

SENIOR



TIMES

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

MARCH 2026 Newsletter - Turlock Branch #143

FIND US ON FACEBOOK: SIR #143 - Also Find Us on the WEB: sirinc2.org/branch143

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Message From The Big Sir...

“I got friends”

Friendship is one of the most important parts of life. In simple terms, friendship is a bond between people who care about each other, trust each other, and enjoy sharing life together.

A true friendship usually includes:

- Trust** — you feel safe being yourself
- Care** — you look out for one another
- Respect** — you accept each other as you are
- Shared time** — talking, laughing, doing things together



Support — being there in good times and hard times At every age — especially later in life — friendship brings real benefits:

Less loneliness
Better mood and health

A sense of belonging and purpose
Someone to share memories and new experiences with

Friendship doesn't have to be perfect. It just has to be genuine.

Dan Gorman
Big Sir
Big Sons in retirement

To open the SIR BRANCH 143 WEBSITE Click on QR Code.



REMEMBER SIR LUNCHEON

It is Now Time to pay your SIR Dues for 2026

DUES ARE NOW \$40 for the year

please send your check (\$40 made out to "SIR") to: Leonard Zumstein
2645 Mira Flores, Turlock, CA 95380





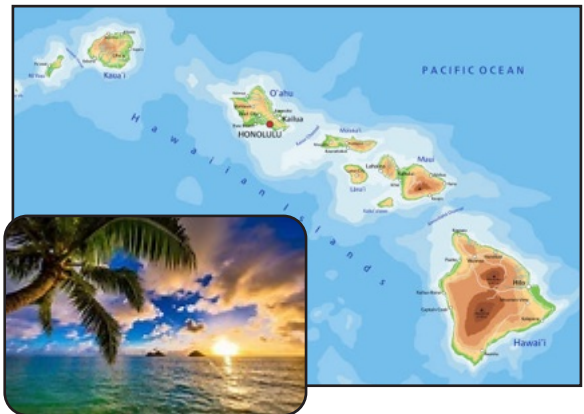
SIR TRAVEL

Travel Chairman John Cardoza



16 NIGHT HAWAIIAN ISLANDS CRUISE

ABOARD THE RUBY PRINCESS ROUND TRIP SAN FRANCISCO OCTOBER 23 to NOVEMBER 8, 2026



PORTS OF CALL Hilo, Big Island/Kahuli, Maui/Honolulu, Oahu/ Nawiliwili, Kauai and Ensenada, Mexico



A \$500 pp deposit is required to reserve a cabin.

TOUR FEATURES:

Round Trip from Turlock and Modesto Area to Cruise Terminal in San Francisco. **16 Night HAWAIIAN ISLANDS CRUISE** aboard the **RUBY PRINCESS** including shipboard meals, entertainment and shipboard activities. Includes Port Taxes.



STATEROOMS & PRICES:
OCEAN VIEW \$3750 PP DBL. -
BALCONY BB \$4790 PP DBL -
MINI-SUITE MB \$6055 PP DBL



QUESTIONS? Please contact John Cardoza (209) 483-7722



#143 - 2026 OFFICERS

Working For You!



Dan Gorman
Big Sir



Ken Gomes
Little Sir



Rock Libby
Secretary



Greg Back
Assistant Secretary



Leonard Zumstein
Treasurer



John Cardoza
Travel Chairman



Mike Johnson
Membership



Fred Courter
Newsletter



Al Kusters
Assistant Treasurer



Gary Toombs
Dine Out - Activities

REMEMBER:

It is Now Time
to pay your SIR
Dues for 2026
DUES ARE \$40
for the year



please send
your check
(\$40 made out to "SIR")
to:
Leonard Zumstein,
2645 Mira Flores,
Turlock, CA 95380

NEXT BEC MEETING

to be held at
MY GARDEN CAFE
FRIDAY MARCH 20th

Meeting Starts at 8:30am
Be there early for breakfast starting at 7:30am



SIR BRANCH #143
BOWLING EVERY
TUESDAY, 1pm \$14

at McHenry Bowl
CONTACT:
Tom Mickelson
209-632-2917





Turlock SIR #143 BEC Meeting

My Garden Cafe, Turlock

FEBRUARY 20, 2026 - 8:30AM

Meeting called to order at 8:30 AM

Officers Present: Dan Gorman, Roger Jackson, Bob Holly, Fred Courter, Greg Back, Rick Kindel, Leonard Zumstein, John Cardoza, Rock Libby and Mike Johnson.

Quorum: Secretary Rock Libby reports a quorum is present.

Secretary Report: Minutes from our previous BEC meeting as emailed and posted in the Branch Newsletter were approved with a motion by Roger Jackson and second by Greg Back.

Treasurer Report:

Treasurer Leonard Zumstein reviewed the Form 28 which showed in General Accounts, dues collected in the amount of \$1,080. Expenses of \$23.63 for printing, etc. and \$236.55 for State Assessment. Custodial Accounts show receipts of \$125 from our raffle and expenses of \$47.24 for special activities. Our checkbook balance is \$5,196.41 and cash in the amount of \$275.00 for a total cash on hand of \$5,471.41. Expenses presented at this meeting include \$30.91 for the newsletter to Fred Courter \$168.76 for badges, etc to Rick Kindel \$50 Deposit to the Carnegie Center for our Christmas gathering. Motion to approve the Treasurers Report by Greg Back and 2nd by Mike Johnson. Motion approved.

The Form 29 Audit is complete. Motion to approve by Bob Holly and 2nd by John Cardoza, Motion passed.

Membership Report, Mike Johnson reports a total of 46 present at our Wednesday Luncheon, including 43 members, 1 prospective member, 1 spouse and 1 speaker for a total of 46. We had inductions of 2 new members, Tony Bianchi and Ray Reed (by phone). Our current membership stands at 88. Roland Blewins dropped his membership and an application for Jeffrey Mithcell was received. March Birthdays were announced. The Membership report was approved with the motion by Fred Courter and 2nd by Greg Back.

Bocce Ball: Mike Johnson reports a normal turnout of 8-10 and occasionally as many as 12. As a rule, 2-3 games are played and some players stay at Dust Bowl Brewery for lunch and additional "yakking" per Mike.

Golf: Ken Kajioka reports rain has hampered play with many rounds cancelled due to weather.

Entertainment/Activities: Ken Kajioka reports the "Fiddler on the Roof" trip to Sierra Repertory Theater in Sonora is on for March 19 with 32 seats reserved. Contact Ken re: dining at Kobe Restaurant after the play.

Roger Jackson reports the RV outing to Jackson Rancheria Sunday 4/26 has 17 rigs with 34-38 people going. A few are staying in local lodging. Dinner at the National Hotel in Jackson is scheduled for 4/29 (bring cash as there will not be separate checks available). On Tuesday 4/28 there will be wine tasting at Rombauer Vineyards at 1:00 PM. There is a pre-dinner event at "Biggest Little Kitchen" with beer and wine to compliment your

shopping on 4/29. This establishment is a pleasant stroll from the National Hotel for dinner. All in all this promises to be a very nice trip.

Travel: John Cardoza is working on a new trip to Washington D.C. in October. He anticipates a cost of +/- \$5,000 per person, including air fare.

Dine Out: Gary Toombs was absent but he has arranged our next event to be held at Gray's Tavern on 4/2.

Recruitment: Rick Kindel is working on a "SIR" table at the Covenant Living Crab Feed to be held on March 7th. He needs 4 more people to complete the table of ten for \$850 or \$85 per person. This event was approved with a motion by Roger Jackson and 2nd by Fred Courter. We received a Thank You correspondence from Covenant Living for our donation of \$750.

There was discussion of Honorary Life Member status. Also discussion of signage with a proposal of 2 signs at \$150 each. The purchase of the signs was approved with a motion by John Cardoza and 2nd by Roger Jackson.

Old Business: The schedule of Branch Operations was discussed including the responsibilities of the Big Sir, Little Sir, Secretary and Treasurer. A nominating committee was formed to include Roger Jackson, John Cardoza, Rick Kindel and Greg Back.

Upcoming Speakers include Josh Weimar of the TID, March 18th, on 4/15 Divert, a recycling operation and on 7/15 Eric Holly.

New Business: 12/16 Christmas Dinner at the Carnegie payment schedule includes \$187.50 by March 6th and the balance of the \$375 cost and \$250 deposit which is refundable to follow.

Noz Castle outing: We are inviting SIR groups from Twain Harte and Modesto to join us along with the Turlock Garden Club. The motion to approve this event was made by Fred Courter with the 2nd by Leonard Zumstein.

There was discussion of the purchase of new speakers for our luncheon at a cost of up to \$500. The purchase was approved with a motion by John Cardoza and 2nd by Rock Libby. John Cardoza proposed we consider two new activities to include a Car Club and a Motorcycle Club. Somehow Rock Libby was named to head the Car Club activity and the Motorcycle Club has yet to have a person in charge.

Messaging: Rick Kindel set up a distribution list with various providers. We will send questionnaires to determine who/how many members wish to receive texts. Approval with a motion by Greg Back and 2nd by Rock Libby

Meeting adjourned at 10:06
Respectfully submitted by
Rock Libby, Secretary, Branch 143



What's Happening in the SIR #143



Pictured: TONY BIANCHI newest inductee into Sir #143. Pictured with Dan Gorman, Big Sir and Rick Kindle president 2023. (Note: Ray Reed was inducted by phone.

Pictured right: Dan Gorman Big Sir, our speaker for the March meeting in center was Anthony Butera, Area 18 Representative, and our Little Sir Ken Gomes



OUR BIGGEST EVENT OF YEAR... CASTLE NOZ CELEBRATION

price: \$50 per person

PUT IT ON YOUR 2026 CALENDAR:
MAY 22 - With "NO WAY BACK BAND"



SIR FIELD TRIPS

Jackson Rancheria

11407 Dalton Road, Jackson, CA 95642

**Deadline to book is
March 1, 2026**



Sunday, April 26 – Friday, May 1, 2026

1. Call to make your reservation:
(800) 822-9466

Mention you are with SIRS2026
2. Once you have confirmed your reservation Call or text Roger, RV Chairman

209-658-2673 or Email: rojaxn@me.com

**Dinner on
Wednesday
the 29th at
National
Hotel**

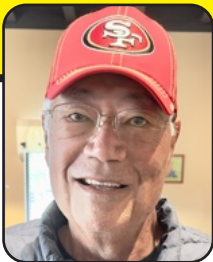
**Wine Tasting
Tuesday
the 28th,
Rumbauer
Winery -
\$25 pp**

3. IMPORTANT:

Reservations are transferrable:

Please call Roger before cancelling - 10 gigs = a 15% group discount

SIR AREA 18 GOLF SCHEDULE 2026



GOLF

**Chairman
Ken Kajioka**

DATE	DAY	TIME	HOST	COURSE	GF	CART	PRIZE	TOT	REMARKS
Mar 2	Mon	8:00 SG	Bob K	Pheasant Run	\$55		\$10	\$65	Carts Included
9	Mon	8:00 SG	Roger	Creekside	\$33	\$20	\$10	\$63	Carts Optional
16	Mon	8:00 SG	Jay	Tracy GC	\$53		\$10	\$63	Carts Included
23	Mon	8:00 SG	Bob K	Dryden	\$31	\$20	\$10	\$61	Carts Optional
30	Mon	8:00 SG	Roger	Swenson DP	\$48		\$10	\$58	Carts Included
Apr 6	Mon	8:00 SG	Jay	Ripon	\$21	\$16	\$10	\$47	Carts Optional
13	Mon	8:00 SG	Bob K	Castle Oaks	\$53		\$10	\$63	Carts Included
20	Mon	8:00 SG	Roger	Dryden	\$31	\$20	\$10	\$61	Carts Optional
27	Mon	8:00 SG	Jay	Elkhorn	\$50		\$10	\$60	Carts Included

Every Thursday we will have Golf at Creekside Golf Course 9 hole or 18 hole, contact Ken Kajioka for more info or to sign-up. Also golf on Thursday at River Oaks \$7 for 9 holes (1 week in advance, contact Greg Back)

REMINDER: When you sign-up for golf it also means you will attend 50% of the luncheons Every Third Wednesday.

Our Speaker for the March Luncheon will be...

Josh Weimer

Director of External Affairs

Josh Weimer is the Director of External Affairs at Turlock Irrigation District, where he oversees the strategic planning, development, and advocacy for the District's government affairs, communications, and education programs. Weimer also oversees the District's energy services and public benefits programs. Weimer has been with TID since 2015 and served as the District's External Affairs Manager, Government Affairs Manager, and Legislative Analyst prior to being promoted to his current role in 2024.

In addition to overseeing these key programs, Weimer works on special projects including the relicensing of the Don Pedro Project, the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act, Project Nexus, and the Agreements to

Support Healthy Rivers and Landscapes. Weimer regularly advises the General Manager in several areas of public policy and strategic planning, most recently including the support of emerging technologies in both the water and energy sectors.

Weimer earned his bachelor's degree in political science from California State University, Stanislaus. Prior to joining TID, he worked in the private sector for local developers as well as on local, state and congressional campaigns. In his free time, Josh serves on the Board of Directors for Jessica's House, and together with his wife, chases his two young sons around the neighborhood.



SIRs can utilize the facility at John Thurman Field, including the popular Pavilion Deck at the opening day May 19, 2026. This is a fantastic chance to plan for a fun and engaging member event this spring. On this day SIR members can place their yard signs or banners at John Thurman Field and may be able to have a SIR display table as well.

Next AREA 18 Meeting March 20, 2026 - From 10:30m to 12pm - John Thurman Field, 601 Neece Dr. Modesto, CA

IT'S DINE-IN-DINE OUT TIME

THURS. APRIL 2 at Gray's Tavern

5:30 Drinks - 6:00 Dinner

Main Street Downtown Turlock

Call Gary Toombs to confirm 209-604-8406



FUN TIMES!



BIRTHDAYS IN MARCH

Gordon Alldrin, Mike Barnard, Robert Boyd, Kevin Byrne, Bob Holly

ANNIVERSARIES IN MARCH

Marvin Souza, Lon Bishop, Mike Lazar, Leonard Zumstein, Edward Aubert, Ray Reed



CASTLE NOZ Dine Out

FUN
TIMES!



MARK THIS DATE ON YOUR CALENDAR

Friday, May 22, 2026

Catered Dinner

Wine, Beer, Soda and Water

Price: \$50 per person

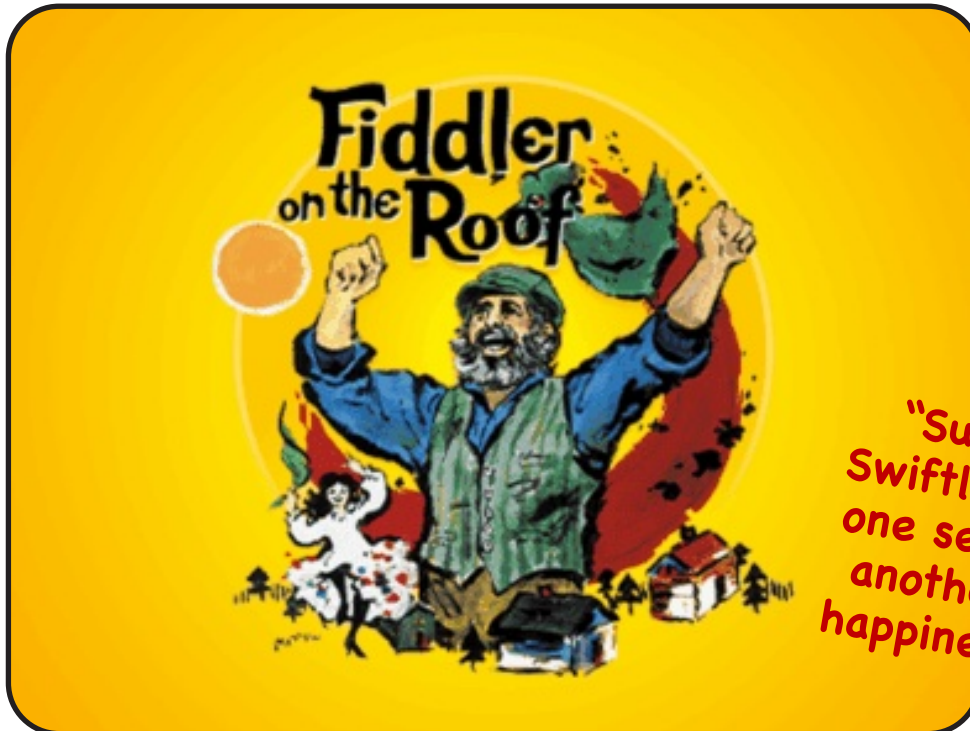
Live Music: "NO WAY BACK BAND"

Festivities Begin at 5:30 pm

SIR FIELD TRIP

FIDDLER ON THE ROOF

THURSDAY, MARCH 19th - 2:00 pm Seats \$32 each



**SIERRA
REP**

13891

Mono Way
Sonora Ca

*"Sunrise, Sunset,
Swiftly Fly The Years
one season following
another laden with
happiness and tears"*

Set in the little village of Anatevka, Fiddler on the Roof tells the unforgettable story of Tevye the milkman, who struggles to protect his family and traditions in a rapidly changing world. With humor, heart, and humanity, this Tony Award winning classic captures the universal spirit of fathers and daughters, husbands and wives, and the timeless balancing act between holding onto the past and embracing the future.

THIS OUTING IS WAIT LISTED

**DEADLINE TO PAY: MARCH 1st
MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO "SIR"**

**Mail Check to Leonard Zumstein
2645 Mira Flores Way, Turlock, CA 95380**

NOTE: LUNCH/DINNER OPEN



**Kim Castro
Sunshine & Branch
Chaplain**

Kim writes notes and sends cards to seriously sick members or recovering surgery, etc.

**COMING - FRIDAY,
MAY 22, 2026**

Castle Noz Dinner Activity

More Info Page 8

Our new yard signs have arrived, and we are looking for some volunteers:

We need 4-5 members who will be in charge of 10 signs each. These can be placed in member's yards, preferably in high traffic areas, like Seniors walking routes, shopping centers, etc. and then keep track of the signs and move them every 30-60 days for maximum exposure.

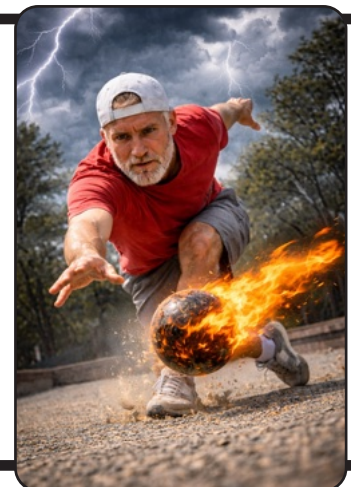


Members who are willing to place signs in their yards. If you are willing drop an email to Rick at rick@kindleandassoc.com or call **209-652-8608** and we will get a sign to you. I am proud of how the signs came out and we are hopeful we can gain some exposure to welcome in some new members.



**FROM
THE
BOCCE
BALL
COURT**

Join us for a funtime of Bocce Ball 1st, 3rd and 5th Friday's 10am at Dust Bowl
Contact Mike Johnson
209-613-6801





TURLOCK BRANCH NO. 143 OFFICERS & CHAIRMEN FOR 2026

Big Sir	Dan Gorman	404-3799
Little Sir	Ken Gomes	620-9420
Secretary	Rock Libby	634-6508
Assistant Secretary	Greg Back	585-6862
Treasurer.....	Leonard Zumstein	634-8878
Assistant Treasurer.....	Al Kusters	408-691-8795
Membership	Mike Johnson	613-6801
Assistant Membership/Mailing	Rick Kindle	652-8608
Recruiting	Rick Kindle	652-8608
Bowling.....	Tom Mickelson	632-2917
Travel Chairman	John Cardoza	483-7722
Travel Assistant.....	OPEN	
Golf	Ken Kajioaka	602-8351
Assistant Golf	Al Kusters	408-691-8795
Sunshine	Kim Castro	613-5111
Newsletter Editor/Photo	Fred Courter	202-1926
Bocce Ball.....	Mike Johnson	613-6801
Program	Gary Potter	667-8516
Assistant Program	Ken Kajioaka	602-8351
Chaplain	Kim Castro	613-5111
RV Chairman.....	Roger Jackson	658-2673
Assistant RV/Trail Boss.....	Ken Gomes	620-9420
Web Master	Greg Back	585-6862
Nominating Com. Chair.....	Roger Jackson	658-2673
Activities Dining Out.....	Gary Toombs	604-8406

Directors: Kevin Byrne, Fred Courter, John Cardoza,
Mike Johnson, Bob Holly, Roger Jackson

STATE OFFICERS

State President: Fred Serena -pizzanight@comcast.net - 510-489-0964
Branch 59 - 3213 Lake Mead Court, Fremont, CA 94555

State Vice President: Nick Feimer -nrf1000@sbcglobal.net -
317 Delmer Way, San Mateo, CA 94403 - 650-341-3015 - Branch 1

Area 18 Representative:

Anthony Butera, Anthony.btr@gmail.com, 209-988-3473