

SIR INC. MODESTO BRANCH 144 THE ALMOND CAPITAL BULLETIN

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



March 2024 Newsletter

Volume 03-2024

Message from Big Sir Fernando Gonzalez



For us to get senior men to join SIR involves understanding their interests, needs, and preferences while offering compelling reasons for them to join us.

We need to tell them about our diverse activities. We need to tell them about our golf group, our bowling group, our dining out groups, our walking group, our travel group. Our book sharing table and our lunch meetings. Getting senior men to join us involves understanding their interests, needs, and preferences and explaining how SIR can meet these.

Discuss with potential members the importance of socialization and how SIR provides the opportunities to connect with others and make new friends. How our group is inclusive where you can build meaningful relationships.

Tell them how being a member of social groups such as SIR promotes health through having an opportunity to interact with others and attending lunches where you can listen and learn from a variety of speaker presentations.

Tell them how joining SIR creates a sense of belonging and camaraderie and about how the luncheons give us the meet and interact with other senior men at least once a month and even more if involved in our activities.

Some seniors may face challenges with transportation. Tell them we could help with transportation assistance to make it easier for them to attend our events.

Tell them about our Website and how we communicate through emails and newsletters and even do so through mailings for those that are not comfortable with computers.

Invite potential members to attend one of our lunches for free and learn more about SIR and provide an opportunity to meet current members, ask any questions, and get a feel for the group's atmosphere.

Please help bring new members to SIR so they can enrich their lives through meaningful social connections and activities. Thank you for being my friend.

Big Sir Fernando Gonzalez Branch 144

SENIOR SIR 90-YEAR-OLD PRESIDENTIAL AWARDS



Pictured L-R: Larry Parks and Bill Burchell receive the SENIOR SIR 90-YEAR-OLD PRESIDENTIAL AWARD.

Speaker for March is Chad Hilligus: Chief Executive Officer [Gallo Center for the Arts](#)

\$24 dues are due. Please pay now. If paying by check, make it payable to: "SIR Branch 144" & mail it to: "SIR" at 2509 Portofino Dr. Modesto, CA 95356 or bring cash to the luncheon. If dues aren't received by March 31, 2024, you will be dropped from membership. Thank You.

REMEMBER, if you cannot attend the luncheon, please call *Gaylan King* at 209-380-9896 by Sunday March 17. (Luncheon is March 21). Thank you!

SIR INC
BRANCH 144 BEC MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 15, 2024

The meeting was called to order by Big SIR Fernando Gonzalez at 9:36 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, Andre Dodd, Anthony Butera. Absent: Vince Sereno, Jerry Strain.

GUESTS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Gary Williams, Sam Graham, Bill Burchell, Jay Norris, Pete Dutton. Absent: Edd Santwier, John Cardoza.

Motion to approve minutes from January 18, 2024: MSP.

Treasurer's Report:

The Treasurer's Report for January 2024, was presented by Treasurer John Santillano:

Checkbook Balance as of January 1, 2024.....	\$3,445.21
Total Receipts.....	\$2,712.00
Disbursements.....	\$1,655.77
Checkbook and cash as of January 31, 2024.....	\$4,701.44

Motion was made to approve the Treasurer's report and voucher requests for Bob Lewis in the amount of \$15.93 and Gary Williams for printing in the amount of \$145.39. A check was also presented to the caterer in the amount of \$1,377.33 for the month of January 2024. MSP.

Membership Report:

Gaylan King gave the membership report as of February 15, 2024. Active Members 87, Pending Members 0, Unused Badges 163, Total Badges 250. A motion was made to accept the membership report. MSP

STATE HLM: Jerry Strain

HLM: Gary Williams and Sam Graham

Committee Reports:

Bowling: Bob Lewis – All in good order.

Golf: Jerry Strain – Absent.

Travel: John Cardoza – Pending cruises coming for Alaska and Panama Canal. Stay tuned.

Dining: Vince Sereno – Absent. Pete Dutton stated that restaurants are starting to require just "one check" when paying for Dining Club groups.

Sunshine: Edd Santwier – Absent. Pete Dutton said that Wes Hall's funeral was well attended, and that Vince Sereno is presently recovering from hernia surgery.

Walking Group: Anthony Butera – We will resume walking "when the sun comes out."

Old Business: An update was given on the donation from Julius Manrique for the Cub Scout Troop in Oakdale, California.

NEW BUSINESS: A meeting with other branches in area 18 will be held on February 20, 2024 for the purpose of filling the void created by Richard Provost's passing. This position is Area 18 Rep. Luncheon speakers have been established for the months of March, April and May.

Meeting adjourned by big SIR Fernando Gonzalez at: 9:55 AM.

The time of the next BEC meeting will be 9:30 AM, March 21, 2024.

Respectfully submitted by: Jim Toepfer Secretary.



SIR TRAVEL



JOHN CARDOZA – TRAVEL CHAIRMAN 209-483-7722 or email: johncardoza@hotmail.com

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

CONTROL + CLICK TO OPEN

[SIR Cruise Brochure](#)



16 NIGHT PANAMA CANAL CRUISE ABOARD THE CORAL PRINCESS. SAILING FROM SAN FRANCISCO TO FT. LAUDERDALE JANUARY 20- FEBRUARY 5, 2025

CONTROL + CLICK TO OPEN

[SIR Panama Canal Cruise](#)



Tom Brawley won the February Birthday drawing.

Keith Rogers won the luncheon drawing.



DINING OUT CLUB

3 Evening Dining Out Clubs

2nd Tuesday Evening Club

Tues. March 12th – MIMI'S Café

Tues. April 9th –STRINGS ITALIAN

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

4th Tuesday Evening Club:

Tues. Mar.26th–OUTBACK STEAKHOUSE

Tues. April 23rd – TASTY THAI

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

4th Thursday Evening Club:

Thurs. Mar. 28th–RED LOBSTER

Thurs. April 25th – To be determined.

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

Weekday Humor – Part #1. . .

1. *The biggest joke on mankind is that computers have been asking humans to prove they aren't a robot.*
2. *When a kid says, "Daddy, I want mommy", that's the kid version of "I'd like to speak to your supervisor".*
3. *It's weird being the same age as old people.*
4. *Just once, I want a username and password prompt to say: CLOSE ENOUGH!*
5. *If I am ever on life support, unplug me and plug me back in and see if that works.*
6. *Do you ever wake up in the morning and look in the mirror and think: "That can't be accurate?"*
7. *Last night the internet stopped working so I spent a few hours with my family. They seem like good people.*
8. *If Adam and Eve were Cajuns they would have eaten the snake instead of the Apple and saved us all a lot of trouble.*
9. *We celebrated last night with a couple of adult beverages: Metamucil & Ensure!*
10. *You know you are getting old when friends with benefits means having someone who can drive at night.*
11. *Weight loss goal: To be able to clip my toenails and breathe at the same time.*
12. *After watching how some people wear their masks, I understand how contraception fails.*
13. *Some of my friends exercise every day. Meanwhile I am watching a show I don't like because the remote fell on the floor.*

Continued in the April Newsletter-----

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

Name		Date	Age
Abujen	Bob	03/29/51	73
Hollander	Tom	03/16/50	74
Sheaffer	Chuck	03/17/49	75
Norris	Jay	03/18/46	78
Casiano	Nilo	03/04/42	82
Dodd	Andre	03/25/42	82
Shoup	Chuck	03/13/39	85
Weiss	Thomas	03/29/38	86

MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

Name	Spouse	Date	Years	
Bill	Stires	Mary	03/31/22	2
Charlie	Leffingwell	Jan	03/21/98	26
Bruce	Fetzer	Debbie	03/30/96	28
Kevin	Prescott	Anita	03/15/86	38
Kenneth	Oehrlein	Sochi	03/14/64	60
Walter	Masciorini	Ann	03/03/56	68

MARCH INDUCTIONS

Name	Date	Years	
Vietor	Gerry	03/16/23	1
Gonzalez	Fernando	03/21/19	5
O'Brien	Jack	03/15/18	6
Hollander	Tom	03/15/18	6
Watson	Bob	03/07/13	11
King	Gaylan	03/05/09	15
Rovere	Don	03/07/07	17
Griffin Jr.	John	03/07/07	17
Davis	Leonard	03/07/07	17
Williams	Gary	03/04/04	20



March 2024 Bowling Report

High Scratch and Handicap Series and Games

Scratch Games

Handicap Games

Week 23 February 6

Series: David Brown 651

David Brown 687

Game: David Brown 225

Steve Gibson 253

Week 24 February 13

Series: Jeff Chin 600

Jeff Chin 708

Game: Jeff Chin 214

Jeff Chin 250

Week 26 February 20

Series: Joe Miceli 606

Gary Del Nero 693

Game: Chuck Shoup 224

Chuck Shoup 258

Week 27 February 27

Series: Bob Abuken 657

Bob Abuken 696

Game: Bob Abuken 254

Jim Long 275

Come out for our hometown tournament.

---- 2024 UPCOMING TOURNAMENTS----

March 19-20 Clayton Valley Bowl, Concord
Mike Kropf 925-689-1453

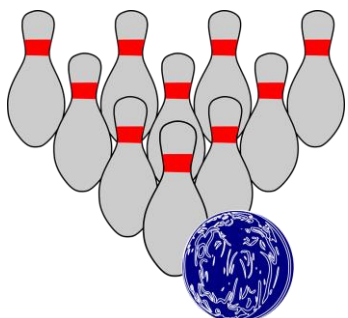
April 22-25 Gold Dust West, Carson City, NV
Tim Hall 775-241-9080
Dave Moore 510-825-2654

SIR Annual State Tournament:

May 21-22 Fireside Lanes, Citrus Heights
Art Tourtillot 916-635-6148
Ron Johnson 916-206-1483

Branch 144 Bowling Chairman:

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



March 2024 Golf News



This is the new URL for Area 18 Golf:

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

MON.MAR. 11	SWENSON	COST: \$ 49.00
HOST: 103-B	9:00 AM	CARTS: INCLUDED
MON. MAR. 18	DRYDEN	COST: \$52.00
HOST: 144	9:00 AM	CARTS: OPTIONAL \$20
MON. MAR. 25	DRY CREEK	COST: \$ 53.00
HOST: 103-A	9:00 AM	CARTS: INCLUDED
MON. APR. 1	ELKHORN	COST: \$53.00
HOST: 103-B	8:00 AM	CARTS: INCLUDED
MON. APR. 8	CREEKSIDE	COST: \$54.00
HOST: 144	8:00 AM	CARTS: OPTIONAL \$20

THE SIR STATE RENO TOURNAMENT IS ON JUNE 4-7 WITH 2 ROUNDS OF GOLF AT LAKERIDGE & TOIYABE G.C. STAYING AT THE NUGGET HOTEL & CASINO. CHECK STATE WEBSITE FOR MORE INFO. THE STATE TEAM TOURNAMENT (A,B,C,D) WILL BE HELD ON AUGUST 7 & 8 AT THE RESERVE AT SPANOS PARK. AGAIN, CHECK STATE WEB SITE FOR MORE INFO.

JAY NORRIS Br#144 GOLF CHAIRMAN

Sirgolfer144@gmail.com

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

2024 Napa Golf Tournament sponsored by Branch's 35, 149 and SIR State Golf.

**PRESS CONTROL & CLICK TO OPEN
2 SITES BELOW:**

[2024 Spring Fling Napa](#)

[2024 Spring Fling Entry Form, Fillable](#)



Make friends for life.

MEMBERS WHO PAID DUES IN 2024:

Abujen	Bob
Bistodeau	Fred
Brawley	Tom
Brooks	Patton
Brown	Cecil
Butera	Anthony
Chalk	Gary
Conkey	Hal
Cook	Deane
Dodd	Andre
Duran	Jim
Dutton	Pete
Eubank	Hall
Fetzer	Bruce
Fidalgo	Arnold
Gentry	Chuck
Gonzalez	Fernando
Graham	Sam
Grieshaber	Howard

Hardison	Brad
Hardison	Roy
Hawes	Jack
Jackson	Ed
Kincanon	John
King	Gaylan
Lawrence	Norm
Leffingwell	Charlie
Lewis	Bob
Lewis	Ernie
Martinez	Mike
Masse	Vern
Miceli	Joe
Miller	Jerry
Mountain	Jeff
Norris	Jay
Persons	Craig
Pinkston	Ernie
Rogers	Keith

Rovere	Don
Salonga	Tony
Salvi	Lor
Santillano	John
Sheaffer	Chuck
Shoup	Chuck
Slocum	Michael
Sterling	Jim
Stires	Bill
Strain	Jerry
Stroud	Gary
Toepfer	Jim
Toschi	Gene
Walker	Jim
Weiss	Thomas
Williams	Gary
Yarbrough	David
Santwier	Edd

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
2023 Fernando Gonzalez



Modesto Branch 144 Officers

OFFICERS FOR 2024

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 209-601-8204

DIRECTORS FOR 2024

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 2024

STATE PRESIDENT OF SIR IncDale Decker 209-573-0833
STATE VICE PRESIDENT OF SIR Inc ...Stu Williams 510-865-5000
AREA 18 REPRESENTATIVE.....Open

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:.....John Cardoza 209-483-7722
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
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
Nominating Committee Chairman: Gary Williams 209-578-3471
Members: 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

The SIR website for the latest edition of SIR Happenings at: [February 2024 Happenings](#)

If anyone knows if someone has an illness, accident, or passes, please let Edd Santwier (209-605-9638) know. Thanks!

Vince Sereno is recovering from hernia surgery. Jerry Strain is recovering from shoulder surgery.

HLM: Gary Williams and Sam Graham; STATE HLM: Jerry Strain