

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 2023 Newsletter

Volume 07-2023

Message from Big Sir Fernando Gonzalez



Thank you for all your support in trying to bring in new members. Also thank you for your understanding in our need to raise the cost of our lunch starting this month to \$25.

As we try and bring in interesting speakers to our lunches it is becoming more difficult to do, so if anyone has any ideas on future speakers, please let me know and I will contact them.

We have made several attempts at contacting branch members that have not paid their annual dues and or have not attended any of the lunches. I have sent out letters to 23 branch members requesting to hear from them by our July meeting or we will remove them as members of our branch. If you hear anything from any member that I have sent letters to please let me know.

Watching our members greet each other during that portion of our lunch agenda, it is heartwarming to see how easy and enjoyable it is for all of you to walk around and say hello. This is at least one good reason to keep our branch active and enjoyable.

Again, I would like to have each of you try and find through your connections in the community to find businesses that would be interested in paying a \$10 a month fee to advertise in our monthly newsletter.

Speaker for July will be Jessica Hill, Director of Community and Economic Development, who will present plans for the City of Modesto plans for the near future.

Hope you enjoyed the 4th of July and appreciate the joys of living in this wonderful country.

Big Sir Fernando Gonzalez Branch 144

Birthday Winner



Tom Brawley won the Birthday drawing for June.

Speaker for July will be Jessica Hill, Director of Community and Economic Development, who will present plans for the City of Modesto plans for the near future. (Bio: Page 8)

\$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 July 16th. (Luncheon is July 20th). Thank you!

SIR INC
BRANCH 144 BEC MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 15, 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 (absent),

Assistant Treasurer Jerry Miller, Assistant Secretary Jack O'Brien - absent

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

GUESTS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Julius Manrique, Gary Williams, Sam Graham, Bill Stires, Richard Provost -Area 18 Rep. Absent were Jay Norris, Ed Santwier and Bill Burchell.

Motion to approve minutes from May 28, 2023, meeting. MSP.

Treasurers Report:

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

Checkbook Balance as of May 1, 2023..... \$ 4,641.67

Total Receipts..... \$ 1,338.00

Disbursements..... \$ 1,558.53

Checkbook and cash as of May 31, 2023..... \$ 4,695.12

Motion was made to approve the Treasurer's report and the voucher request for Bob Lewis in the amount of \$16.25. MSP. 1st Vince Sereno, 2nd Gaylan King, motion passed.

Membership Report:

Gaylan King gave the Membership Report as of June 15, 2023: 114 Active members, 5 Disabled members, 0 Pending Member, 131 Unused Badges, Total Badges 250. The 5 disabled members include: Vinny Altadonna, Harold DeArmond, Bryan Harrison, Ed Tabacco, and Paul Moran. Motion to accept the membership report: MSP. 1st. Bob Lewis, 2nd Andre Dodd, motion passed.

SHLM: Julius Manrique

STATE HLM: Jerry Strain

HLM: Gary Williams and Sam Graham

Committee Reports:

Bowling: Bob Lewis – Bowling will start Sept. 5.

Golf: Jerry Strain – Going well.

Travel: Bill Stires – One trip planned and will present at general meeting.

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

Sunshine: Ed Santwier - Absent

Walking Group: Anthony Butera - Walking group will start again in July 2023.

Old Business: Discussed membership status, will send out at second letter letting those members that want to be on the disabled list, that they still need to pay their annual membership or will be removed from the members list but they can join again later. At the next meeting we will remove the unpaid members and update the membership list and submit a new Form 27.

Cost of lunch will be increased next month to \$25.

New Business: Will assess in the general meeting, the members to try and find sponsors to advertise in our monthly newsletter at a price of \$10 a month.

Meeting adjourned by big SIR Fernando Gonzalez at: 10:20 AM.

The time of the next BEC meeting will be at 10:00 AM, July 20, 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.





DINING OUT CLUB

3 Evening Dining Out Clubs

2nd Tuesday Evening Club:

Tues. July 11th – BBQ

Tues. Aug. 8th—Outback Steakhouse

For Reservations: Contact Kathy Norris at 209-596-0416

4th Tuesday Evening Club:

Tues. July 25th – Papapolloni Bistro

Tues. Aug. 22nd– Tasty Thai

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

4th Thursday Evening Club:

Thurs. July 27th – La Huerta Vieja

Thurs. Aug. 24th—George's Stk.House

For Reservations: Contact Vince Sereno at: 209-524-9630

From the book: "Library of Laughter"

A visitor to Washington had parked his car near the Capital. As he stepped out, he said to a man standing nearby, "If you are going to be here for the next few minutes, will you keep an eye on my car?" "Hold on there!" declared the bystander. "Do you realize I am a United States Senator and an official of my party?" I didn't know that said the tourist. "But it's all right. I'll trust you!"

Grandma came from New Hampshire forty years ago and settled in Alabama. Despite a husband, 12 children and 33 grandchildren who voted a straight Democratic ticket, Grandma remained a staunch Republican until her dying day. She had truly been a political embarrassment to her kin. And now the undertaker called to confirm the funeral arrangements for the old lady. One son-in-law, who was head of the county Democratic party, answered the phone. "I'm sorry to disturb you," said the undertaker, "but there appears to be some confusion as to whether the body is to be buried or cremated." "Let's not take any chances," said the party leader. "Do both!"

A man was alone on a rowboat on the Potomac, shouting, "No! No! No!"

"Nothing to worry about," said a passing policeman to an observer. "He's just a White House 'Yes man' on vacation."

JULY BIRTHDAYS

<i>Name</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Age</i>	
Fidalgo	Arnold	07/09/62	61
Lewis	Bob	07/14/51	72
Campbell	Cal	07/23/48	75
Zabel	Larry	07/04/47	76
Irwin	Rick	07/26/44	79
McNett	Tom	07/28/40	83
Hawes	Jack	07/07/40	83
Graham	Sam	07/10/36	87
Lewis	Ernie	07/02/31	92

JULY ANNIVERSARIES

<i>Name</i>	<i>Spouse</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Years</i>	
Pete	Dutton	Vivien	07/01/06	17
Ron	Quintanal	Glenna	07/05/02	21
Ernie	Pinkston	Connie	07/17/01	22
Dan	Erreca	Diane	07/18/98	25
Brad	Hardison	Daria	07/28/84	39
Ron	Harris	Karen	07/05/80	43
Tony	Salonga	Seny	07/06/76	47
Joe	Miceli	Mary	07/01/67	56
Julius	Manrique	Barbara	07/20/63	60
Mike	Morey	Phyllis	07/12/53	70

JULY INDUCTIONS

<i>Last Name</i>	<i>First Name</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Years</i>
Leffingwell	Charlie	07/18/19	4
DeArmond	Hal	07/19/18	5
Jones	Vernon	07/19/18	5
Parks	Larry	07/19/18	5
Medrano	John	07/20/17	6
Hodge	Doug	07/20/17	6
Lewis	Bob	07/17/14	9
Huffstatler	Dan	07/05/12	11
Duran	Jim	07/05/12	11
Cook	Deane	07/05/12	11
Toschi	Gene	07/01/10	13
Oehrlein	Ken	07/03/08	15
Gasper	John	07/07/08	15
Martinez	Joe	07/07/05	18



July 2023 Bowling Report

SIR LEAGUE WILL START SEPTEMBER 5, WITH THE MEETING AT 12:00. LEAGUE PLAY WILL START AFTER THE MEETING.

**Come out for our hometown tournament.
----- 2023 UPCOMING STATE TOURNAMENTS-----**

**July 6-7 Foothill Bowl, Auburn
Ray DiBasilio 530-558-9727**

**July 25-26 Clayton Valley Bowl, Concord
Dan Weller 925-935-5510**

**August 7-9 National Bowling Stadium, Reno
Ray DiBasilio 530-558-9727**

**Branch 144 Bowling Chairman:
Bob Lewis 209-523-7387 bobalew69@msn.com**



Pictured L-R: Kyle Spellins, Big SIR Fernando Gonzalez, Rachel Stelle. Speakers from the June Luncheon.

July 2023 Golf News



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

MON. JUL. 10	CASTLE OAKS	COST: \$54.00
HOST: 144	8:00 AM	CARTS: INCLUDED
MON. JUL. 17	CREEKSIDE	COST: \$49.00
HOST: 103B	8:00 AM	CARTS: PREPAID \$15
MON. JUL. 24	SWENSON	COST: \$46.00/\$29.00
HOST: 103	8:00 AM	CARTS: INCLUDED
MON. JUL. 31	TRACY C.C.	COST: \$52.00
HOST: 144	8:00 AM	CARTS: INCLUDED
MON. AUG. 7	MANTECA	COST: \$47.00
HOST: 103B	8:00 AM	CARTS: INCLUDED

THE 4 MAN SCRAMBLE WILL BE HELD AT HAGGIN OAKS IN SACRAMENTO AUGUST 17/18. I WILL BE OUT OF TOWN FROM JULY 18TH TO JULY 27TH. I WILL NOT BE AT THE LUNCHEON ON JULY 20TH. JERRY STRAIN WILL BE AT THE GOLF TABLE ALONG WITH GARY HUBBARD.

JAY NORRIS Br#144 GOLF CHAIRMAN
Sirgolfer144@gmail.com

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

State Golf Tournament Information:

[Reno Tournament](#)
[State Team Championship](#)

For more information go to:
www.sirgolf.org



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
Kevin Prescott	Tom McNett	Merle Liebelt	Glen Carrington
David Yarbrough	Walt Masciorini		

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.

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.....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: 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

Jessica Hill was born and raised in the City of Modesto and currently serves as the Community and Economic Development Director as well as the Community Development Manager for the City of Modesto. In addition to her role in providing professional services that support economic vitality and overseeing new developments for the city, she manages vital housing and homelessness projects and funding. During her tenure in this position, she has been a key component of many high priority affordable housing projects for the city including: Archway Commons, Kansas House, and Camp2Home. Experience: Community Development Manager – Current. Infrastructure Financing Program Supervisor (2016-2018). Deputy Executive Director for Habitat for Humanity, Stanislaus (2009-2016). Education: B.A. Business Economics: UC Santa Barbara.

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

The SIR website for the latest edition of SIR Happenings at: [May 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