

SENIOR TIMES

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

DECEMBER 2023 Newsletter - Turlock Branch 143



Big Sir Message from Rock...

Exciting news!! Our Christmas gathering is **SOLD OUT**. That is the kind of participation we love to see. Thank you to Roger Jackson for some mighty fine work on ticket sales and delivery. As you well know we are gathering at the Fruit Yard and you can see from your tickets that doors open at 11:00 AM. We look forward to a good time on the 20th. We are just chock full of good news this month. We have our newest member, Robert Boyd, whose application for membership was approved at our BEC Meeting of November 17th. Welcome Robert!



bers taking Board and Activity management positions the future is bright indeed. Again, I wish to thank Greg Back, Gary Toombs and Mark Taylor for joining me in the Past Big Sir rotation to get us through the 2023 year. And once again I encourage our membership to attend our BEC meetings. There is no doubt that their attendance provided the impetus for Dan and John to become Board Members.

I would encourage each of our members to make it a New Years resolution to bring at least one prospective member to lunch this coming year. Surely this is a resolution you can keep and it is the only proven way to increase our membership.

A Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all. See you on the 20th.

**Rock Libby
Acting Big Sir**

More good news ... we have members stepping up to fill Board positions. Dan Gorman and John Cardoza are taking position on the Board of Directors and the position of Big Sir is to be in good hands for the foreseeable future with Bob Holly assuming that position next month, ably assisted by Roger Jackson, our new Little Sir. With newer mem-

DEADLINE: JANUARY 1-2 and 3 of 2024

The speaker for December is **Dr. Scott Colquhoun**

An Orthopedic surgeon specializing in knee and hip replacement.

Dr. Scott, as he is known by his patients, is a Hip and Knee orthopaedic surgeon based in Turlock California with special interests in direct anterior hip replacement and robotic total / partial knee replacement. He has developed a rapid recovery process which allows most patients to recover in the comfort of their home.

Dr. Scott is from the central valley and graduated from Denair High School. He finished his Or-

thopaedic Surgery training at the University of Florida, was a Navy doctor for three years, was in private practice in North Carolina for six years and has been in private practice in Turlock for eight years. Dr Scott is married and has two daughters. He enjoys outdoor activities like gardening, hiking and skiing. He and his wife both sing in the choir at Modesto Christian Reformed Church, in Modesto, CA.





SIR TRAVEL

John Cardoza, Travel Chairman
209-483-7722 - johncardoza@hotmail.com



11 Night Inside Passage Cruise Aboard the Crown Princess

Sailing Round-Trip
San Francisco, May
26-June 6, 2024



Price: **Ocean View Stateroom:** \$2590 double
occupancy, Single \$4795

Balcony State Room - Double \$2855, Single \$5325

Mini-Suite - Double \$3322, Single \$6259

Deposit of \$500 per person to hold reservation

Tour Features: Transfers from Turlock/Modesto to the pier in San Francisco ROUND TRIP, 11 Night round-trip inside passage, All taxes including Port Taxes.

Escorted by John Cardoza 209-483-7722

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS:

- Sunday Board Crown Princess
- Monday at Sea, Tuesday at Sea
- Wednesday Ketchikan
- Thursday Juneau
- Friday Skagway
- Saturday Endicott Arm and Dawes Glacier
- Sunday At Sea
- Monday Victoria, Canada
- Tuesday at Sea, Wednesday at Sea
- Thursday Arrive San Francisco



CONDITIONS APPLY

FINAL PAYMENT DUE: JAN. 31, 2024

**ADD THE PRINCESS PLUS PKG FOR
AN ADDITIONAL \$660 Per Person!**

INCLUDES: beverage package (drinks up to \$15 each),
Wi-Fi, Crew Appreciation, Premium Dessert (2-per day),
Fitness Classes (2 per Cruise),
and Unlimited Juice Bar

Turlock SIR #143 TRAIN EXPERIENCE



Turlock to Reno

February 1 - 2, 2024

\$110/person - Roundtrip (rates subject to change)
Book Flex-Rates / Senior-Military Discount (10%)
Amtrak Website link: www.amtrak.com

ITINERARY

| TRAIN | ORIGIN | DATE | DEPARTURE | DESTINATION | DATE | ARRIVAL |
|-------|--------------|---------|-----------|--------------|---------|---------|
| 711. | TURLOCK | 2/1/24. | 7:45 AM | Stockton | 2/1/24. | 8:36 AM |
| 3711 | Stockton | 2/1/24. | 8:45 AM | Sacramento | 2/1/24. | 9:50 AM |
| 6 | Sacramento | 2/1/24. | 11:09 AM | Reno | 2/1/24. | 3:56 PM |
| 5 | Reno | 2/2/24. | 8:36 AM | Martinez, Ca | 2/2/24. | 3:26 PM |
| 718 | Martinez, Ca | 2/2/24. | 6:26 PM | Turlock | 2/2/24. | 8:06 PM |

Please join us on this train experience when we take Amtrak to Sacramento and the California Zephyr from Sacramento to Reno. We will make stops in Roseville, Colfax and Truckee, before arriving in Reno.

The higher up we will go in elevation, the more stunning and gorgeous the views will become. We will see bright, sunlit woody meadows, farmland, mountains, huge pine trees, Donner Lake and the Truckee River, which flows right beside us. We will travel through several dark tunnels. The views will change from bright green grass to snowy mountains, and the skies will go from sunshine to thick cloud cover. Gradually, we will start seeing patches of snow higher up and then maybe a foot or more of snow on either side of the train. Once the train arrives in Reno around 4 p.m., we will walk a short distance to the hotel.

**It's recommended you make reservations,
for Thursday night,
February 1st, at the Silver Legacy 775-329-4777.**

**Contact John Cardoza at 209-483-7722, if
you have any questions or need help!
PLEASE contact John when you
have booked your trip.**

**YOU CAN CONTACT JOHN CARDOZA email at johncardoza@hotmail.com
to receive a brochure and Remember that relatives and friends may also go on all trips.**

SIR 143 - 2023 OFFICERS

Working For You!



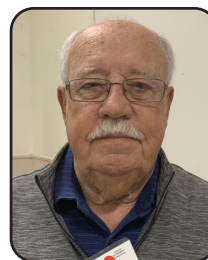
Greg Back
Web Master



Rock Libby
BIG SIR



Bob Holly
Little Sir



Joe Adams
Golf



Mike Johnson
Membership



Mark Taylor
Little 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, and Bob Holly.



Gary Toombs
Dine Out



Fred Courter
Newsletter



Bill Stires
Travel Chairman



John Cardoza
Assistant Travel



Roger Jackson
Secretary



Leonard Zumstein
Treasurer



From
Everyone at
the staff of
your **SENIOR**
TIMES, SIR
Branch 143

BEC MINUTES

BRANCH 143 - SIR EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

Held on - NOVEMBER 17th, 2023

Start 8:00 AM to 9:30 AM

Venue: Black Bear Diner

Note: * indicates past Big SIR

Branch 143 Executive Committee for 2023

Attendees: Gary Toombs*, Robert Holley, Roger Jackson, Leonard Zumstein, Fred Courter, Rick Kindle *, Mark Taylor *, Kevin Byrne, Rock Libby *, Mike Johnson, John Cardoza
Absent: Vern Segars, Greg Back*,

A note is made to correct the October report to show Bill Stires was absent.

Agenda

Call to order: The Secretary has noted that a quorum of BEC members was present. Big Sir, Rock Libby called the meeting to order at 8:05 AM.

Secretary – Roger Jackson

The Secretary requested approval of the Minutes for the October 20 BEC meeting. Gary Toombs put forward the motion and Robert Holly seconded. The motion to approve the minutes carried unanimously.

Treasurer – Leonard Zumstein

Leonard Zumstein (**see** Form 28) - reported the Turlock Branch's checking account balance at the end of October was **\$2416.43**. Petty cash available is **\$275.00**. The checkbook balance is \$ 2691.43. There was \$120.00 accrued from raffle proceeds, 50/50 split to members = \$60 to members and \$60.00 to SIRS. Leonard reported we spent \$119.48 for public address system. Leonard paid SIR Quarterly dues in the amount of \$178.00. Leonard reported Rick Kindle was paid \$142.41 for stamps. Approval for the Treasurer's report was made by Gary Toombs 1st and Bob Holly 2nd

Applications for new members: Robert Boyd – The BEC unanimously approved the membership of Mr. Boyd.

Standing Committee Reports:

Membership – Mike Johnson – (Form 27) See report - Mike handed a copy to BEC members

Bocce Ball – Next Bocce Ball is at 10:00 a.m. on November 17th at Dust Bowl on Fulkerth Road. See Mike Johnson if you are interested. Upcoming Bocce Ball is December 1st.

Golf – Rick Kindle reported about the upcoming golf activities.

Travel – John Cardoza –John reviewed information on his Alaska trip. It is May 26 – June 6, 2024. John is beginning to take deposits for the trip. A \$500.00 deposit is required to begin the process. So far 5 cabins have been booked. Please let John know if you are interested.

John reviewed the Train trip he has planned to Reno for February 1 and 2nd. See flyer for information on signing up.

John asked for BEC approval for a cruise to The Panama Canal. This trip is planned for January 2025. There was a motion by Leonard Zumstein and a 2nd by Gary Toombs to approve this trip. The motion was unanimously carried.

John will fill out a FORM 52 for each of these trips.

R.V. Ken Kajioka – At Sirs luncheon, on November 15, 2023 Ken mentioned the next RV trip is to Black Oak RV in Tuolumne County April 22 – 27, 2024. See flyer or upcoming newsletter for information.

Big SIR – Rock Libby

Gary Toombs – reported on Dine out. The next dine out will be January. A restaurant is yet to be determined.

Little SIR – Robert Holley

Branch Schedule of Operations – Robert Holley

Little Sir, Robert Holley indicated there were two important items on the November Schedule of Operations:

(1) Verify that the Form 27 & 28 is sent to the Recipient@sirinc.org and to the Area Representative (AR) by the end of each month. and (2) Membership Chairman ensures that on-line Branch Membership Status report is completed by the end of each month.

(2) Robert Holley mentioned the upcoming installation of members. Rick Kindle mentioned he would conduct the installation at the December luncheon.

Honorees – None mentioned.

Recruitment & Publicity – Rick Kindle

Old Business –

Membership dues were discussed by the BEC. Previously, the BEC had discussed and approved a reduction of fees from \$40.00 to \$20.00. After a review and a look at operational costs over time, it was decided it was prudent to keep the original fee of \$40.00. A motion to approve the annual dues to be set at \$40.00 was made by Robert Holly and a second motion was made by Bill Stires. The motion to approve the dues at \$40.00 was passed.

New Business –

Bocce Ball at the Dust Bowl. It was discussed that some members are interested in including family and friends to include women in the sport. After a discussion, a vote of the BEC was taken. The outcome was 5/3 in favor and the motion carried to approve.

Ken Kajioka asked that the BEC appoint Roger Jackson as his assistant in planning RV trips. Ken also asked that we consider a name change from Wagon Master to Trail Master.

Adjourn – A motion was made to adjourn the meeting.
9:33 AM

Next meeting– December 20, 2023, at the Fruit Yard

Respectfully submitted,

Roger Jackson

Roger Jackson, Secretary, Branch 143



RV TRAVEL

Ken Kajioka
RV Chairman



Black Oak RV in Tuolumne County April 28 – May 3, 2024



SUNDAY April 28 Arrival, meal decions to be made for week
MONDAY April 29. Activities: Bocce Ball, Corn Hole, Card Games
TUESDAY April 30.
WEDNESDAY May 1
THURSDAY May 2, Dinner, Casino Restaurant
FRIDAY May 3. Drive home safely

Wagon Master: Ken Kajioka 209-602-8351
kenkajioka@gmail.com
Reservation Transferable
Invite Friends and Neighbors

SIGN UP PROCEDURE

1. Call Black Oak RV Park for reservation 1-877-747-8777
2. IMPORTANT Let them know you are with KEN KAJIOKA group
3. Call or text Ken Kajioka after registering. 209-602-8351

Reservation will ask for a credit card # but will not be charged.

IMPORTANT: RESERVATIONS ARE FILLING UP FAST!

BIRTHDAYS IN DECEMBER

Mario Dominquez, Tom Mickelson, Mark Taylor



ANNIVERSARIES IN DECEMBER

Joe Adams, Ed Boyle, Richard Cross, Toby Materson, Don Petersen



The Sons In Retirement Foundation, Inc.

An Open Letter and Thank You to all Sirs

Dear Fellow Sir,

A few months ago, I wrote to you with an update on the condition of The Sons In Retirement Foundation, Inc. and an appeal for support of SIRF.

I am happy to report that the Foundation has received over \$6300 in donations from both Branches and Individual Sirs.

The Foundation has issued one grant for relief to a local youth organization, at the behest of Branch 171, the organization having lost possessions in a structure fire. We have also continued our support of all Branches by providing ongoing Zoom Licenses available to every Branch.

Our Purpose and Goal continue to be supporting the needs of SIR Branches, their members, and support of other organizations local to SIR Branches that make a meaningful contribution to their communities. We are continuing to seek donations so as to be prepared for future needs.

I wish to personally thank all of you who have sent in donations in support of SIRF. And I encourage all Sir Members to continue your support of the Foundation. All donations no matter how small, will go a long way to making our efforts meaningful to SIR and SIR communities.

Anyone wishing to share his particular expertise by joining the Foundation team, please send me an e-mail letting me know how you might help with our fundraising and grant application process.

I hope this letter finds you and your loved ones well and enjoying life to its fullest. Again, thank you for your continued support. A donation form is to the right. Fill out and send in.

I will be happy to answer any questions or address any comments you may have, just send them to jwalton2176@gmail.com.

Sincerely,
Jim Walton, PBS 152
Foundation President

The Sons In Retirement Foundation, Inc is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation. Your contribution is tax-deductible within the limits prescribed by California law.



The Sons In Retirement Foundation, Inc. DONATION FORM

As a member of SIR, Branch No. ____ I wish to make a donation to The Sons In Retirement Foundation, Inc. (SIRF). I understand my donation and support will enable the Foundation (SIRF) to provide grants to SIR Branches for meaningful projects in support of their local communities, SIR Statewide Programs, as well as individual SIR members and SIR Branches needing assistance.

Donor: _____

Title: _____

Individual Branch State SIR

Mailing Address: _____

Phone No. _____

E-mail Address: _____

Donation Amount: _____

Please make checks out to: "The Sons in Retirement Foundation".

Send Donations to:
SIRF Treasurer
21 Warford Terrace
Orinda, CA 94563

The Sons In Retirement Foundation, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) non-profit California corporation.
(FEIN # 83-2837207) Your contribution is tax-deductible within the limits prescribed by law.



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THE WINE LINE

By Russ Winton

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



Wine Tasting in Sonoma County

The Navigator did an excellent job guiding us to the Bay Area for a dim sum lunch then on to a wood-bat league championship baseball game to watch our grandson, then north to Santa Rosa to check into our hotel and take a quick nap and then on to the new release tasting in Kenwood of Naked Wines and then on to a great dinner. The day was just perfect, well almost. Our team lost the game but there we were, in beautiful Sonoma Wine Country. We just had to stay another night and do what we've done for many, many years, taste wine!

Mutt Lynch Winery

Located in downtown Windsor, Mutt Lynch is Sonoma County's most dog-friendly winery. Open to the public, all dogs are welcome with their well-behaved leashed humans. They offer a doggone good time with award winning wines, a wine club for you and your dog, canine "yappetizers" and a water bowl. Winemaker and owner, Brenda Lynch, husband Chris and their 3 dogs moved to Sonoma County in the mid-nineties. She worked in the cellars of Russian River wineries, rising to cellar master. She decided to go pro and make a Dry Creek Valley Zinfandel and Mutt Lynch Winery was born in 1995.

Mutt Lynch is proud to support local animal rescue organizations in their tireless efforts to save pets lives. The "Hound Lounge" is the perfect place to hold the Mutt Lynch Yappy Hours. On the second Friday of each month they raise funds for very deserving rescue organizations. Tickets are just \$10, you get a glass of wine and a good time to meet wine and dog loving people. Their September "Yappy Hour" from 4-7 pm raised money for the Maui Humane Society and October will benefit Canine Companions.

Their tasting menu is \$20 and it is gladly waived with a wine purchase. The award winning wines are reasonably priced. My favorites were the 2019 Merlot Over and Play Dead from the Russian River Valley and the 2021 Portrait of a Mutt, a GSM Blend from the Sierra Foothills. The staff was terrific, the wines delicious and there is absolutely no pretension here. Your dog will love this place and will definitely bark less and wag more!

What's On Our Table

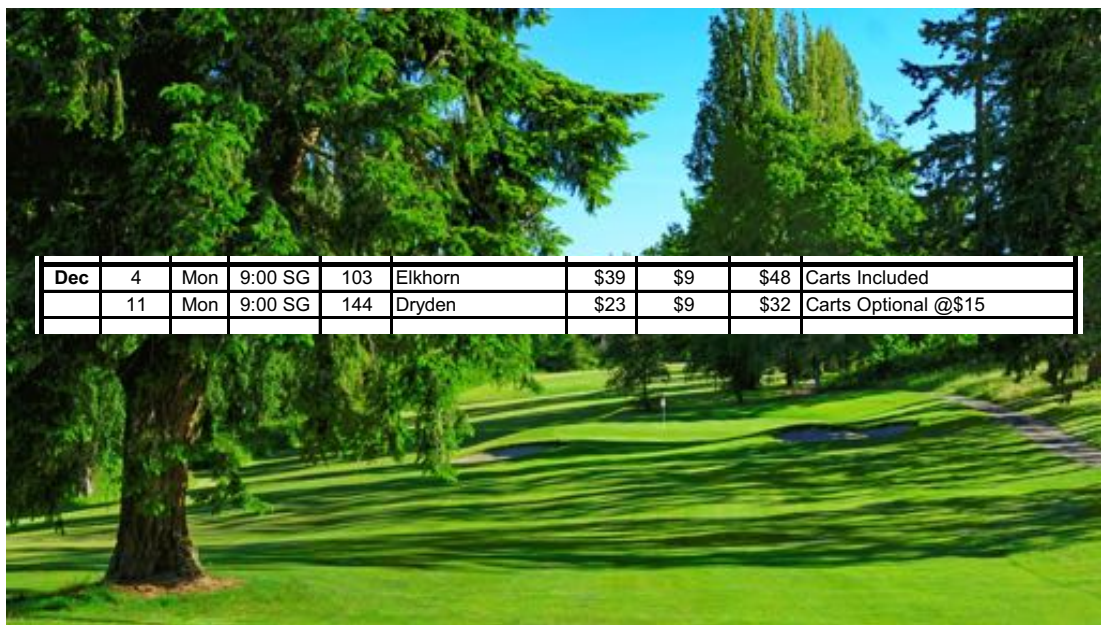
If you're looking for reasonably priced house wine in the eight dollar range, give Dark Horse a try. It's an E. & J. brand and it's doing quite well in major wine competitions. The 2022 Sauvignon Blanc was a Double Gold with 99 points and the Non Vintage Red Blend scored a Gold with 95 points. The following were Silver Medal winners; the 2022 Rose' (91pts.), the 2021 Cabernet Sauvignon (90pts.), the 2021 Merlot (88pts.) and the 2021 Pinot Noir (88pts.). These awards were from the 2023 California State Fair Wine Competition. Cheers!

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



GOLF

Joe Adams, Chairman



| | | | | | | | | | |
|-----|----|-----|---------|-----|---------|------|-----|------|----------------------|
| Dec | 4 | Mon | 9:00 SG | 103 | Elkhorn | \$39 | \$9 | \$48 | Carts Included |
| | 11 | Mon | 9:00 SG | 144 | Dryden | \$23 | \$9 | \$32 | Carts Optional @\$15 |



**SEE YOU AT THE
LUNCHEON AT THE FRUIT YARD**



**WEDNESDAY,
DECEMBER 20th
11 am to 3 pm**
At The Fruit Yard – 7948 Yosemite Blvd.



**THIS IS A TICKETS
ONLY SIR LUNCHEON**



**TURLOCK BRANCH NO. 143
OFFICERS AND CHAIRMEN
OFFICERS FOR 2023**



| | | |
|-------------------------------|---|----------|
| Big Sir | Gary Toombs | 604-8406 |
| Little Sir | Bob Holly | 668-2786 |
| Secretary | Roger Jackson | 658-2673 |
| Assistant Secretary | Rock Libby | 634-6508 |
| Treasurer..... | Leonard Zumstein | 634-8878 |
| Assistant Treasurer | Vern Segars | 634-2142 |
| Membership/Roster | Mike Johnson | 613-6801 |
| Assistant Membership..... | Rick Kindle | 652-8608 |
| Recruiting..... | Rick Kindle | 652-8608 |
| Bowling | OPEN | |
| Travel Chairman..... | Bill Stires | 988-5445 |
| Travel Assistant | John Cardoza | 483-7722 |
| Mailing..... | Rick Kindle | 652-8608 |
| 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..... | OPEN | |
| Wagon Master..... | Ken Kajioka | 602-8351 |
| Trail Boss | OPEN | |
| Dine-In ~ Dine-Out..... | Gary Toombs | 604-8406 |
| Publicity/Web Master | Greg Back | 585-6862 |
| Directors: | Kevin Byrne, Bill Stires, Gary Toombs, Fred Courter, Joe Adams, Greg Back. | |

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: Richard Provost - 209-222-1910