

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 2024 Newsletter

Volume 07-2024

Message from Big Sir Fernando Gonzalez



I have come to understand that our monthly luncheons are not just about having a speaker, sometimes not very interesting but having one, it is more about the conversations that we all have before and during the luncheon. Conversations play a crucial role in our lives, in our relationships and in society as a whole.

Our conversations help us connect with our fellow SIR members on a deeper level helping us foster our friendships, helping us resolve conflicts and misunderstandings. Our conversations help us share experiences which help solve problems and provides support.

Our conversations help us understand that we have many different points of views, but helps see that we are on the same page in general.

Our conversations facilitate an exchange of ideas and even cultural understanding which supports the diversity in our fellow members.

Our conversations expose us to different viewpoints fostering empathy and broad-mindedness.

Our conversations stimulate intellectual growth and knowledge and promotes our mental well-being.

In conclusion our conversations are a fundamental human activity that enriches lives, enhances relationships, drives progress, and maintains the fabric of society. So, when I hear all the conversations going on during our luncheons, I know our branch is doing well.

Big Sir Fernando Gonzalez Branch 144

BIRTHDAY WINNER



Lor Salvi (L) won the Birthday Drawing.

Speaker information 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 July 14. (Luncheon is July 18). Thank you!

SIR INC
BRANCH 144 BEC MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 20, 2024

The meeting was called to order by Big SIR Fernando Gonzalez at 9:38 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, Anthony Butera. Absent: Jerry Strain.

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

Motion to approve minutes from May 16, 2024. MSP.

Treasurer's Report:

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

Checkbook Balance as of May 1, 2024.....	\$ 4,008.62
Total Receipts.....	\$ 1,221.00
Disbursements.....	\$ 1,341.73
Checkbook and cash as of May 31, 2024.....	\$ 4,087.89

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 June 20, 2024: Active members 87, Pending members 0, Unused badges 153, 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 – Finished for the year. Starts again September 3rd.

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.

Sunshine: Edd Santwier – Absent.

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

Old Business: The BEC of Branch 144 was updated on the need to advertise to increase membership. Pricing to advertise monthly will be obtained from "The View", a monthly magazine produced in Modesto, California. Three-fold brochures are available. Posting QR codes was also suggested.

NEW BUSINESS: A zoom meeting to discuss membership is scheduled for today, June 20, 2024, at 2 P.M. All statewide BEC members are encouraged to attend.

Meeting adjourned by Big SIR Fernando Gonzalez at 9:59 AM.

The time of the next BEC meeting will be 9:30 AM, July 18, 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](#)

There is a married SIR from Turlock that would like to find someone to share a cabin for the cruise. He really wants to go but his wife doesn't have any interest. Contact John Cardoza. Thank you.

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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.
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Ernie Pinkston(L) won the Luncheon Drawing



Bruce Fetzer(L) won the Luncheon Drawing



DINING OUT CLUB

3 Evening Dining Out Clubs

2nd Tuesday Evening Club

Tues. July 9th – BBQ at the Norris's

Tues. Aug. 13th –MY SECRET GARDEN

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

4th Tuesday Evening Club:

Tues. July, 23rd—Papapolloni M. Bistro

Tues. August 27th –OLIVE GARDEN

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

4th Thursday Evening Club:

Thurs. July 25th—BLACK BEAR DINER

Thurs. Aug. 22nd –GEORGE'S STEAKHOUSE.

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

CHUCKLES – FOUND ON ROAD SIGNS.

1. Great hide and seek players are really hard to find.
2. Laughing out loud is forbidden in Hawaii because it's a "A LOW Ha" State.
3. When swarms of flying insects threaten a town, police deploy the swat team!.
4. "Larva" was a great band before the "Beatles" emerged.
5. James Bond sports gray hair in his film, "No time to dye."
6. Ants never get sick because they have little "anty" bodies!
7. I married my wife for her looks, but not for the ones I'm getting lately!
8. My landlord wants to talk about my high heating bills. I told him my door was always open!
9. I was in a band called the "Hinges." We opened for the "Doors."
10. I wear memory foam insoles to remember why I walked into the next room!
11. When you dream in color, it's a pigment of your imagination!
12. To spell the word panda you just need a "P and A"!
13. Being in debt attracts a lot of interest from bankers!
14. It wouldn't have been "Wright" if "Ford" had invented the airplane!
15. It doesn't make any "cents", but volunteering is rewarding!

JULY BIRTHDAYS

Name		Date	Age
Arnold	Fidalgo	07/09/62	62
Bob	Lewis	07/14/51	73
Tom	McNett	07/28/40	84
Jack	Hawes	07/07/40	84
Sam	Graham	07/10/36	88
Ernie	Lewis	07/02/31	93

JULY ANNIVERSARIES

Name	Spouse	Date	Years	
Pete	Dutton	Vivien	07/01/06	18
Ernie	Pinkston	Connie	07/17/01	23
Brad	Hardison	Daria	07/28/84	40
Ron	Harris	Karen	07/05/80	44
Tony	Salonga	Seny	07/06/76	48
Joe	Miceli	Mary	07/01/67	57

JULY INDUCTIONS

Name	Date	Years	
Leffingwell	Charlie	07/18/19	5
DeArmond	Hal	07/19/18	6
Parks	Larry	07/19/18	6
Medrano	John	07/20/17	7
Lewis	Bob	07/17/14	10
Duran	Jim	07/05/12	12
Cook	Deane	07/05/12	12
Oehrlein	Ken	07/03/08	16

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL BIRTHDAY, ANNIVERSARY, AND INDUCTION MEMBERS!

July 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-----

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

July 23-24 Clayton Valley Bowl, Concord
Dan Weller 925-935-5510

August 12-14 National Bowling Stadium,
Reno
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



July 2024 Golf News



This is the new URL for Area 18 Golf:

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

MON. JUL. 8	CASTLEOAKS	COST: \$58.00
HOST: 103-A	8:00 AM	CARTS: INCLUDED
MON. JUL.15	CREEKSIDE	COST: \$57.00
HOST: 103-B	8:00 AM	CARTS: OPTIONAL \$20.00
MON. JUL.22	SWENSON	COST: \$49.00
HOST: 144	8:00 AM	CARTS: INCLUDED
MON. JUL.29	ELKHORN	COST: \$53.00
HOST: 103-A	9:00 AM	CARTS: INCLUDED
MON. AUG 5	MANTECA	COST: \$49.00
HOST:103-B	8:00 AM	CARTS: INCLUDED

THE TEE TIME FOR ELKHORN ON JULY 29 WILL BE 9:00. THE TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP WILL BE ON AUGUST 7TH & 8TH, AT THE RESERVE IN STOCKTON. SEE STATE WEBSITE FOR MORE INFO. WE STILL NEED MORE GOLFERS TO COME OUT AND PLAY. WE STILL NEED MORE PLAYERS, COME ON OUT AND SUPPORT SIR GOLF. WE ALSO NEED MORE MEMBERS TO ATTEND THE SIR MEETINGS.

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
Hockenberry	Larry
Parks	Larry
Sereno	Vince
McNett	Tom

Rovere	Don
Salonga	Tony
Salvi	Lor
Santillano	John
Sheaffer	Chuck
Shoup	Chuck
Slocum	Michael
Sterling	Jim
Stires	Bill
Strain	Jerry
Stroud	Gary
Toepfer	Jim
Alford	Randy
Walker	Jim
Weiss	Thomas
Williams	Gary
Yarbrough	David
Santwier	Edd
Burchell	Bill
Casiano	Nilo
Faulkner	Kent
Karlin	Dave
Prescott	Kevin
Vietor	Gerald
Miller	Brian

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

The speaker for next month is Denise Skidmore from Hilmar Manufacturing (Cheese). She will present their history, about cheese making and their future plans. She is the Creative communication, media and PR leader | enthusiastic agriculture instructor.

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

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

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

Former member Vig Vigil passed away.

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