

SENIOR SIR TIMES

SIR
SOCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR MEN

"OUR MISSION IS TO IMPROVE THE LIVES OF OUR MEMBERS THROUGH FUN ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS WHILE MAKING FRIENDS FOR LIFE"

APRIL 2023 Newsletter - Turlock Branch 143



BIG SIR GARY TOOMBS SAYS...

Well, its April and Spring is right around the corner. I think we have had more than enough rain for this year and it appears that our years of drought might be over, at least for a while. Its time to get outside and participate in some of the many SIR activities available to you.

Golf, Travel and RV trip activities are already underway. Bocci Ball, Wine Tasting and Commutative Air Force breakfast and lunch activities are on the way. Sir members who are leading these activities are listed in the monthly newsletter, but if you have any questions, please feel free to call me at any time.

The Dine In Dine Out group has met twice this year. In January a group of thirty-eight met at the Central Station and on March 30 forty diners met at Vito's Italian Restaurant. Both evenings provided great food and the chance to enjoy



the company of SIR members and their spouses/guests. Singles are always welcome at these dinners. I have included some pictures from the evening at Vito's where a good time was had by all (SEE BELOW).

A few years ago (prior to Covid) we had a group of SIR members playing Pickleball. There are two sets of courts available in Turlock and I would like to see us start playing again. If you are interested in playing Pickleball please give me a call. Gary Toombs (209)604-8406.

Finally, I want to remind all SIR members of Branch 143 who have not paid their 2023 dues that they are due no later than April 30. If dues are not received by then members will be dropped from membership. Please mail your dues (\$40.00 annually) to Leonard Zumstein, 2645 Mira Flores Dr. Turlock CA 95380 or pay them at the April meeting. If you no longer wish to be a member please notify Membership Chairman, Larry Hughes (209)483-0015.



JOIN US IN APRIL

11:30 am - Sir Lunch meeting APRIL 19th -

WILL BE HELD AT Denair Community Center in Denair, 3850 N Gratton Rd Denair, CA 95316, doors open at 10:30.

8 am - BEC meeting APRIL 21st- Will be at MY GARDEN CAFE 8 am start time.

NEW PRICE FOR LUNCHEONS IS NOW \$25.00

Lunch tickets will be sold at the door.



SIR TRAVEL

Bill Stires, Travel Chairman
John Cardoza, Travel Assistant



SCENIC IRELAND TRIP THROUGH IRELAND AND NORTHERN IRELAND APRIL 14-27, 2023

THIS TRIP IS SOLD OUT AT THIS TIME.

WAIT LIST FOR NEW PASSENGERS!

Price: \$5,395 Double Occupancy - Single \$6,195

Air fare and transportation to and from the airport is included.

\$500.00 DEPOSIT TO HOLD YOUR PLACE



**Airfare and transportation to and from the airport is included
 18 meals. Includes gratuities on tour for Tour Manager & Bus Driver**



Highlights: 12 nights in First Class Hotel Accommodations

1 night in Limerick, 1 night in Clifden, 1 in Sligo, 2 nights in Belfast in Northern Ireland,

Visit Cliffs of Moher, local farms, an Abbey, Giant's Causeway, Titanic Experience, Hillsborough Castle, Belfast's O'Connell Street, St. Patrick's Cathedral, Trinity College, House of Waterford Crystal, Blarney Castle and the Kissing Stone, Garnish Island, Ring of Kerry, Dingle Peninsula, and much, much more.

Leisure time to explore most of the towns and villages.

AUTUMN COLORS TRIP TO EAST COAST

10 Days, October 13 - October 22, 2023 Price: \$5130 double occupancy, Single \$6127

Final Payment Due June 15, 2023. Deposit of \$500 per person to hold reservation

Highlights: 2 nights stay in Boston. Tour of city, free time on own.

- Visit Manchester, Vermont; Burlington, Vermont; North Conway, New Hampshire; Bar Harbor, Maine; Acadia National Park; Portsmouth, New Hampshire.

Scenic drives along the Mohawk Trail and Kancamagus Highway.

- Professional local tour guide for entire trip.
 - 9 nights of First-Class Hotel accommodations.
 - 14 meals including a regional lobster feast.

This trip will fill up fast, so sign up early.

**Call Bill at 209-988-5445 or 209-544-2684 or email at bstires46@gmail.com
 to receive a brochure and Remember that relatives and friends may also go on all trips.**

SIR 143 - 2023 OFFICERS

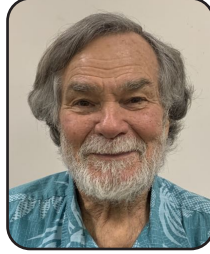
Working For You!



Greg Back
Web Master



Gary Toombs
Big Sir



Bob Holly
Little Sir



Joe Adams
Golf



Larry Hughes
Membership



Mark Taylor
Past Big Sir



Our Sir 143 - 2023 Officers: LtoR Rock Libby, Robert Lotspeich, John Cardoza, Leonard Zumstein, Mark Taylor, Bill Stires, Gary Toombs, Fred Courter, Greg Back, Joe Adams. Larry Hughes, and Bob Holly.



Rock Libby
Assistant Secretary



Fred Courter
Newsletter



Bill Stires
Travel chairman



John Cardoza
Assistant Travel



Robert Lotspeich
Secretary



Leonard Zumstein
Treasurer



NEW MEMBERS SIR 143

Newest member installed at last luncheon:
Dan Gorman is a resident of Turlock and he was/is a general contractor. He heard about SIR from Rock Libby.

Newest member installed at last luncheon:
Mario Dominguez is a resident of Turlock and is retired from P.G.&E. Mario is married to Gloria his wife since 1971.





RV TRAVEL

Ken Kajioka
RV Chairman



Due to last-minute cancellations, the RV trip has been rescheduled.



BLACK OAK CASINO RV PARK TOULUMNE APRIL 30 - May 5, 2023

Sign-Up Procedure: Ken Kajioka 209-602-8351

1. [Call Black Oaks RV Park for reservation 1-877-747-8777](tel:18777478777)
2. **IMPORTANT:** Let them know you are with **KEN KAJIOKA** group
3. Call or text Ken Kajioka after registering
- 4 Reservation will ask for a credit card # but will not bill

TENTATIVE AGENDA SUBJECT TO CHANGE/COVID RESTRICTIONS

- SUNDAY 4/30:** Arrival TBD Upon Arrival
- MONDAY 5/1:** Breakfast, Dinner, TBD upon arrival
- TUESDAY 5/2:** Breakfast, Dinner, TBD upon arrival
- WEDNESDAY 5/3:** Breakfast, Dinner, TBD upon arrival
- THURSDAY 5/4:** Breakfast, Dinner
- FRIDAY 5/5:** Drive Safely



BRING A GUEST!

This event is open to friends and relatives. This event will be cancelled if we don't have a minimum of 10 rigs.

Our speaker for our April meeting will be

TOM OLSEN

Public Affairs Officer for the Modesto CHP office

Tom has been a CHP Officer for over 20 years, with assignments in Contra Costa, San Joaquin and Stanislaus Counties. He will discuss the CHP's roles and responsibilities in our community. Further, Tom will provide some insight into becoming a CHP officer. He puts on countless presentations here in Stanislaus County, most notably EVERY 15 MINUTES.



LUNCH THIS MONTH WILL BE HELD AT DENAIR COMMUNITY CENTER - in Denair, 3850 N Gratton Rd. Denair, CA 95316.

The menu for the next LUNCHEON Will be another great meal provided by our caterer Nicolau Farms.

LUNCH TICKETS WILL BE SOLD AT THE DOOR

BEC MINUTES

BRANCH 143 - SIR EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

Held on - MARCH 17, 2023

Site: My Garden Cafe, Turlock- Quorum is present

Guest: Jeff Chin

Attendance: Fred Courter, Bob Holly, Leonard Zumstein, Larry Hughes, John Cardoza, Greg nBack, Roger Jackson

Absent: Joe Adams, Rock Libby, Mark Taylor and Bill Stires.

Treasurer's Report:

Leonard Zumstein reports a bank balance of \$4399.46 and \$275.00 cash on hand for a total of \$4674.46.

The Form 28 filed that shows beginning cash balance of \$4,016.87, with \$720.00 in dues /contributions collected.

For the March 15, 2023 luncheon, we took in \$1,590.00. We paid the luncheon caterer, Nicholau Farms, \$1,355.41 and \$275.00 for the rental of the hall.

Approval was asked for expenses to pay:

\$21.68 – Tablecloths – Larry Hughes

\$54.96 – Drinks and Ice – Bob Holly

\$46.58 – Badges and Cookies (for January meeting) Greg Back

The Treasurer's Report was passed unanimously with a 1st by Gary Toombs and a 2nd by Fred Courter.

Secretary's Report:

Fred Courter reported he will change the date of the Dine Out in the newsletter from March 23, 2023, to March 30, 2023. Dine Out will be at Vito's Restaurant.

A motion was made by Gary Toombs and a second by Bob Holly to accept the change. Motion passed.

Membership:

Larry Hughes reported we had 46 members present at the March 15, 2023, luncheon with 72 members absent. The attendance included: the guest speaker, an invited guest and Jeff Chin. Total attendance was 49. There are no new member applications. There is a re-application from Darrel Leamon. There are currently 118 members and only 68 have paid dues.

Questions about Membership:

There was a question about the induction of Jay Smith. Bob Holly will follow up and call Jay Smith to ensure he is inducted at the April meeting. Partner activities were reportedly being attended by 39% of membership (hearsay).

Larry Hughes asked if we should possibly email membership list to all members. It was decided we would discuss this further. It was suggested we add the names of members wives to the list of membership. The Form 27, for March 2023, was presented by Larry Hughes and reviewed by the board. A motion for approval was made by Bob Holly and a second by Leonard Zumstein.

Activities Reports:

Travel: John Cardoza, Discussion: Vietnam Cruise, Mississippi River Cruise (\$4,500 range) Grand European Cruise -various locations, It was suggested John Cardoza send out an interest inventory with a variety of vacation/trip destinations to the regional branches to better secure the interest level of a variety of travel destinations.

Dine Out: Gary Toombs, UPCOMING: MAY 11th, 2023 – Black Bear Diner, 5:30 Happy Hour – 6:00 Dinner.

Bocce Ball: Mike Johnson – to resume when the weather cooperates. 11:00 a.m. on Fridays at Dustbowl, on Fulkerth Road, in Turlock.

Old Business:

Greg Beck
Schedule of Operations, BEC Minutes – End of Month, Form 28 – Leonard Zumstein, End of Month, Nomination Committee Meeting Report (Greg to schedule meeting). Form 27, End of Month, Newsletter cost is \$18.00 / month to send to members without email services. Questions / discussion of whether or not to copy and hand out at monthly meetings. Discussion: Unpaid Dues Bob Holly suggested we send a letter to members who have not paid yet, with a drop-dead date to pay their dues. Suggested final date for paying will be April 30th .

Leonard Zumstein will provide Larry Hughes with a list of members who have not paid. Greg Back will look for an "old letter" addressed to members to pay dues. Gary Toombs will either write a letter or get an "old letter" from Greg Back to use for the newsletter and to send to members about their unpaid dues. Of the 118 members, 68 members have paid dues as of March 17, 2023.

Quarterly assessment:

Insurance costs: \$2.00 / member or estimated at \$800.00 annually. A form 64 is filed for insurance for the caterer.

Update Form 20: (Gary Toombs) Names to be added to form.

New Business:

(Gary Toombs) There was discussion of whether to use Black Bear Diner for our monthly meetings (no cost). They can seat up to 60 members. It would be in an "open area" of the restaurant but may not be able to provide access to technology use. More discussion to follow.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:25 a.m.

(motion by Bob Holly, second by Gary Toombs)

DUES ARE NOW \$40 for the year and NOW PAYABLE

Send your checks to Leonard Zumstein, 2645 Mira Flores, Turlock 95380 or bring to the next luncheon

**Last chance to pay Dues to SIRs APRIL 30
DUES ARE NOW \$40 for the year and NOW PAYABLE**

**DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT NEWSLETTER IS:
MAY 1-2 and 3 of 2023**

This column on Memories From Our Sir Members I hope to make a monthly story about a member who is willing to tell a short story about their life. If you have a story you would like to tell, write it up and send to my email address: fredcourter@gmail.com



Memories from the past - Part 2

Fred Courter



Later in the 1940's mom and dad always rolled their own cigarettes by hand. Plus we grew some vegetables our self and we also had chickens to eat. During the war many things were being rationed like, tires, some food items, and cigarettes. Mom and dad got chits to help purchase the items they needed. Also, we were very happy when dad came home with a box of wood from a job site.

There was a day, I don't know when, maybe when we were about 5 or 6 years old, Our mom found us in the gutter in the front of our house, sleeping! She didn't like that to well, after all what would the neighbors think, "don't they have beds?"

When we were a little older, say 7 or 8, we got into bigger toys like bikes and scooters. (We think we invented the scooter). It was made with a 4' piece of lumber 2 X 4 with skate wheels we found at the dumps again (we spent a lot of time at the dumps, maybe two or three Saturdays a month). The skates were built in 3-pieces. The front of the skates with wheels attached and the rear part of the skates with the wheels attached and a connecting channel between the front and back. We would nail them to the underside of the 3' 2 X4. We then would go to the market to get a wooden box that oranges came in. (They didn't come in cardboard boxes then). We would stand the box on end and nail it to the top of the 2X4, then we would put a 2X2 piece of wood on top of the orange crate for a handle bar. We would skate all over the neighborhood racing them.

We also invented the first cell phones. We put two cans with holes in the bottom of each can, and a string between them and pulled it tight. Then one of us would walk around the corner of the house until the string was tight, and then we could talk to each other. It was fun!

There was another time maybe we were 4. Dad was laying down outside on the driveway. We thought he was playing with us, so we started to jump up and down on him until mom came out and said what's going on here? We don't know, he fell to the ground? He actu-

ally fainted for some reason, we thought he was playing. What did we know.

We would also make our own bikes. We had to build them from the frame, up. I don't remember ever getting a new bike because of the expense. So, whenever we went to the dumps with our dad, which was two miles away from our home, we would rummage through the stuff and find what we needed, be it frames, tires, wheels, handle bars, seats or even fenders. It might have taken a few trips, but we always found our parts. (Today it would be too dangerous to send kids walking all over the place and to the dump). It was a different time then, believe me. There was no crime that we knew of, there wasn't as many people or cars then also.

Most families had one car, because the man of the house was the only wage earner then. Things were quite different then, times were good even though we didn't have much.

Times started changing a couple of decades later. There were not a lot of people then living in East Palo Alto. (By the way, our house is still there on Ralmar Avenue). We walked or rode our bikes everywhere we went, even to downtown Palo Alto or to the corner grocery store that was only about a mile away. Anyway, we had a pretty good bike when we got done putting them together. They weren't pretty, but they got us around, until something broke, then it was back to the dump to find a part.

Another thing we would do is go fishing. It wasn't fishing like you guys know it today. It was almost like the caveman days. Our fishing gear consisted of a long stick with some fishing line we found at the dump. It was wound around the stick with a hook and a large weight and a jar of Potzkies salmon eggs (no real bait like Power- Bait today). Then we were in business. In those day we would go to the Bay, just east of our house or to a creek in Palo Alto to fish.

THIS IS JUST A SAMPLE OF MY MEMORIES THAT CAN BE USED.



THE WINE LINE

By Russ Winton

Wine Investigation for Novices and Oenophiles (W.I.N.O.)



Portugal on my Mind

I admit, I'm not the sharpest knife in the drawer when it comes to technology. In fact, if I didn't have grandkids around I would be lost. I've been posting 'Wine Line' on Facebook for about 5 years. Lately, I have been praising the quality and value of Portuguese red blends and just like magic, I started getting beautiful Facebook posts all about Portugal. Fifteen years ago, we visited and had a wonderful time in Lisbon and cruising up the Douro River. The food, the wine, the people, the music and the tempo made us relax. It felt like we were meant to be there. I got the same feeling when looking at the Facebook posts (visitportugal.com).

About three weeks later I received a press release for the Fourth Annual San Joaquin Valley Portuguese Festival to be held April 22-23 at the Stanislaus County Fairgrounds in Turlock. A freaky coincidence? I'm not sure but it's only 10 miles from our house and you can count us in. The family friendly event will showcase traditional Portuguese dancing, music and cuisine.

San Joaquin Valley Portuguese Festival
The San Joaquin Valley Portuguese Festival is a celebration for people to discover the Portuguese culture to be held April 22-23

The festival will start on Saturday with a Portuguese parade followed by plenty of activities. Food booths, carnival rides, wine and cheese tastings (YES!!) and cultural exhibits. The 51FIFTY STAGE will include Jorge Ferreira, Alex Ferrari, the Portuguese Kids and more. Parking and admission are

free on both days. The bloodless bullfight tickets on Sunday at 4 pm are only \$15. All proceeds benefit the Carlos Vierra Foundation's Race for Autism. More information can be found at SJVportugueseFestival.com.

Bargain Cabernets Under \$13

The Best of Class Cabernet Sauvignon in the SF Chronicle Wine Competition went to The Collection Bourbon Barrel (\$9.99). Double Gold winners were Robert Mondavi Private Collection (\$10.99), NV Barefoot (\$6.99) and the '20 Bogle Family Vineyards (\$11). Gold Medals went to the '18 Montpelier (\$6.99), Velvet Moon by Trader Joe's (\$5.99), McManis Family Vineyards (\$11) and Gnarly Head (\$12). Those not noted are the 2021 vintage.

Cheers! to the Following

Cheers! to Ficklin Vineyards for reaching their 75th year in business and for receiving a perfect score of 100 points for their flagship Old Vine Tinta Port. They were also awarded the Business Journal's FOBA (Family-Owned Business Award).

Cheers! to the Dust Bowl Brewing Company for announcing another tap room to open in Livermore this summer. This is their fourth tap room including the Turlock Brewery Taproom, the Tap Depot in Monterey and the Old Town Tap House in Elk Grove.

Cheers! to the tiny Casto Oaks Winery in Mariposa for scoring a gold, a silver and two bronze medals in the SF competition. The gold was for a 2017 Sierra Foothills Zinfandel called 'Jessie's Zin' (\$23). Cheers to all!

Questions? Find me on Facebook or at rgwinton@yahoo.com



BIRTHDAYS IN APRIL

Jim Artrip, Greg Back, Lon Bishop, Harry Carlson, Charles Crivelli, Mike Fultz, James Jensen, Rick Kindle, Michael Lazar, Bernie Mailloux, Rick Martin, Ray Rhodes, Vernon Segars, Anthony Silva

ANNIVERSARIES IN APRIL

Jerry DeGraff, Ken Kajioka, Rockford Libby, Ron Martella, Jan Pyle, Wayne Rickey, Jeff Wilson



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Turlock, CA 95382



IT'S DINE-IN-DINE OUT TIME

Our next dine-out will be at
Black Bear Diner

on Thursday, May 11th In Turlock
 across from Costco -
 Meet 5:30 drinks - 6:00 dining

call Gary to RSVP 209-604-8406



GOLF

Joe Adams, Chairman



SIR AREA 18 GOLF SCHEDULE 2023									
MO	DATE	DAY	TIME	HOST	COURSE	GF	PRIZE	TOT	REMARKS
Apr	3	Mon	8:00 SG	103	Dry Creek	\$43	\$9	\$52	Carts Included
	10	Mon	8:00 SG	143	Creekside	\$25	\$9	\$34	Carts Optional @\$15
	17	Mon	8:00 SG	144	Swenson - Ride	\$37	\$9	\$46	Carts Included
					Swenson - Walk	\$20	\$9	\$29	
	24	Mon	8:00 SG	103	Dryden	\$23	\$9	\$32	Carts Optional @\$15
May	1	Mon	8:00 SG	143	Atwater	\$40	\$9	\$49	Carts Included
	8	Mon	8:00 SG	144	Elkhorn	\$39	\$9	\$48	Carts Included
	15	Mon	8:00 SG	103	Creekside	\$25	\$9	\$34	Carts Optional @\$15
	22	Mon	8:00 SG	144	Manteca	\$38	\$9	\$47	Carts Included
	30	Tue	8:00 SG	103B	Dryden	\$23	\$9	\$32	Carts Optional @\$15
Jun	5	Mon	8:00 SG	103	Elkhorn	\$39	\$9	\$48	Carts Included
	12	Mon	8:00 SG	143	Creekside	\$25	\$9	\$34	Carts Optional @\$15
**	19	Mon	8:00 SG	144	Manteca	\$38	\$9	\$47	Carts Included
	26	Mon	8:00 SG	103	Dry Creek	\$43	\$9	\$52	Carts Included
Jul	3	Mon	8:00 SG	103	Dryden	\$23	\$9	\$32	Carts Optional @\$15
	10	Mon	8:00 SG	144	Castle Oaks	\$45	\$9	\$54	Carts Included
*	17	Mon	8:00 SG	103B	Creekside	\$25	\$9	\$34	Carts Optional @\$15
	24	Mon	8:00 SG	103	Swenson - Ride	\$37	\$9	\$46	Carts Included
					Swenson - Walk	\$20	\$9	\$29	
	31	Mon	8:00 SG	144	Tracy CC	\$43	\$9	\$52	Carts Included
Aug	7	Mon	8:00 SG	103B	Manteca	\$38	\$9	\$47	Carts Included
	14	Mon	8:00 SG	103	Dryden	\$23	\$9	\$32	Carts Optional @\$15
	21	Mon	8:00 SG	143	Atwater	\$40	\$9	\$49	Carts Included
	28	Mon	8:00 SG	144	Creekside	\$25	\$9	\$34	Carts Optional @\$15

TURLOCK BRANCH NO. 143 OFFICERS AND CHAIRMEN OFFICERS FOR 2023

Big Sir/Web Master	Greg Back	585-6862
Little Sir.....	Bob Holly	668-2786
Secretary	Robert Lotspeich	535-1784
Assistant Secretary	Rock Libby	634-6508
Treasurer.....	Leonard Zumstein	634-8878
Assistant Treasurer	Vern Segars	634-2142
Membership.....	Larry Hughes	578-1194
Assistant Membership	Bob Holly	668-2786
Recruiting.....	OPEN	
Bowling	OPEN	
Travel Chairman.....	Bill Stires	988-5445
Travel Assistant	John Cardoza	483-7722
Roster/Mailing	Larry Hughes	578-1194
Golf.....	Joe Adams	632-8197
Assistant Golf	Ray Walker	606-9889
Sunshine	Ted Thorn	535-8696
Newsletter Editor/Photo	Fred Courter	226-1173
Bocce Ball.....	Mike Johnson	613-6801
Program	Gary Potter	667-8516
Assistant Program	OPEN	
Catering/Hall Set-Up.....	OPEN	
Chaplain	Larry Hughes	578-1194
Wagon Master.....	Ken Kajjoka	602-8351
Trail Boss	OPEN	
Dine-In ~ Dine-Out.....	Gary Toombs	604-8406
Nominating Committee Chair.....	Greg Back	585-6862
Directors:	Larry Hughes, Kevin Byrne, Bill Stires, Gary Toombs, Fred Courter, Joe Adams, OPEN.	

STATE OFFICERS

State President: Dave Gonzales - yogonzo@yahoo.com - 408-398-1240
 State Vice President: Dale Decker - daledftg@gmail.com - 209-533-0455
 Area 18 Representative: Jeff Chin - jeffereygaryc@msn.com - 209-602-3912