob Lewis	Ernie Lewis
Mike Martinez	Jerry Miller	Larry Parks	Craig Persons
Keith Rogers	Lor Salvi	Jerry Strain	Gene Toschi
Gary Williams	Thomas Weiss	Andre Dodd	Jim Sterling
Edd Santwier	Fred Bistodeau	Leonard Davis	Arnold Fidalgo
Jerry Vietor	Wayne Fallentine	Wes Hall	Bob Watson
David Yarbrough			

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.

Calendar of Events

OCTOBER 13-22, 2023: AUTUMN COLORS TRIP TO THE EAST COAST.

MAY 17, 2023: CASTLE AIR MUSEUM

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
2022 Biff Galbraith



Modesto Branch 144 Officers

OFFICERS FOR 2023

Big Sir:..... Fernando Gonzalez 415-420-2440
Little Sir:..... John Santillano 209-544-1953
Secretary:.....Jim Toepfer 360-477-0930
Assistant Secretary:.....Jack O'Brien 209-542-7177
Treasurer:.....John Santillano 209-544-1953
Assistant Treasurer:.....Jerry Miller 209-521-1359

DIRECTORS FOR 2023

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 2023

STATE PRESIDENT OF SIR Inc Dave Gonzales 916-587-3538
STATE VICE PRESIDENT OF SIR Inc ...Dale Decker 209-573-0833
AREA 18 REPRESENTATIVE.....Jeff Chin 209-602-3912

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: John Santillano 209-544-1953
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



April speaker Ryan Kegley (R) and Big SIR Fernando Gonzalez

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

The SIR website for the latest edition of SIR Happenings at: [February 2023 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!

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