

SIR INC. MODESTO BRANCH 144

THE ALMOND CAPITAL BULLETIN

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



June 2024 Newsletter

Volume 06-2024

Message from Big Sir Fernando Gonzalez



It is important for all of us to continue to attract new members to join SIR. I heard our area representative make a statement about who we are that made me view SIR from a different perspective. I have primarily thought of us as a social group that has meaningful monthly lunch plus a variety of activities. We are a social group that has a variety of activities of which lunch is just one of those activities. So, as we meet potential new members, we need to emphasize all of our activities, not just our lunch meeting.

During our last lunch meeting I heard from several of you that one of the main dishes ran out, so we were limited to one selection. I have mentioned this to our caterer so that in the future this does not happen again. I do appreciate hearing from you when something does not go as we expect because to keep this organization going, we need to improve in areas where our members' expectations are not met.

We are still falling short of the number of members attending our lunch as we have set the number of lunches that we have negotiated with the caterer and when we run short of attendees, we need to make up the difference in costs from our bank account. I encourage all of you to please follow up with members that are not attending our lunches, reminding them to join us. It is best if you can do this one-to-one with fellow members you know very well. We need your support.

There was a meeting for Area 18 SIR branches on May 21. We discussed the issues all branches are having attracting new members and possibly advertising in local newspapers or publications. A prototype ad has been produced and we are in the

process of researching the cost in a variety of publications. A QR code was produced for each branch that we can insert into our web site as well as add it to SIR's business cards, which would be easier for potential members to click on it instead of having to remember our internet address. We will continue to have this Area 18 meeting in the future, and I will report on our progress.

Big Sir Fernando Gonzalez Branch 144

Mr. Su will be the speaker for June. He will speak on China (part 2). Information is on the last page.

\$24 dues are past 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 paid 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 June 16.** (Luncheon is **June 20**). Thank you!**

SIR INC
BRANCH 144 BEC MEETING MINUTES
MAY 16, 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, Vince Sereno, Jerry Strain, Anthony Butera.

GUESTS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Absent - Gary Williams, Sam Graham, John Cardoza, Edd Santwier.

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

Treasurer's Report:

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

Checkbook Balance as of April 1, 2024.....	\$4,463.41
Total Receipts.....	\$1,249.00
Disbursements.....	\$1,703.79
Checkbook and cash as of April 30, 2024.....	\$4,208.62

A motion was made to approve the treasurer's report and a voucher request for: Bob Lewis in the amount of \$14.48, MSP.

Membership Report:

Gaylan King gave the membership report as of May 16, 2024: Active members 85, Pending members 2, Unused badges 165, 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 – It was a good season. It is finished for the year.

Golf: Jerry Strain – Going well.

Travel: John Cardoza – Absent. However, there is a pending cruise coming for Panama Canal in January of 2025. Stay tuned.

Dining: Vince Sereno – Proceeding as usual. Some minor problems.

Sunshine: Edd Santwier – Absent.

Walking Group: Anthony Butera – The walking group will resume on September 7, 2024.

Old Business: The results of the survey taken at the General Membership Meeting on April 16, 2024, by Big SIR Fernando Gonzalez, regarding participation in various charity events by SIR Branch 144: no interest was expressed.

New Business: A meeting will be held on May 21, 2024, at Denny's in Salida, California for area Big SIRS to discuss several issues, one being advertising. Bob Lewis has been selected to attend this meeting as our designee for Branch 144. Anthony Butera took this spot as Bob Lewis could not attend.

Meeting adjourned by Big SIR Fernando Gonzalez at 9:53 AM.

The time of the next BEC meeting will be 9:30 AM, June 20, 2024.

Respectfully submitted by: Secretary Jim Toepfer.



SIR TRAVEL



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

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](#)

Also, Reno Snow Train which we are planning on leaving Turlock & Modesto on Thursday the 9th of January and returning Friday the 10th of January 2025.



Brad Hardison won the Birthday Drawing



Ernie Lewis won the Free Lunch Drawing



Dona Nagel receives Certificate of Appreciation from Big SIR Fernando Gonzalez



DINING OUT CLUB

3 Evening Dining Out Clubs

2nd Tuesday Evening Club

Tues. June 11th – FRUIT YARD

Tues. July 9th - BBQ at the Norris's

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

4th Tuesday Evening Club:

Tues. June 25th –L'GUSTO CUCINA ITALIAN

Tues. July 23rd—Papapavlo's Mediterranean Bistro

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

4th Thursday Evening Club:

Thurs. June 27th –STRINGS ITALIAN

Thurs. July 25th—BLACK BEAR DINER

For Reservations: Contact Vince Sereno at: 209-524-9630, OR Cell at: 209-552-1539

CHUCKLES

1. I remember when I was a kid, and we played "spin the bottle", if they didn't want to kiss you, they'd have to give you a quarter. By the time I was twelve, I owned my own home.
2. Long ago men cursed and beat the ground with sticks. It was called witchcraft. Today, it's called golf.
3. You know you're getting old when a recliner and a heating pad is your idea of a hot date.
4. Paddy is in court, and after an 8-hour trial he pleads guilty. Judge says, "Why didn't you plead guilty at first and save the court all this time?" Paddy says, "I thought I was innocent until I heard all the evidence."
5. Two little boys were at a wedding when one leaned over and asked, "How many wives can a man have?" His friend answered, "Sixteen. . . four better, four worse, four richer, and four poorer."
6. Why is it after I push ONE for English I still can't understand the person on the other end.
7. You know when you buy a bag of salad & it gets all brown & soggy! Cookies don't do that!
8. They say 40 is the new 30 & 50 is the new 40, but all I know is the older I get, the more 9pm is the new midnight.

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

<i>Name</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Age</i>	
Prescott	Kevin	06/07/65	59
Brawley	Tom	06/24/54	70
Salvi	Lor	06/17/37	87

JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

<i>Name</i>	<i>Spouse</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Years</i>	
Blaine	Duran	Marta	06/24/06	18
Hall	Eubank	Judy	06/29/86	38
Gerry	Vietor	Heidi	06/29/85	39
Andre	Dodd	Doris	06/06/81	43
John	Medrano	Jojo	06/11/77	47
Jack	O'Brien	Ardyth	06/30/62	62
Bill	Burchell	Edith	06/26/59	65

JUNE INDUCTIONS

<i>Name</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Years</i>	
Michael	Slocum	06/21/18	6
Brad	Hardison	06/21/18	6
Nilo	Casiano	06/15/17	7
Jerry	Strain	06/05/03	21
Tony	Salonga	06/04/98	26

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL BIRTHDAY, ANNIVERSARY, AND INDUCTION MEMBERS!

June 2024 Bowling Report

PLAYOFFS:

Team 1 (Steve Gibson, Jim Long, Jerry Hott, & Al Sterling) def. Team 4 (Beckie Burrichter & Murle Webb).

Balls of Fire (Juan Salinas, Rick Wilcox, Phil Reed, & Jeff Chin) def. Team 10 (Marvin VanMiddendorp, Tom Mickelsen, & Mike Bowers)

CHAMPIONSHIP:

Balls of Fire def. Team 1 to win the 2023-2024 SIR League. Congratulations Balls of Fire!

Come out for our hometown tournament.

----- 2024 UPCOMING TOURNAMENTS-----

June 6-7 Gold Country Lanes, Sutter Creek
Ray DiBasilio 530-558-9727

June 17-18 Earl Anthony's Dublin Bowl,
Dublin

Miguel Ferras 510-792-8301
Jerry Sabo 510-790-3135

July 11-12 Foothill Bowl Auburn
Ray DiBasilio 530-558-9727

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

Ad for Anthony Butera:



Anthony Butera
Regional Vice-President at
Primerica Financial Services



June 2024 Golf News



This is the new URL for Area 18 Golf:

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

MONDAY JUNE 10	CREEKSIDE	COST: \$54.00
HOST: 103-A	8:00 AM	CARTS: OPTIONAL\$20
MONDAY JUNE 17	MANTECA	COST: \$49.00
HOST: 144	8:00 AM	CARTS: INCLUDED
MONDAY JUNE 24	DRYCREEK	COST: \$53.00
HOST: 103-B	8:00 AM	CARTS: INCLUDED
MONDAY JULY 1	DRYDEN	COST: \$52.00
HOST: 144	8:00 AM	CARTS: OPTIONAL\$20
MONDAY JULY 8	CASTLE OAKS	COST: \$58.00
HOST: 103-A	8:00 AM	CARTS: INCLUDED

JAY NORRIS BRANCH 144 GOLF CHAIRMAN
3328 VINE CLIFF WAY MODESTO, CA 95355
209-606-1475

Sirgolfer144@gmail.com





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
Cardoza	Bill
Davis	Leonard
Hubbard	Gary
Medrano	John
Solario	Henry
Bernard	John

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
Carrington	Glenn
Fallentine	Wayne
Honkenberry	Larry
Parks	Larry
Sereno	Vince

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
Burchell	Bill
Casiano	Nilo
Faulkner	Kent
Karlin	Dave
Prescott	Kevin
Vietor	Gerald

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 ...Lee Lamp 530-921-1375
AREA 18 REPRESENTATIVE.....Rick Kindle 209-652-8608

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:....Charlie Leffingwell 209-543-2107
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

Mr. Su has been serving as a news commentator for SOH International Chinese Radio Network and NTD International TV network since 2003 for the news related to China.

The Indo-Pacific Region has been called by US global security strategy the “world’s center of gravity” because this region encompasses half of the world’s total population, and two thirds of the global economy. This presentation provides the overview of global threat by the Chinese regime, this new presentation focuses on the historical facts, treaties, and US legislations that allow the United States to militarily defend Taiwan.

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!

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