

# SENIOR TIMES

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

**FEBRUARY 2022 Newsletter - Turlock Branch 143**



## BIG SIR GREG BACK SAYS...

It was great to see everyone at the January lunch meeting. We had a very nice turnout with one guest who I hope will become a member soon. We also had an interesting and thought provoking talk on the Stanislaus County homeless problem by Terry Withrow from our county board of supervisors. Your BEC has been working hard to get lunches for our meetings and trying to keep the lunch prices at a reasonable level. As I'm sure you have all noticed, prices have gone up on everything and our caterer is no exception. Between staffing shortages due to covid and higher prices on supplies they are no longer able to caterer our lunches as they did before. We are searching alternatives, but in the meantime we will continue to get takeout for our lunch meetings. This month we will be serving pizza with a drink and dessert for \$15. We heard your comments last month and we will do everything we can to keep the price down for as long as we can. Watch out for a call from our phone committee to get your RSVP for the meeting. It is important to RSVP so the lunch committee knows how many will be attending and order the lunches accordingly. If for some reason you



miss the call from the phone committee you may also call Bob Holly directly with your RSVP. Bob can be reached at 209-668-2786. Covid has had a big impact on our branch meeting attendance and our last few lunch meetings have averaged around 50% of our pre-covid attendance. Come back and support your branch and reconnect with old friends or make new ones. Bring a guest and help grow the branch - share the fun. If each member brings just one guest this year and only one third of those go on to join SIR, we can keep our branch healthy and growing for years to come. Everyone who sponsors a new member will be awarded a custom designed SIR pin in recognition. The BEC has received suggestions for some fun new activities such as a walking group and recreational bowling. Come to the next meeting and let your activities chairman, Gary Toombs, know if these are activities you would be interested in or let him know if you have other suggestions for new activities. Remember that Valentine's Day is this month so don't forget your moms, wives, daughters, granddaughters or significant others. I look forward to seeing you at the next meeting.

**DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT NEWSLETTER IS:**  
**MARCH 1-2 and 3 of 2022**

**JOIN US IN FEBRUARY**

**11:30 am - Sir Lunch meeting FEBRUARY 16th - WILL BE HELD AT DENAIR COMMUNITY CENTER the luncheon will be catered.**

**8 am - BEC meeting FEBRUARY 18th - Will be at MY GARDEN CAFE  
8 am start time.**



# SIR TRAVEL

**BILL STIRES**  
**TRAVEL CHAIRMAN**



**Top of Switzerland and  
Oberammergau, Germany  
and the Passion Play.**

**August 27 -  
September 7, 2022**

This trip was cancelled in 2020 due to COVID-19 and is rescheduled.



## Holland Tulip Festival Tour



**Featuring  
Mackinac  
Island's Grand Hotel  
May 12-19, 2022**

**Price: \$4,045 Per Person Double Occupancy**  
**PRICE WILL INCREASE ON FEBRUARY 15, 2022**

**Deposit \$650 per person**

**This trip is sold out and now there is a wait list.**

**Deposit will be charged when the trip opens back up.**

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**Call Bill at 209-988-5445 or 209-544-2684  
or email at [bstires46@gmail.com](mailto:bstires46@gmail.com) to receive a brochure  
and reservation form for any of the trips.**

# NEW MEMBERS for 2022



Left photo. Two members were inducted into the SIR 143 in January luncheon meeting: On the left is **Phil Franco** and standing with him is **Gary Toombs**.



Top photo. New Member, **Jim Artip** standing with **Gary Toombs** and **Curt Green**. (Curt Green was presented the first "I am Doing My Part" pin for sponsoring Jim). Jim is retired after 31 years from the Turlock Fire department as a Captain.



Left photo. New member is **Mike Fultz** retired from TID. Standing with **Rick Kindle**.



## SPEAKER FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY WAS: Supervisor TERRY WITHROW

Terry had an interesting and thought provoking talk on the **Stanislaus County homeless problem** in the county.

Terry began his first term as Stanislaus County's Supervisor for District 3 on January 4, 2011. Terry and his wife, Christen, have four children: Michael, Jenavieve, Molly, and Emma.



## NEW SIR AUCTION COMING IN APRIL

Fred Courter is donating this Gallery Wrap of Horsetail Falls in Yosemite. The picture measures 20" X 32" it is a print on canvas. You don't want to miss this opportunity to bid on one of Fred Courter's Award Winning Images. All proceeds go to Sir Branch 143.



# BEC MINUTES

## BRANCH 143 - SIR EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

### Held on - JANUARY 21, 2022

#### BEC Meeting Agenda

##### Call to Order: 8:02 AM

Site My Garden Café: Quorum is present:

**Guest:** Rick Kindle, SIR State President

**Attendance:** Greg Back, Rock Libby, Fred Courter, Leonard Zumstein, Gary Toombs, Kevin Byrne, Joe Adams, Bob Holly, Larry Hughes, Bill Stires and Ed Darrah.

**Treasurer's Report:** Leonard Zumstein reports a bank checking balance of \$4853,78 and cash in the amount of \$325 for a total of \$5178.78. At our 1/19/22 luncheon we had \$988 in meal collections. The caterer invoice for the lunch was \$977. We collected 19 Member dues leaving us with 72 paid and 40 unpaid members to date. The form 28 was emailed and delivered to the BEC members this morning. The Treasurer's report does not require a motion to be accepted according to Big Sir Greg Back.

**Secretary's Report:** The Secretary's minutes were unanimously approved as emailed in December by Secretary Ken Edwards with a 1st by Gary Toombs and 2nd by Bob Holly.

#### Committee Reports:

**Membership Report:** Membership Chair Larry Hughes reports we have 110 members. Former members Andy Kahler, Manuel Drumonde and John Robnik resigned in opposition to SIR State Covid 19 protocols. Of the 29 members dropped effective July 24th 2021 for failure to pay dues, 15 have paid their dues and been reinstated.

**Nominating Committee Report:** Committee Chair Rock Libby named Ed Darrah, Bob Holly, Joe Adams, Gary Toombs and Kevin Byrne to the committee. This committee will meet on a Friday in February at a date and location to be determined. We need to fill the positions of Big Sir, Little Sir, Secretary, Assistant Secretary and Assistant Treasurer. We need participation from more members in filling these positions.

**Golf report:** Joe Adams: Joe reports golfers are participating at about 40% of the number prior to Covid. Joe reported a successful turnout for the Ron Witort Memorial Tournament at Atwater. Ron was a member who passed last year and enjoyed his SIR Golf. This may turn out to be an annual event.

**Dine in/DineOut:** Chairman Gary Toombs reports there is nothing new to report on Dine In/Dine Out as it is difficult to find a location to host the number we anticipate while providing separate checks.

**Bocci Ball:** Michael Johnson will be assuming the Chairmanship for Bocci Ball. Expect to hear more from him soon.

**Travel:** Bill Stires eloquently stated that travel is "status quo".

**Old Business:** There was discussion of our Phone Tree system. The script will be revised and is to be followed verbatim in order to handle the problem of lunches ordered and not paid for if the member who ordered lunch fails to show. The lunch cost is \$20 and the chapter cannot afford to pay for no-shows. A valid excuse such as an emergency will suffice and we will make the effort to sell unclaimed lunches but if we can't, payment for that lunch will be due at the next meeting. Phone tree messages left by our callers must stress the answer to the message goes to either the caller or Bob Holly and not Big Sir Greg Back.

**New Business:** Leonard Zumstein will be contacting Mark Taylor and Marvin Souza regarding their participation on the Audit Committee. Greg Back went over the proposed budget for the coming year and there will be further review in the coming months. There was a motion to reimburse Greg Back for supplies in the amount of \$39.70 with 1st by Gary Toombs and 2nd by Ed Darrah. Approval was unanimous. Additionally, there was a motion to reimburse Rick Kindle for an "A Frame" and inserts for same in the amount of \$146.14. The motion passed unanimously with a 1st by Larry Hughes and 2nd by Bill Stires. President Rick is making efforts to increase the Statewide membership in SIR which is down considerably over the last few years. To that end, there are plans for Television, Newspaper press releases and newsletters to be employed in order to overcome our lack of visibility. To assist with that Rick requested approval for the order of 1,000 brochures with a cost of \$390. That approval was unanimous with a 1st by Bob Holly and 2nd by Leonard Zumstein.

#### Meeting adjourned at 10:32

Respectfully submitted by  
Rock Libby,  
Secretary, Branch 143





# SIR AREA 18 GOLF SCHEDULE 2022

MO	DATE	DAY	TIME	HOST	COURSE	GF	PRIZE	TOT	REMARKS	TOT w/Cart
Feb	7	Mon	9:00 SG	103	Micke Grove	\$40	\$9	\$49	Carts Included	\$49
	14	Mon	9:00 SG	144	Creekside	\$25	\$9	\$34	Carts Optional @\$15	\$49
	22	Tue	9:00 SG	103	Atwater	\$38	\$9	\$47	Carts Included	\$47
	28	Mon	9:00 SG	144	Dryden	\$23	\$9	\$32	Carts Optional @\$15	\$47
Mar	7	Mon	8:00 SG	164	Manteca	\$38	\$9	\$47	Carts Included	\$47
	14	Mon	9:00 SG	103	Creekside	\$25	\$9	\$34	Carts Optional @\$15	\$49
	21	Mon	9:00 SG	144	Tracy CC	\$43	\$9	\$52	Carts Included	\$52
	28	Mon	9:00 SG	103	Dryden	\$23	\$9	\$32	Carts Optional @\$15	\$47
Apr	4	Mon	9:00 SG	164	Dry Creek	\$39	\$9	\$48	Carts Included	\$48
	11	Mon	9:00 SG	103	Creekside	\$25	\$9	\$34	Carts Optional @\$15	\$49
	18	Mon	9:00 SG	164	Swenson	\$37	\$9	\$46	Carts Included	\$46
	25	Mon	9:00 SG	144	Dryden	\$23	\$9	\$32	Carts Optional @\$15	\$47
May	2	Mon	8:00 SG	103	Atwater	\$38	\$9	\$47	Carts Included	\$47
	9	Mon	8:00 SG	164	Micke Grove	\$40	\$9	\$49	Carts Included	\$49
	16	Mon	8:00 SG	144	Creekside	\$25	\$9	\$34	Carts Optional @\$15	\$49
	23	Mon	8:00 SG	164	Manteca	\$38	\$9	\$47	Carts Included	\$47
	31	Tue	8:00 SG	103	Dryden	\$23	\$9	\$32	Carts Optional @\$15	\$47
Jun	6	Mon	8:00 SG	144	Elkhorn	\$39	\$9	\$48	Carts Included	\$48
	13	Mon	8:00 SG	103	Creekside	\$25	\$9	\$34	Carts Optional @\$15	\$49
	20	Mon	8:00 SG	164	Teleli	\$50	\$9	\$59	Carts Included	\$59
	27	Mon	8:00 SG	144	Dry Creek	\$39	\$9	\$48	Carts Included	\$48
Jul	5	Tue	8:00 SG	103	Dryden	\$23	\$9	\$32	Carts Optional @\$15	\$47
	11	Mon	8:00 SG	164	Castle Oaks	\$50	\$9	\$59	Carts Included	\$59
	18	Mon	8:00 SG	144	Creekside	\$25	\$9	\$34	Carts Optional @\$15	\$49
	25	Mon	8:00 SG	103	Swenson	\$37	\$9	\$46	Carts Included	\$46



## FEBRUARY LUNCHEON

If you plan on attending our February lunch meeting please RSVP so we can order the correct pizzas. Our phone committee will be reaching out to you soon to remind you of the meeting and get your RSVP for lunch. If for some reason you miss the call from the phone committee you may also call Bob Holly directly with your RSVP. Bob can be reached at 209-668-2786.



# WINE TASTING

By Russ Winton



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

### Don't Outsource Your Palate

Alexis Lichine (1913-1989) was a Russian wine writer and entrepreneur. He played a key role in promoting varietal labelling of New World wines. He was the wine buyer for the Waldorf Astoria in New York and later, export manager for Chateau Haut-Brion. He purchased Chateau Prieure-Lichine, was an expert taster in the New York Wine Tasting of 1973 and was chosen 1987 "Man of the Year" by Decanter Magazine.

In 1986, he wrote in Wine Country Magazine, how the industry's elitist attitudes were turning consumers away from wine. I loved that article and I saved it. Here are some of his quotes that have stayed with me for 35 years. He said.. "We mustn't make a cult of wine. Some of our self-appointed wine snobs with their pomposity have done more to hurt the cause of wine than anything I can think of. I've tried to dispel the layman's fears. Drink the wine you like best, I tell them. Trust your palate. Never mind the so-called experts. And, very important, never mind those people—some wine writers, for example—who try to intimidate by talking about pH and brix and yeast strains and fermentation temperatures and never get around to talking about how they like the wine. The selection of a wine is a personal choice. You shouldn't be influenced by what other people say. If it

tastes good to you, then drink it. Enjoy it. Learn to trust your palate and to heck with the wine snobs."

Thank you Mr. Lichine. What he said in 1986 still rings true today. Even with the popular 100 point ratings, you're still outsourcing your palate to someone you don't even know. Does it surprise you to see so many 90 point wines in the market place? Forget the points and just trust your palate. It's simple, find a wine you like, one you can afford, drink it and enjoy it. Cheers!

### What's on our Table

This week's Steal is the 2020 Domaine De Cassaigne from the Cotes De Gascogne region in France. It's 60% Colombard and 40% Gras Manseng. If you like acidic whites, this one will really make you glee. It's \$5 at the Grocery Outlet. The best Deal is the 2019 La Sonriente Garnacha from the Catatyud in Spain. It is medium bodied with cherry flavors, a smooth finish and under \$8.00 at Trader Joe's. The Splurge buy of the week is the 2019 Margerum M5 from Santa Barbera County. It's a Rhone GSM blend with the addition of Counoise and Cinsaut. The SRP is \$30 and Costco's price is \$19.98. Why is \$19.98 a splurge? Because I bought 3 bottles. Cheers!

Comments? Find me on Facebook or at [rgwinton@yahoo.com](mailto:rgwinton@yahoo.com).



## BIRTHDAYS IN FEBRUARY

Joe Bughi, Luis Duron, Ken Edwards, John Ellefson, Michael Johnson, Carlos Marchbank, Mike Reed, Mike Togliatti



## ANNIVERSARIES IN FEBRUARY

Elvin Evans, Stanley Fidel, Tom Lindquist, Al Miroo

Please Support our Branch Sponsors

DON'S MOBILE GLASS advertisement with contact info and image of a truck.

THE GREENERY Nursery and Garden Shop advertisement with phone number and website.

Neto's Catering advertisement with menu items and contact information.

Rigo Arteaga Cars ETC advertisement for auto body and paint services.

JAYS Tires advertisement with address and phone number.

PMZ REAL ESTATE advertisement for Tracee Storms with photo and contact info.

Edith's CRUST & CRUMB Artisan Pizza & Bakery advertisement with address.

PMZ REAL ESTATE advertisement for Kevin Storms with photo and contact info.

## TURLOCK BRANCH NO. 143 OFFICERS AND CHAIRMEN OFFICERS FOR 2022

Big Sir/Web Master .....	Greg Back	585-6862
Little Sir .....	Gary Toombs	604-8406
Secretary .....	Rock Libby	634-6508
Assistant Secretary .....	OPEN	
Treasurer .....	Leonard Zumstein	634-8878
Assistant Treasurer .....	OPEN	
Membership .....	Larry Hughes	578-1194
Assistant Membership .....	Ted Thorne	874-2249
Recruiting .....	OPEN	
Bowling .....	OPEN	
Travel .....	Bill Stires	544-2684
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 .....	Tom Bundy	668-5163
Program .....	Gary Potter	667-8516
Assistant Program .....	OPEN	
Catering/Hall Set-Up .....	Earl Hamilton	606-4525
Chaplain .....	Earl Hamilton	606-4525
Wagon Master .....	Ken Kajjoka	602-8351
Trail Boss .....	OPEN	
Dine-In ~ Dine-Out .....	Gary Toombs	604-8406
Nominating Committee Chair .....	Rock Libby	634-6508
Directors:	Bob Holly, Larry Hughes, Kevin Byrne, Fred Courter, Joe Adams and Ed Darrah	

### STATE OFFICERS

State President: Rick Kindle - 209-652-8608  
 State Vice President: Dave Gonzales - 408-398-1240  
 Regional Director: Dale Decker - 209-533-0455  
 Area 18 Governor: Richard Provost 209-222-1910