



# The Pathfinder

Branch Number 59

Thirty-Fourth Year

August 2009

Bulletin No. 7

**NEXT MEETING at Newark Pavilion - Thursday, August 20, 2009**

## Things to Consider by Big Sir Don Gillis

We have good news and we have bad news.

The good news is that our price for lunches will continue to be far lower than nearby SIR branches.

The bad news is that our lunch price will need to be increased to \$17.00, starting in September.

Area Governor Tom Sherba, former Big Sir of branch 59 conducted a survey of what other branches pay for lunch. It is as follows:

Branch 6 - \$17.00 plus \$2.00 Bucket donation -  
Total \$19.00 (Sit-Down)

Branch 26 - \$18.00 plus \$1.75 Bucket donation -  
Total \$19.75 (Sit-Down)

Branch 60 - \$17.00 plus \$1.50 Bucket donation -  
Total \$18.50 (Sit-Down)

Branch 72 - \$17.00 plus \$1.75 Bucket donation -  
Total \$18.75 (Sit-Down)

ALL THESE BRANCHES ARE NEGOTIATING  
NEW HIGHER PRICES FOR 2010.

Our lunches are buffet, but according to Tom Sherba, some of the lunches of the branches listed above are not as good nor served as quickly as ours.

We thank Tom for his input into this area. We will still have an excellent lunch, in a beautiful facility, with adequate room to add members.

*Don*



## Our Speaker Ralph Thomas by Little Sir Frank R. Thomas

Ralph Thomas was born and raised in Kenosha, Wisconsin, a small farming community 25 miles south of Milwaukee. He is the 11th child in a family of 15 children. Ralph attended St. Catherine's High school in Racine, Wisconsin. He played football in the Milwaukee Catholic Conference league. He graduated in June 1948, and was very fortunate



to receive a football scholarship to USF, because of a "once in a million" Scrap Iron Young happening, which he will describe. Along with 5 other 1951 Dons, he played the 1952 season with the Chicago Cardinals, as a 175 pound defensive end. In February 1953 he entered the military at Fort Bliss, Texas as an ROTC 2nd Lieutenant and went to Fort Richardson, Arkansas a year later. He was discharged in January 1955. He had married Kathy (Continental Airlines stewardess) while at Fort Bliss. They have 6 children and 9 grandchildren.

Ralph joined the Washington Redskins for the 1955 and 1956 season, as an offensive end and all the suicide squads, the special teams. He had a few interesting experiences which he will relate to the Branch.

In 1955 Ralph was hired by Watson and Meehan the Cummins Diesel Engine distributor for California and Northern Nevada, who allowed him to work 6 months and play football for 6 months, those two years. His largest contract with the Redskins was \$6,500, everyone had to have an off season job. He retired in 1993 after 38 years with Cummins going from sales into management. He and Kathy are enjoying retirement in Nevada. He is involved in a number of volunteering programs, playing senior softball in the 75 and over league, and playing some suspect golf.

He will speak to Pathfinder Branch 59 on "The NFL, Then and Now." He will include some of his NFL experiences.

## MENU

**Swiss Steak and Baked Chicken**

Mashed Potatoes, Rice and Vegetables



If you are not coming or if you are bringing a guest or visitor  
**Don't forget to Call on the Monday before the meeting - or earlier**  
Hugh Twomey 796-5559 or email [hught22@comcast.net](mailto:hught22@comcast.net)



## Branch 59

### Officers

#### Big Sir

Don Gillis  
(510) 490-1978

#### Little Sir

Frank R. Thomas  
(925) 960-0429

#### Secretary

Jim Ferez  
(510) 651-7717

#### Asst. Secretary

Peter Angelides  
(510) 797-3570

#### Treasurer

Ben Fernandez  
(510) 657-6982

#### Asst. Treasurer

Bobby Ben Snodgrass  
(510) 796-3543

### Directors

Bill Anderson  
Bill Dark  
Richard Holley  
Robert Ingebretson  
Jerry Sabo  
Roger Wallin

## Branch 59

Meets at Newark Pavilion  
6430 Thornton Avenue  
Newark  
on the 3rd Thursday of  
each month  
10:00 AM  
Executive Board Meeting  
11AM Social Hour  
12 Noon Lunch

A Nonprofit  
public benefit  
corporation for  
retired men



## Sir Jim Ferez July Meeting Minutes

Big Sir Don Gillis called the meeting to order at 10:20 AM and led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Roll Call** by Secretary: Officers Present: Big Sir Don Gillis, Little Sir Frank R. Thomas, Secretary Sir Jim Ferez, Assistant Secretary Sir Peter Angelides, and Treasurer Sir Ben Fernandez. Officers absent: Assistant Treasurer Sir Bobby Ben Snodgrass. Directors present: Sir Bill Anderson, Sir Richard Holley, Sir Robert Ingebretson, Sir Jerry Sabo, and Sir Roger Wallin. Directors absent: Sir Bill Dark.

Motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes of the March meeting.

**Treasurer's Report:** Sir Ben Fernandez reported the financials thru July 15, 2009. It was indicated that the Sweetheart Luncheon was a financial success and showed a net profit of \$239.19.

**Program:** Little Sir Frank R. Thomas reported that the speaker for this meeting will be Jane Vincent who is the Usability/Accessibility Manager for the Center for Accessible Technology in Berkeley. Jane has over 20 years experience in her field and will speak on Accessibility Technology to increase the activities of people thru the use of technology.

### Committee Reports:

**Attendance:** Sir Hugh Twomey indicates he expects 193 for lunch today.

**Birthdays:** May birthdays range from ages 93 to 57, June birthdays range from ages 95 to 67 and July birthdays range from ages 86 to 71.

**Membership:** Sir Ron Brutvan stated that no new members would be attending this month. Two members have been dropped per Rule 100: They are Sir Art Shiffrar (245), and Sir Robert Wanser (155). It is with regret that we announce the death of Sir Frank Kinney (154). Sir Gerald Mendez (165) has resigned. Sir Reed Frederiksen (131) has requested to be moved to Inactive Status.

**Bowling:** Sir Frank Cordova reports that Bowling Tournaments continue thru out the year. New Bowlers are always welcome.

**Golf:** Sir Bill Leake reports that July 17 is the Area 8 team competition. Five of the fourteen teams are from Branch 59. Branch 59 had several winners in the Reno Tournaments.

**Pathfinder:** The BEC complimented Sir John Skarpelos on the great job he is doing as Editor of the Pathfinder and further commented on the outstanding quality of our Newsletter.

**Social:** Sir Don Gillis and the BEC complimented Sir Bob Benya and his committee on the great success of the Sweetheart Luncheon.

### Unfinished Business:

1. New Member Recruitment Chairman: It was moved and seconded that the BEC will appoint a Chairman. Big Sir Don Gillis stated that he would find a person.

2. Activities Chairman: It was moved and seconded that the BEC would appoint an Activities Chairman. Big Sir Don Gillis stated that he would find a person for this assignment.

### New Business:

1. Sir Nat Lord presented the nominees for the 2010 year. They are shown in the box below. The election will be at the August Meeting.

2. Due to an increase in price from the caterer and the need to set up a small reserve a motion was made and seconded to increase the monthly luncheon charge to \$17.00 effective in September. It was further moved that we would put an explanatory note in the Pathfinder.

3. The state recognized Sir Lyle Kingery who was awarded Senior Honorary Life Member status. The award will be presented at the luncheon meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 AM.

Submitted by Sir Jim Ferez, Secretary

## Election in August

The election for 2010 Branch Officers and Directors will be held during the August Luncheon Meeting.

The nominees for Officers are:

Big Sir	Frank R. Thomas
Little Sir	Hugh Twomey
Secretary	Jim Ferez
Asst. Secretary	Peter Angelides
Treasurer	Ben Fernandez
Asst. Treasurer	Bobby Ben Snodgrass

The nominees for Director are:

Bill Anderson—Bill Dark—Don Gillis—Robert Ingebretson—Jerry Sabo—Roger Wallin

You will have the opportunity to submit nominations from the floor for any position. However, your nominee must be present at the meeting, and must agree to serve if elected.



# MEMBERSHIP, ATTENDANCE and BIRTHDAY NEWS

by Sir Ron Brutvan, Sir Hugh Twomey, and Sir Art Winkley



**Sir Art Winkley**  
Birthday Chairman

## August Birthdays

Clarence Dutra	08/31/1912	97
William Wilson	08/13/1919	90
Philip Cox	08/01/1924	85
David Dunlap	08/18/1926	83
Tom Sherba	08/09/1927	82
Arthur Winkley	08/25/1927	82
Richard Howe	08/08/1928	81
Dean Olsen	08/06/1929	80
John Gecox	08/02/1930	79
Louis Smith	08/23/1931	78
Herbert Muellerleile	08/04/1932	77
James Sissle	08/08/1932	77
Robert Springer	08/15/1932	77
Edward Baldini	08/17/1932	77
Evan Strong	08/31/1936	73
Arnold George	08/20/1939	70
R. (Skip) Mugford	08/29/1939	70
Roger Wallin	08/30/1940	69
Aaron Wong	08/15/1942	67
Sheldon Schwartz	08/10/1944	65
Douglas Howd	08/03/1946	63



## New Members

We had no new members last month. Below are photos of the 36 new members in 2008 and early 2009. Some have left Branch 59.



## Membership Report



**Sir Ron Brutvan**  
Membership Chairman

<b>Guests:</b>	<b>Guest of:</b>
Jim Furnary	Lee Mineau
<b>Visitors:</b>	none
<b>Change of Status:</b>	
John Barr	Change of Email jbarr5@att.net
Bob Benya	Change of Email bob.benya@comcast.net
Gary Bennett	Change of Email garben3@sbcglobal.net
Frank Kinney	Died 7/09/2009
Harry (Hank) Lewis	Died 7/24/2009
David Nazar	Died 7/26/2009
Art Shiffrar	Dropped - Rule 100
Robert Wanser	Dropped - Rule 100
Gerald Mendez	Resigned
Reed Frederiksen	To Inactive

### Membership Total

(as of July 16, 2009)

**259** — Active Members  
**24** — Inactive Members

## Attendance Report



**Sir Hugh Twomey**  
Attendance Chairman

### Attendance Report

(For July 16, 2009)

Members	183
Guests	2
Visitors	0
<b>Total =</b>	<b>185</b>
51 excused	29 unexcused

You can get this issue of the Pathfinder or earlier issues by going to the Branch Website:

<http://johnsplace.sirbranch.com/>



# SIR BRANCH 59 ACTIVITIES

## Strikes and Spares by Jerry Sabo



At Cambrian Bowl in San Jose, Sirs **Gary Bennett** and **Jerry Sabo** did place third in doubles, while Jerry placed 3rd in singles and 2nd all around division B. Gary placed third in singles in the A division.

We just returned from the Napa tournament (Monday July 27th). **Chuck Pereira** had two good games in doubles – 203 and 205, Gary Bennett had a 207 in doubles, Frank Cordova a 214 in doubles, and **Don Henry** had a very nice 181, 186, 247 (791 hdcp.) series in doubles while his partner **Wayne Adams** had a nice 732 handicap series and a 718 in singles. **James Lawrence** and Gary Bennett both had a 701 in singles, and Jerry Sabo had a 756 in singles and a 742 in doubles. I predict that Jerry and Wayne will be close to the money in singles while Don and Wayne should be money winners in doubles. Possibly, Gary and Jerry will also place in doubles??

**Upcoming tournaments:** Reno National Stadium –August 27 thru 29 (Once again, we have two teams going to Reno, team 1 includes Gary Bennett, **Nat Lord** and two guests while team 2 consists of Chuck Pereira, **Lew Heffron**, **Roger Wallin**, and Jerry Sabo. **John Pesek** has also decided to make the Reno Tournament for singles and doubles – possibly a team opening will come up for John to bowl. Finally in August we have the Stockton Tournament on August 25 or 26.

Coming up very soon will be the Dublin tournament at Earl Anthony Bowl – September 14 and 17. Not too far off will be our tournament to be held again at Cloverleaf Bowl in Fremont. Any senior (male or female) that has an established book average can bowl at our tournament. This will be the first time that our tournament will not be held on a Sunday. Save the dates and come watch us for Monday, September 28th and Tuesday, the 29th. Singles bowling will be from 10:00 AM and doubles will start at about 12:30.

Remember, all SIR members are welcomed to join us most any Monday at Mowry Lanes, located at 585 Mowry Ave (behind Comcast) and be ready to start practice bowling at 12:45 P.M. The cost is only \$5.25 for three lines of bowling and the only other commitment is that when you join you either already are, or will become a sanctioned bowler (cost \$20/year). Once you have a book average, or set your average with 21 games or more then you can join us in tournament play. Top bowlers at Mowry included:

Nat Lord – 201, 166, 213 =580 Series  
Frank Cordova – 193, 212, 214= 619 Series  
Gary Bennett – 189, 170, 201=560 Series  
Roger Wallin-173, 202, 187=562 Series

*Jerry Sabo*

## Golf Notes by Bill Leake



**Welcome to** the Branch 59 golf column. If you are a member of SIR and like to golf, we have a place for you. Please talk to me at the next SIR meeting if you want to join us.

We have some results – Reno – there were 3 weeks but this writer could only find 1 week with Branch 59 golfers. For week 2 representing Branch 59 were **Lloyd Keplinger**, **Ben Fernandez (with wife Patty)**, **Bob Morales**, **Bob Lewis**, **Bill Briscoe**, **John Trischetti**, **Ed Tavares**, and **John Austin**. We also had winners – **Bob** was 3rd place ctp day one and placed in both daily and sweeps. **Ben** placed and won money as did wife Patty. As for the others – they had fun. Are there others that I missed?

We also completed the area 8 team tournament. We had 15 teams entered (5 from Branch 59) representing 5 branches and two of the top 3 teams were from Branch 59. Congratulations to **Skip Mugford**, **Dave Tanner**, **Bob Teglia** and **Tony Zeuli** who finished 2nd and to **Terry Dalziel**, **Bill Kemp** and **Rudy Parisotto** who finished 3rd. Skip, Dave, Bob and Tony will proceed to the state championship at Poppy Ridge August 10. A team from branch 26 won 1st place.

We will have a group going to the state qualifier at Boundary Oaks which was held August 12. Results of these will be next month.

Tee times – Thank you **Bill Watts** for calling in Thursday tee times, and thank you **Jerry Desmond** for calling in tee times for Mondays.

The next SIR golf event is the **Fall Classic South at Solvang** on September 13-16. There is a new event this year, **Fall Classic North** – September 30-October 4 to be held in Warm Springs Oregon – these events have entry forms on the web –[www.sirstategolf.com](http://www.sirstategolf.com).

Finally – we will have only 1 trip to **Nuevo Vallarto – Paradise Village**. The dates are: November 10-17 & November 11-18.

**Dues Dues Dues** – In September we will begin collecting dues for 2010. Dues will remain at \$31 – checks made payable to Branch 59. Deadline for Dues is mid-December 2009.

**Take a Bow**– Do you have a reason to take a bow – long drive, hole in one, eagle, other – let me know.

**Post post post** – don't forget to post your score.

**Regular play for SIR Branch 59** – We play every Monday and Thursday at Sunol. Join us – to find out the tee time, please call Sunol at 925-862-0414. The reservation is made under LEAKE.

Thank you for reading this article.

*Bill Leake*

## Nat Lord Sports (510) 797-1704



### SIR Day at the Oakland Raiders To be Announced



### PATHFINDERS WALKING AND HIKING GROUP

Meet Wednesday mornings at 8:00 AM at the Park at Paseo Padre and Isherwood. Everyone welcome and bring a friend. Also at 8:30 AM on Monday at the boat ramp in Central Park.

**Don Henry** at 510-656-5659.

**Vince Fernelius** at 510-489-0396



### READERS AND BROWERS

Bring your magazines and books to share, take books home to read.

**Wayne Adams 510-797-7611**



### CYBERGEEZER MEETING



When -

**Monday, August 24th.**

2:00pm to 4:00pm

Where -

Fremont Main Library, Fremont  
Fukaya A room.

**Cheers**  
*Fred*

## Area 8 SIR Travel Adventures Daryl Main

**DECEMBER 12-14, 2009**

### VICTORIAN CHRISTMAS TO NEVADA CITY and GRASS VALLEY

SIR Branch 90 - is sponsoring this trip. Cost is \$499 PPDO, \$165 single supplement. If you are interested in this trip call Daryl at 510-352-2210 or Dan Miller at 650-591-3314.

**FEBRUARY 5 -20, 2010**

### 15 DAY PANAMA CANAL CRUISE ON THE CORAL PRINCESS

Leave from the port of Los Angeles and sail the canal with many stops and depart from Ft. Lauderdale, Florida for home. This is an all inclusive trip, including all tips, air fare and group travel insurance. Cost starts at \$3190 for an inside stateroom to \$4170 for a mini-suite. For more information call Daryl Main at 510-352-2210

**FEBRUARY 10, 2010**

### THE FOUR ACES AT THE MONDAVI CENTER'S JACKSON HALL IN DAVIS

If you are interested attending this event please let Daryl Main know at 510-352-2210. Cost is \$76 person.

The annual SIR day at the races is coming in October. If interested please let me know The cost is still \$25 per person. Call Daryl Main at 510-352-2210.

For more information Call Travel  
Chairman, Daryl Main 510-352-2210 for  
details. To download a brochure go to  
[www.branch26.com/Travel.html](http://www.branch26.com/Travel.html)

### BRIDGE GROUPS

The Bridge activity includes 2 night time couple's groups and a daytime group following the monthly luncheons. The diners are encouraged to join the latter card sharks in order to overwhelm the noise of tables and chairs being moved by Pavilion's staff.

**Arnold George - 510-797-9524**

# SIR HAPPENINGS

<http://sirinc.org/sirhappenings/>

# SUNSHINE COMMITTEE REPORT

by Dave Marymee — Bob Walter — Carl Shaner

**TOM DeHART** (92 year Old Sir) – We were unable to contact Tom.

**RAYMOND ERICKSON** attended the July luncheon. He is recovering from a left knee replacement. Raymond said he would probably wait until next year before getting back to bowling.

**NIELS NIELSEN** attended the July luncheon and sat at the June birthday table. Niels was 95 years old on June 25. He has earned the title of “Ancient Dane”. Niels was the oldest member present. We wish Niels many more birthdays.

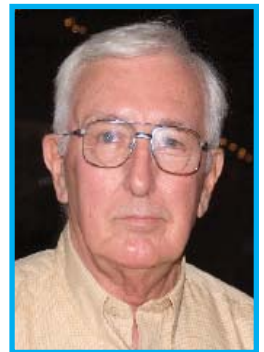
**CLYDE VOORHEES** (age 93) fell backwards on an escalator at a recent A's baseball game. Clyde rode the escalator prone and backwards on his back to the top causing many bruises. Clyde was in the hospital for several days, three days in ICU care. Clyde gets around using a walker. We wish him well.

**JACK WEBB**, wheel chair bound Sir, missed joining SIR members at the July birthday table. Jack celebrated his 82nd birthday. Jack missed because of a scheduled blood test. He is taking blood thinner medication.

**MIKE WHITFIELD** had a double bypass heart operation in June and spent several days in the hospital. He is given therapy by a therapist who comes to his home. Mike is doing alright but finds it takes time to make full recovery. We wish Mike well.



Dave Marymee



Bob Walter

## *In Memoriam*

**Franklin Kinney**  
**Harry (Hank) Lewis**  
**David Nazar**



## Sherba Advises State President Reiser

Area 8 Governor **Tom Sherba** (on the right) entertained State President **Dave Reiser** at the recent Annual meeting held in Vallejo during the first week of August.





## Senior HLM presented to Lyle Kingery

Past Big Sir **Lyle (Pat) Kingery** (on the right) was presented with a certificate proclaiming him a Senior Honorary Life Member by Big Sir **Don Gillis**.

Pat has been a member of Branch 59 since he joined in November 1987. He moved up the ranks from Assistant Secretary then Secretary to Little Sir in 1991. He served as Big Sir in 1992. In 1995 he got a computer and learned to use Access software to upgrade the Branch membership database. His database is still in use today. He was awarded Honorary Life Membership in April 1999.



## Luncheon Entertainment

Sir **Doug Eads** (on the left) and Sir **Ed Guthrie** entertain Branch 59 members during the July luncheon. The group can use a bass player and a lead guitar. Members with this talent need to talk with Ed.



## July Speaker

Little Sir **Frank R. Thomas** (on the right) is discussing technologies that are offered by the Center for Accessible Technology with speaker **Jane Vincent** before the July luncheon meeting.



## PATHFINDER BRANCH NO. 59

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Fremont, CA 94539-4736

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### Committee Chairmen and Assistants

#### ATTENDANCE

Hugh Twomey - **Chairman**  
Robert Boike - Assistant  
Ed Guthrie - Assistant  
Ed Thomas - Assistant

#### BIRTHDAYS

Art Winkley - **Chairman**  
Frank D. Thomas - Assistant

#### BOWLING

Frank Cordova - **Chairman**  
Jerry Sabo - Assistant

#### BRIDGE

Arnold George - **Chairman**

#### CAPS & EMBLEMS

Arnold George - **Chairman**  
Dino Mostardi - Assistant

#### CIRCULATION

Bill Briscoe - **Chairman**

#### CYBERGEEZERS

Fred Gotthardt

#### PATHFINDER

John Skarpelos - Editor  
Fred Gotthardt - Assistant

#### GOLF

Bill Leake - **Chairman**  
Gerry Desmond - Assistant  
Fred Ilg - Assistant

#### GREETERS

Bruno Orsetti - **Chairman**  
Howard Thompson - Assistant

#### LIBRARIAN

Wayne Adams - **Chairman**  
John Gecox - Assistant

#### MEMBERSHIP

Ron Brutvan - **Chairman**  
Fred Gotthardt - Assistant  
Carl Nordling - Assistant

#### ROSTER - DATABASE

John Skarpelos - **Chairman**  
Fred Gotthardt - Assistant

#### SERGEANT-AT-ARMS

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Bill Anderson - Assistant

#### SOCIAL

Bob Benya - **Chairman**  
Bob Edwards - Assistant  
Rob Ingebretson - Assistant  
Ed Kurtz - Assistant  
Gordon MacLeod - Assistant  
Howard Thompson - Assistant

#### SONG LEADER

Frank Campos

#### SPORTS

Nat Lord

#### SUNSHINE

Dave Marymee - **Chairman**  
Bob Walter - Assistant  
Carl Shaner - Assistant

#### WALKING GROUP

Don Henry - **Chairman**  
Vince Fernelius - Assistant

### STATE OFFICERS

#### State President

David Reiser

#### State Vice-President

Buck Kendrick

#### State Secretary

Gary Gruber

#### State Treasurer

Robert Mannell

#### Director, Region 6

Jim Stedman

#### Governor, Area 8

Tom Sherba

#### Senior Honorary Life Members

Lyle Kingery  
David Marymee

#### Honorary Life Members

Louis Bufkin  
Fred Gotthardt  
Nat Lord  
John Skarpelos

### PATHFINDER DEADLINE

Copy deadline for the next issue of the *Pathfinder* will be Thursday a week after the monthly luncheon meeting.

### PAST BIG SIRS

1976 Peter Clark\*  
1977 Karl Heine\*  
1978 Harry Cooper\*  
1979 Kenneth Foster\*  
1980 Larry Varblow\*  
1981 Guido Milano\*  
1982 Alex Fulton\*  
1983 Stephen Epler\*  
1984 George Herman\*  
1985 Ray Crosby\*  
1986 Loran Coburn\*  
1987 Robert Davis\*  
1988 Robert Klindt\*  
1989 Martin Annen\*  
1990 Lee Updegraff  
1991 Fred W. Fretter\*  
1992 Lyle Kingery  
1993 LeRoy J. King\*  
1994 George Hubach\*  
1995 Clyde Killion\*  
1996 Bill Schwan\*  
1997 Nat Lord  
1998 John Buchanan\*  
1999 Art Lampert\*  
2000 Harry Heyen\*  
2001 Bob Beam  
2002 Rollin Cunningham\*  
2003 Don Henry  
2004 Tom Sherba  
2005 Howard Thompson  
2006 Les Addison  
2007 Ted Bresler  
2008 Richard Holley

\*(deceased)