

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"

JANUARY 2023 Newsletter - Turlock Branch 143



BIG SIR GREG BACK SAYS...

Happy New Year!

I hope you all had a Merry Christmas and that Santa was very good to you. **A new year means that dues are now payable. Dues for this year are \$40 and can be paid at the January lunch meeting or you may mail a check to our treasurer Leonard Zumstein** – see details elsewhere in this newsletter. Our branch has lots of great activities for you to participate in and now is a good time to try something new. We have golf, dine-out, wine tasting,



bobce ball, RC flying, Commerative Air Force breakfasts and lunches, baseball days, bowling, walking and even chess. All these activities need are participants, so please consider giving something new a try. Our branch activities chairman, Gary Toombs, can provide more information. Let's work together and make 2023 a great year for our branch. I'll end with a friendly reminder that gyms get really busy around the new year as people make their resolutions. So it's best to wait for it to die down, usually around January 2nd. I hope to see you all at our next meeting.

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

JOIN US IN JANUARY

11:30 am - Sir Lunch meeting JANUARY 18th -

WILL BE HELD AT Denair Community Center in Denair, doors open at 10:30.

8 am - BEC meeting JANUARY 20th- Will be at MY GARDEN CAFE 8 am start time.

NEW PRICE FOR LUNCHEONS IS NOW \$25.00



SIR TRAVEL

BILL STIRES
TRAVEL CHAIRMAN



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.

NEWS & NOTES - SIR 143

SIR ACTIVITIES:

POOL & BILLARDS - Ken Kajioaka 602-8351

COMMERATIVE AIR FORCE -

Ken Kajioaka 602-8351

BOCCE BALL - Mike Johnson 613-6801

CHESS - Kevin Storms 277-7644

RADIO CONTROL PLANES -

Greg Back 585-6862

WINE TASTING - Russ Winton 394-8930

WALKING GROUP - Rock Libby 634-6508

ANTIQUE CAR GROUP - Jim Artrip 606-2177

BASEBALL DAY GROUP - Andy Elder 604-3010

BOWLING GROUP - Tom Mickelsen 632-2917

NOTICE:

Starting in January 2023
Our Dues for the year will be

\$40

and our
Luncheons will be

\$25

2023 dues will be collected starting
at the January meeting or can be
mailed to Lenny Zumstein at 2645
Mira Flores, Turlock 95380.

AS PER THE BYLAWS for SIR #143 MEETINGS:

NO POLITICS OF ANY KIND IS TO BE
DISCUSSED AT LUNCHEON MEETINGS,
INCLUDING THE WEARING OF POLITICAL ATTIRE.

**LUNCH THIS MONTH WILL BE
HELD AT
DENAIR COMMUNITY CENTER...**

**LUNCH WILL AGAIN BE
CATERED BY NICOLAU FARMS,
WHO SERVED US A GREAT
LUNCH LAST MONTH.**

**WE HOPE TO SEE YOU
THERE...THIRD WEDNESDAY OF
EVERY MONTH.**

IT'S DINE-IN- DINE-OUT TIME



**Next Dine-Out will be
on Thursday, January
12th at the newly
remodeled
CENTRAL STATION
BAR and GRILL**

**at 10 East Main Street, Turlock.
Drinks 5:30 and dinner at 6:00.
Please RSVP to Gary Toombs at
209-604-8406 We are limited to 40
guests. Sign up early!**

BEC MINUTES

BRANCH 143 - SIR EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

Held on -DECEMBER 23rd, 2022

**BEC Meeting, My Garden Café,
Turlock**

Meeting called to order at 8:04 AM

Attendance: Gary Toombs, Rock Libby, Leonard Zumstein, Larry Hughes, Bob Holly, Fred Courter and Joe Adams.

Absent: Greg Back, Kevin Byrne, Bill Stires, Ed Darrah, Vern Segars and our frequent guest, State SIR President Rick Kindle.

Guests: John Cardoza

Secretary's Report: The report was unanimously approved as emailed and published in the Newsletter with a 1st by Leonard Zumstein and 2nd by Larry Hughes.

Treasurer's Report: Leonard reports an expense of \$37.10 for supplies including postage, etc. Our Ladies Day luncheon had receipts of \$1240 and expenses of \$1253.29 to the Caterer and \$275 for Community Center rental and setup/break-down. There will be additional expense to come in from Bob Holly. Cash on hand of \$3297.45 in checking and \$275 drawer funds for a total \$3572.45. Expenses included Paper, Stamps and tablecloths in the amount of \$123.16 to Larry Hughes were unanimously approved with a 1st by Joe Adams and 2nd by Bob Holly. \$180 for Poinsettias for Rick Kindle was unanimously approved with a 1st by Joe Adams and 2nd by Larry Hughes.

Membership: Larry Hughes reports 39 members and 32 guests including 1

speaker attending our luncheon. We installed two new members, Brent Bohlander and Richard Brown. This brings our total membership to 116, surpassing our goal of 113 for the year. There was discussion of three possible new members.

Dine In/Dine Out: Gary Toombs reports our next Dine Out will be 1/12/23 at Central Station at 5:30 PM. Our Dine In/Dine Out will rotate monthly with our Wine Tasting compliments of Russ Winton.

Golf: Joe Adams reports all but 2 golfers have paid their NCGA dues. The Annual Ron Witort Tournament is to be held at Creekside Golf Course on 3/13/23.

Travel: Bill Stires was absent. John Cardoza discussed future travel plans.

Old Business: Our Big Sir for 2023 will utilize a rotation of four Past Big Sirs to include Greg Back, Rock Libby, Gary Toombs and Mark Taylor.

New Business: Bob Holly discussed a possible Membership Chairman assistant.

Meeting adjourned at 9:02 AM
Respectfully submitted,
Rock Libby, Secretary
SIR Branch 143



Our Speaker for the Month of January Scott Kuykendall

Scott Kuykendall was elected Stanislaus County Superintendent of Schools in November 2018 and sworn into office on January 7, 2019. As Superintendent, he oversees the Stanislaus County Office of Education (SCOE) with a staff of 1,100 and a budget of over \$261 million. SCOE provides direct instructional programs and support services to the 25 school districts in Stanislaus County. This includes 188 schools and over 109,000 students. The office also provides regional programs and services in a seven-county area.



A graduate of CSU, Stanislaus, Kuykendall began his career in 1994 as a high school teacher. Since that time he has served as vice principal, principal, director at both the district and county level, Assistant Superintendent of Educational Options at SCOE and now Superintendent of Schools.

New SIR Travel Chairman

Hope everyone had a wonderful New Year. My name is John Cardoza, and I will be working with Bill Stires this year to learn what I can from the 30 years' experience Bill and his father-in-law acquired during their SIR travel experience throughout their years. I will be taking over the Travel Chairman position with SIR Turlock Branch #143.

Many of you heard my introduction in November but in case you were not in attendance I wanted to introduce myself. My travel experience started in 1974 with driving around Generals, VIPs and Airman while serving in the US Air Force.

In early 1979 I graduated from the International Airline and Travel School in Alameda, California. After graduating, I worked for Braniff Airlines in Dallas, Texas as a reservations agent from 1979 until they went bankrupt in 1982. In 1983, I worked for United Airlines in Eureka and Oakland, California until 1989.

In 1999, 2000 and 2004 I lived on Princess, Norwegian, and Crystal Cruise lines as an Art Auctioneer. I managed a travel agency in 2001, 2002 and 2003 in Tracy, California. In 2004 I attended and graduated from International Tour Management Institute in San Francisco, California.

I have driven in all fifty states and visited sixty foreign countries. I am writing all this not to brag, but to let everyone know I am a travel junkie and am looking forward to working with everyone as your SIR Travel Chairman.

It will take a while to learn all the regulations required for setting up traveling with SIR. While I am learning the ropes, it would be fantastic if you had specific travel ideas or places you would like to visit.

Let me know what kind of travel you would be interested in. There are so many places or experiences that even the most experienced travelers are not aware. I am interested in any travel plans you pass on to me. Of course, we will not be able to go everywhere. Once I have numerous destinations SIR members want to go, the next step is to see if they are possible as an SIR function. All travel functions with SIR are mandatory to be put before the board and others in the SIR Organization to make sure they are covered by insurance.

My e-mail address, johncardoza@hotmail.com is the best way to contact me. I may also be reached by my cell phone 209-483-7722. I personally travel whenever possible, and I still work as an auctioneer around the state of California so sometimes I may not be able to answer my phone. I will get back to you as soon as possible to discuss if the trip is feasible, and what you would like to see accomplished on the itinerary.

I wish everyone a Happy New Year and am looking forward to working with you as your SIR Travel Chairman!



THE WINE LINE

By Russ Winton

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



Hope Family Wines Named American Winery of the Year

Hope Family Wines announced that it has been named "American Winery of the Year" by Wine Enthusiast magazine's annual Wine Star Awards, the industry's premier global awards celebration. Hope Family Wines is one of the pioneering heritage wineries that helped spearhead the creation of the Paso Robles AVA and later the Paso Robles Vintners & Growers Association. Chuck and Marlyn Hope began planting vineyards in 1978 and later became one of the region's largest growers of wine grapes. In 1986 the family started making wine knowing that the region had the potential of making world class wines.

Today, Hope Family Wines produces six brands: Austin Hope, Treana, Quest, Austin, Liberty School and Troublemaker. All exemplify the quality and diversity of Paso Robles. In 2019 and 2020 the Austin Hope Cabernet Sauvignon was ranked among Wine Enthusiast magazine's Top 10 Wines of the World. Austin Hope, second generation owner and winemaker stated, "This award is an honor for all of the dedicated people at Hope Family Wines who have helped make it happen and for all of the partner growers who have taken this journey with us."

Kirkland's Signature Brands Score

I recently held a blind tasting of six wines for 24 people.

No, I didn't need 24 blindfolds, although that would have been interesting. I decided to use the house brand wines of Costco. If you haven't tasted these wines, you should. The Costco wine hunters are tracking down excellent juice from all over the world. The Pinot Grigio, Italian, the Sauvignon Blanc, New Zealand, a Sonoma County Chardonnay, a Napa Valley Carneros Pinot Noir, a Malbec from Argentina and a Cabernet Sauvignon from Sonoma's Alexander Valley. Most of the tasters had never purchased the Kirkland Signature brand. The voting for favorite white was a tie between the Sauvignon Blanc and the Chardonnay. The favorite red was no surprise, the Alexander Valley Cabernet Sauvignon. The real surprise came when tasters found out no wine was over \$10.

What's on Our Table

We've been enjoying Portuguese red wines from the Grocery Outlet. They have a good selection and almost all are under \$7. The Vinho Tintos (red wines) are a blend of various grapes, but Touriga Nacional is usually the most prominent. Here are three good deals: the 2020 Costa Lusa from the Lisboa Region, the 2019 Quid Pro Quo from the Alentejano Region and the 2017 Silent Oak from the Tejo Region. If you still need wine for turkey day and happen to have a Trader Joe's nearby with enough parking, all Bogle Wines are priced \$7.99, and that's a deal. Have a Great Gobble-Gobble Thanksgiving. Cheers!

Comments? Find me on Facebook or at

rgwinton@yahoo.com



BIRTHDAYS IN JANUARY

Charles Golding, Charles Greer, Daniel Larson, Edward Friedberg, Walter Ott, Leonard Maliepaard, Kevin Storms, Antonio Ruggirello, Bill Nixon, James Hackler, Marvin Souza, Elvin Evans, Walfred Spycher



ANNIVERSARIES IN JANUARY

Lance Anderson, John Togliatti, Russ Winton

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TURLOCK BRANCH NO. 143 OFFICERS AND CHAIRMEN OFFICERS FOR 2022

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.....	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	Earl Hamilton	606-4525
Chaplain	Earl Hamilton	606-4525
Wagon Master.....	Ken Kajioaka	602-8351
Trail Boss.....	OPEN	
Dine-In ~ Dine-Out.....	Gary Toombs	604-8406
Nominating Committee Chair	Rock Libby	634-6508
Directors:	Larry Hughes, Kevin Byrne, Bill Stires, Gary Toombs, Fred Courter, Joe Adams and Ed Darrah	

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