

# **SIR INC. MODESTO BRANCH 144**

## **THE ALMOND CAPITAL BULLETIN**

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



November 2023 Newsletter

Volume 11-2023

### **Message from Big Sir Fernando Gonzalez**



As we try to bring new members to join Branch 144 remember a personal touch can go a long way. Express your interest in having them join our group. We can use phone calls, emails, or the best face-to-face conversations. Always letting know that our Branch is inclusive and welcoming to all, some may be hesitant to join if they feel they are excluded or uncomfortable.

Clearly explain the benefits of joining the group. Mention the social interactions we have at each event and the opportunities to make new friends plus the activities we have.

Many senior men appreciate the camaraderie the comes with group activities and meetings. They want to share laughter, experiences, and a sense of belonging.

We need to understand that not all senior men have the same preferences so a social group such as ours should aim to be diverse, inclusive, and responsive to the specific needs and interests of our members. I recommend and need regular feedback and communication on how we can help adjust the group activities and dynamics to better serve each member.

Well, enough preaching. Remember that our Ladies Day luncheon is on December 14<sup>th</sup> so please try and tell us if you and a friend, wife, or partner will be there by **November 6th** by an email to me at [fgonza925@aol.com](mailto:fgonza925@aol.com). This is we so can give the caterer a headcount and please let us know your choice of entrée, steak, salmon, or chicken Kiev.

*Big Sir Fernando Gonzalez Branch 144*

**SPECIAL  
DECEMBER  
LUNCHEON DATE:  
The December  
Ladies Day  
Luncheon will be  
on the second  
Thursday:  
December 14.**

Our speaker, for November will be Gina Innes, Manager IV, Adult, Child and Family Services, Stanislaus County Community Service Agency. She has spent over 20 years of working in Older Adult Social Services and has prior experience as a social worker at a local skilled nursing and rehabilitation center. She will be discussing all the support programs and services available to anyone suffering or dealing with someone who has Alzheimer's.

**REMEMBER, if you cannot attend the luncheon, please call *Gaylan King* at 209-380-9896 by Sunday November 12. (Luncheon is November 16). Thank you!**

**SIR INC**  
**BRANCH 144 BEC MEETING MINUTES**  
**OCTOBER 19, 2023**

The meeting was called to order by Big SIR Fernando Gonzalez at 9:48 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, Absent - Assistant Secretary Jack O'Brien.

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

**GUESTS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:** Julius Manrique, Gary Williams, Sam Graham, Bill Burchell, Richard Provost – Area 18 State Representative, Absent: Jay Norris, Ed Santwier, and Bill Stires.

Motion to approve minutes from September 21, 2023: MSP.

**Treasurer's Report:**

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

Checkbook Balance as of September 1, 2023.....	\$4,018.05
Total Receipts.....	\$1,490.00
Disbursements.....	\$1,791.78
Checkbook and cash as of September 30, 2023.....	\$4,006.27

Motion was made to approve the Treasurer's report and the voucher requests for: 1. Bob Lewis in the amount of \$18.69, and 2. Branch 144 Caterer in the amount of \$1,538.30. Discussion on official membership adjustment was engaged. At present, Branch 144 has 94 paid members. Treasurer John Santillano will report this number on Form 27 and send this on to The Head Office in Sacramento. MSP

**Membership Report:**

Gaylan King gave the Membership Report as of October 19, 2023: 105 Active members, 4 Disabled members, 1 Pending Member, 140 Unused Badges, 250 Total Badges. September attendance: 57 attending, 1 guest, 0 visitors, 57 absent. 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 – Proceeding well.

**Golf:** Jerry Strain – January 1 through January 31 is the pay period for 2024 golf dues. Golf dues will be \$55.00 for 2024. NOTE: golfers, please have your \$55.00 checks available no later than December 14, if possible. This will be very helpful and very much appreciated. Thanks.

**Travel:** Bill Stires – Absent. However, information is in the newsletter.

**Dining:** Vince Sereno - All groups are functioning well. We're looking for a new Thursday Director. There will be no dining in November and December for the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday groups.

**Sunshine:** Julius Manrique – Jack O'Brien is recovering from knee surgery.

**Walking Group:** Anthony Butera – Absent.

**Old Business: Reminder – Ladies Day Luncheon will be December 14, 2023.**

**New Business: Discussion to start "ads" for Branch 144 was enjoined. A possible venue would be the "View" paper for Modesto. More discussion to follow. The speaker for November will be discussing: Adult Protective Services. Discussion was held on the election of officers for the upcoming year, 2024. A decision was made by the BEC to keep the same slate of officers for 2024. A vote will be taken by the membership at this month's general meeting. Meeting adjourned by big SIR Fernando Gonzalez at: 10:23 AM.**

**The time of the next BEC meeting will be at 9:30 AM, November 16, 2023.**

Respectfully submitted by Jim Toepfer, Secretary.



# SIR TRAVEL



JOHN CARDOZA – TRAVEL CHAIRMAN 209-483-7722 or email: [johncardoza@hotmail.com](mailto:johncardoza@hotmail.com)

**11 NIGHT INSIDE PASSAGE CRUISE ABOARD THE CROWN PRINCESS.  
MAY 26- JUNE 6, 2024**

**OPEN HERE (CONTROL + CLICK)**



SIR Cruise  
Brochure.pdf



## SIR TRAVEL TRAIN

**Train Experience – Turlock to Reno February 1 – 2, 2024  
\$110/person - Roundtrip (rates subject to change)**

**OPEN HERE (DOUBLE CLICK)**



Turlock SIR Train  
.pdf



Joe Miceli won the Birthday Drawing



October speaker Bonnie Rea receives  
Certificate of Appreciation from Big SIR  
Fernando Gonzalez



## DINING OUT CLUB

### Evening Dining Out Clubs

The **4th Tuesday & 4th Thursday Dining Out Clubs** do not meet in late November or December due to the Holidays. The **2nd Tuesday group will meet as usual in November & December.** Planning for 2024 is in process, and nearly complete for all three groups.

#### **2nd Tuesday Evening Club:**

**Tues. November 14th – Fruit Yard Tues.**  
**Dec. 12th—Christmas Party at the Norris's.**  
**For Reservations:** Contact Kathy Norris at 209-596-0416

Evening Dining Out Club Chairman Vince Sereno along with 2nd Tuesday, 4th Tuesday and 4th Thursday Host & Restaurant Coordinators, want to wish all Club members and all Branch 144 SIR Members a very Happy Holiday Season. May you have a Happy Thanksgiving, a Merry Christmas, a Happy Hanukkah, & a Happy New Year 2024

I, Vince, want to express my deepest appreciation to Jay & Kathy Norris, (especially to Kathy) (2nd Tuesday) & to Hall Eubank (4th Tuesday) for their excellent leadership in their role as Host & Restaurant Coordinators of their respective groups. I thank them very much for being very Effective Leaders.

#### Senior Moments Humor

1. All the names in your little black book are doctors.
2. You can hear just fine--you just can't make out what people are saying.
3. After you spend a half hour frantically searching for your bifocals, your wife informs you that they are on your head.
4. Your short-term memory has been replaced by a pad & pencil, but you can't remember where you put the pad.
5. You've come to the conclusion that gravity gets stronger as you get older.
6. As far as you can tell, every bottle has a child-proof cap.
7. Your 3rd grade lunch box is now worth more than you collected last year in Social Security.

## NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Name		Date	Age
Jackson	Ed	11/12/44	79
Provost	Richard	11/02/42	81
Salonga	Tony	11/21/40	83
Sterling	Jim	11/09/39	84
Chalk	Gary	11/21/39	84
O'Brien	Jack	11/08/38	85
Cook	Deane	11/04/38	85
Toepfer	Jim	11/01/37	86
Williams	Gary	11/09/36	87
Toschi	Gene	11/06/33	90

## NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Name	Spouse	Date	Years	
Randy	Alford	Suzanne	11/24/87	36
Bob	Yanko	Roseann	11/23/96	27
Gaylan	King	Cathey	11/18/00	23
Norm	Lawrence	Janet	11/30/55	68

## NOVEMBER INDUCTIONS

Name	Date	Years	
Anthony	Butera	11/16/17	6
Gary	Chalk	11/17/16	7
Hall	Eubank	11/17/16	7
Sam	Graham	11/06/08	15
Walt	Masciorini	11/01/90	33



## November 2023 Bowling Report

### High Scratch and Handicap Series and Games

#### Scratch Games

#### Handicap Games

##### Week 5 October 3

Series: Bob Abujen 587      Juan Salinas 664  
 Game: Joe Miceli 225      Marv VanMiddendorp 264

##### Week 6 October 10

Series: Joe Miceli 620      Clark Pearson 668  
 Game: Arnold Fidalgo 254      Arnold Fidalgo 277

##### Week 7 October 17

Series: Bob Abujen 567      Phil Reed 690  
 Game: Arnold Fidalgo 207      Phil Reed 249

##### Week 8 October 24

Series: Al Sterling 593      Al Sterling 692  
           Arnold Fidalgo 593  
 Game: Joe Miceli 235      Al Sterling 267

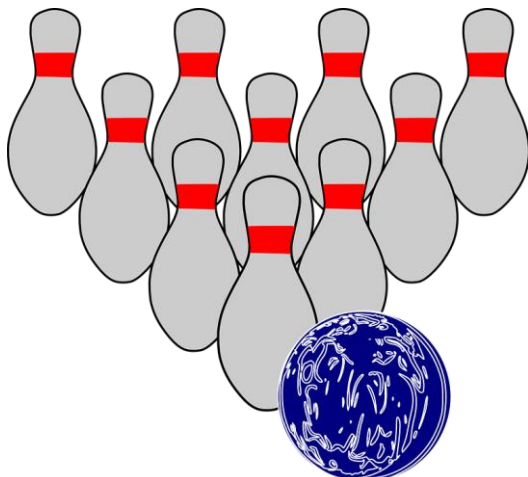
**Come out for our hometown tournament.**

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

**There are no more tournaments in 2023. 2024 schedule to be determined. Will post when available.**

**Branch 144 Bowling Chairman:**

**Bob Lewis 209-523-7387 [bobalew69@msn.com](mailto:bobalew69@msn.com)**



## November 2023 Golf News



**This is the new URL for Area 18 Golf:**

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

<b>MON. NOV. 6</b>	DRY CREEK	COST: <b>\$52.00</b>
HOST: 103-B	<b>8:00 AM</b>	CARTS: <b>INCLUDED</b>
<b>MON. NOV.13</b>	DRYDEN	COST: <b>\$52.00</b>
HOST: 103	<b>9:00 AM</b>	CARTS: <b>OPTIONAL \$20</b>
<b>MON. NOV. 20</b>	SWENSON	COST: <b>\$46.00</b>
HOST: 1144	<b>9:00 AM</b>	CARTS: <b>INCLUDED</b>
<b>MON. NOV. 27</b>	CREEKSIDE	COST: <b>\$54.00</b>
HOST: 103-B	<b>9:00 AM</b>	CARTS: <b>OPTIONAL</b>
<b>MON. DEC. 4</b>	ELKHORN	COST: <b>\$48.00</b>
HOST: 103	<b>9:00 AM</b>	CARTS: <b>INCLUDED</b>

NOVEMBER IS WHEN WE GO TO **9:00 AM** TEE TIMES. **EXCEPT** FOR DRY CREEK ON NOV. 6, 8:00 AM. ALSO NCGA DUES ARE NOW \$55.00 FOR 2024. THE DUES ARE DUE DECEMBER 1-31, 2023. CHECKS PAYABLE TO SIR GOLF. THE SCHEDULE FOR 2024 SHOULD BE AVAILABLE AT OUR NEXT MEETING ON NOV. 16. SEE YOU THERE. PLEASE HAVE YOUR \$55.00 CHECKS NO LATER THEN DECEMBER 14, IF POSSIBLE. THIS WOULD BE APPRECIATED. THANK YOU!

JAY NORRIS Br#144 GOLF CHAIRMAN

[Sirgolfer144@gmail.com](mailto:Sirgolfer144@gmail.com)

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



**MEMBERS WHO HAVE PAID DUES IN 2023:**

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

**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  
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

## **OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS FOR 2024:**

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

Directors: Anthony Butera, Andre Dodd, Gaylan King, Bob Lewis, Vince Sereno, and Jerry Strain.

**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: [August 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!

Jack O'Brien is recovering from knee surgery.

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