

SENIOR TIMES

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

NOVEMBER 2021 Newsletter - Turlock Branch 143

BIG SIR SAYS...

BY ROCK LIBBY

Based on the comments of the members in attendance, our Lunch in the Park last month was a big success. Based upon the rapt attention paid to our speaker, Josh Weimer of the Turlock Irrigation District, along with the many questions posed by the members, his presentation was every bit as big a success. It was great to see the enthusiasm in the group and it was obvious everyone was enjoying themselves with spirited visiting, chatting and handshakes around. One would think we have been locked up for months. In fact, we have. My thanks to everyone who was able to join us and it is just going to get better.



This month on the Wednesday the 17th we will be meeting at the Denair Community Center for our lunch and yes, that means indoors. It means we likely will enjoy a catered lunch although this depends upon whether or not our caterer can muster enough staff to make it happen. I told him I was sure we could round up enough volunteers to help with serving, etc. Another qualifier here is attendance. As you may or may not know, we have to guarantee Crust & Crumb a certain number of meals to make it reasonable for them to cater the lunch. They are working with us due to the circumstances of these times but we will have to reach a number to be determined soon. To assist with that

we will again be making our phone tree calls in an effort to learn how many of the members plan on attending. If you already know you are coming send me an email, riderlib@gmail.com or phone me at 209-634-6508 or 209-988-8396. Leave a message if you miss me.

Gary Potter has secured a guest speaker, Art Godwin, who promises to be very interesting. He is an Attorney (wait, hear me out) who specializes in water resources and environmental law. This should be interesting. Additionally, it is November and as always, we count on Rick Kindle for an observance of Veterans in general and in particular those members of our branch who have served. Good stuff so you don't want to miss it.

We are planning our December Lunch, to include your Spouse or Significant other. Stags welcome. We will be providing the Ladies meal at no cost. Scott Atherton of the Turlock Historical Society will treat us to a program featuring the Turlock region in the "Roaring Twenties". Let us know as soon as possible if you will be there.

I need to mention that as per Sir State protocols, these gatherings require proof of vaccine and the signed waiver. We have most of those in compliance already noted so entrance should be a smooth exercise.

Talk about back to normal!!! We installed a new member, Phil Franco, at the park and we will install another new member, Michael Fultz on the 17th. I hope to see you all there and, in the meantime, stay safe.

Rock

**DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT NEWSLETTER IS:
DECEMBER 1-2 and 3**

JOIN US IN NOVEMBER

11:30 am - Regular lunch meeting November 17th - WILL BE HELD AT DENAIR COMMUNITY CENTER and is being catered by Crust and Crumb.

**8 am - BEC meeting November 19th - Will be at MY GARDEN CAFE
8 am start time.**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83965148832?pwd=RFh5dFBobFR1c2lWZjBpRURMTFp1Zz09>



SIR TRAVEL

BILL STIRES
TRAVEL CHAIRMAN



**Top of Switzerland and
Oberammergau, Germany
and the Passion Play.**
**August 27 -
September 7, 2022**

Price: \$4,725 double occupancy (Land only)
Airfare to be added in October 2021.

ONLY 2 SPOTS LEFT FOR OUR GROUP

Highlights:

- 2 night stay in Zurich, Switzerland.** Tour of city and leisure time on own to explore this great Swiss city.
- 1 night stay in Interlaken, Switzerland.** A trip to the "Top of Europe" with a Panorama 360 Degree Experience of viewing France, Germany, and Italy.
- 2 night stay in Brienz, Switzerland.** Visit a Woodcarving Museum, walk through the romantic Brunnigasse, once awarded the title "Most Beautiful Street in Europe."
- 2 night stay in Lucerne, Switzerland.** A tour of the city and a farewell dinner to Switzerland. Travel through Innsbruck, Austria and on to the picturesque city of Oberammergau, Germany.
- 2 night stay in Oberammergau and the Passion Play.** The Passion Play takes place only once every 10 years and is performed by people that live in Oberammergau.
- 2 night stay in Munich, Germany.** Orientation featuring Olympic Stadium, Olympic Tower and Marienplatz.
- 17 meals, Headsets throughout the tour, and much more.**



**Call Bill at 209-988-5445 or
209-544-2684
to reserve your spot.**

**MORE TRIPS ON
NEXT PAGE**

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 - Final Payment January 10, 2022

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

Deposit will be charged when the trip opens back up.

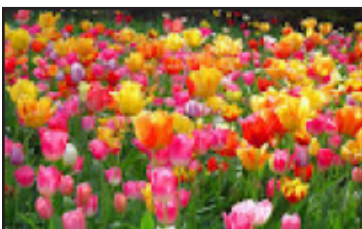


Trip Highlights:

- Transportation to and from airport
- Airfare into Chicago, returning from Detroit
- Gratuities for Tour Manager and Bus Driver
- Spend 1 night in Chicago with a guided tour of the city
- Attend the annual Tulip Festival in Holland, Michigan
- Visit Veldheer-DeKlomp Musiekparade (Music Parade)
- Spend 2 nights at the Grand Hotel, the crown jewel of Macinac Island
- Tour Macinac Island via a horse-drawn carriage
- Take the River Rouge Ford Factory Tour
- \$40 in Mayflower Money
- Much, much more



As this trip was cancelled it will fill up fast with all those that did not get to go on the trip in 2020.



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

BEC MINUTES

BRANCH 143 - SIR EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

Held on - OCTOBER 22, 2021

BEC Meeting Agenda

Call to Order: 8:00 AM

Guests: Rick Kindle, State President Elect and Richard Provost, Area Governor.

Attendance: Rock Libby, Greg Back, Leonard Zumstein, Mike Sakaguchi, Fred Courter, Joe Adams and Bill Stires

Absent: Larry Hughes, Kenny Edwards, Gary Toombs, Kevin Byrne and Bob Holly

Treasurer's Report: Leonard Zumstein.

Check book balance **\$4,161.54**,

Cash on hand, **\$375**, Total **\$4536.54**.

Checks written at this meeting:

\$17.58 to Greg Back for Picnic Lunch supplies. Approved with 1st by Mike Sakaguchi and 2nd by Fred Courter

\$53.00 To Rock Libby for Crane Park Rental Fee Approved with 1st by Greg Back and 2nd by Mike Sakaguchi.

\$346.30 to Rick Kindle for cards and brochures. Approved with a 1st by Fred Courter and 2nd by Bill Stires

Secretary's Report: The minutes were approved as emailed with 1st by Greg Back and 2nd by Mike Sakaguchi.

Committee Reports:

- Membership Report indicates Lunch in the Park had 38 attendees and 69 absences. Current membership is 109 with today's BEC approval of the reinstatement of Gary Potter and the acceptance of Michael Fultz's application for membership. Approved with a 1st by Joe Adams and 2nd by Leonard Zumstein.

- Golf report by Joe Adams notes that NCGA Dues are due by 1/1/22. The freight is \$48 payable to Sir Golf. If we do not secure a

replacement for Joe as Golf Chair for next year, he will provide sign-up sheets at the luncheon meetings and checks may be sent to another chapter golf chair or hand-delivered the morning of the tournament but you must register in advance to secure a spot to play. There is a plan in the works for a memorial event at Rancho Del Rey, Atwater for the late Ron Witort.

- Bowling
- Travel Bill:
- Bocce Ball: Gary Toombs was absent

so there was no report for Bocce Ball or Dine in/Dine out

- Travel/RV
- Sunshine
- Newsletter
- Dine in/Dine Out
- RC Flying
- Fishing
- Chess
- Card Games
- Program

Unfinished Business: Phone Tree Follow-up and Activities Chairmen (Need Golf Chairman, Bowling?).

New Business: We are back indoors for our November lunch at the Community Center, Denair. A motion was approved with a 1st by Greg Back and 2nd by Fred Courter to provide a free lunch for spouses or significant others at our December/Christmas Luncheon, also at the Community Center. Price for member's lunch is to be determined. The BEC unanimously approved the purchase of 1,000 postcards to supplement our newsletter and phone tree calls in an effort to secure RSVPs for our luncheons with a 1st by Bill Stires and 2nd by Mike Sakaguchi.

Meeting adjourned at 9:09 AM

Respectfully submitted by
Rock Libby for Ken Edwards,
Secretary, Branch 143



**COMING
IN DECEMBER**

**FREE
LUNCH**
**for spouses
or significant
others**
**at our
December
Christmas
Luncheon
at the
Community
Center
in Denair**

SIRs Personalized Hats, Shirts and Jackets

Show your pride in SIRs, wear a hat, shirt, vest or jacket.. We have some hats and shirts in stock and will have them at our the next meeting, or call Rick Kindle at 209-652-8608 to pick these up... Vests and Jackets are special order, so we need your size. Also, if you want a different color for hats and shirts, these also need to be ordered.. if you have a special shirt you want embroidered, Russel Steeley can do this for \$10... Call him at 209-922-8832 to arrange drop off... he is right here in Denair on Eastgate Drive.





WINE TASTING

By Russ Winton



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

336 Wine Line Columns, But Who's Counting

In 2007, after the newspaper agreed to print 'Wine Line', I was asked if I wanted to write weekly. My answer was "Oh no! That would seem like a real job." After 36 years of teaching, I wasn't ready for a weekly gig. It was then decided that 'Wine Line' (the editor picked that name) would be printed the 2nd and 4th Wednesday on the Food Page. Being just a rookie, I said yes, of course.

'Wine Line' turned 14 in September. I thanked the Navigator, with a big smooch for her precise directions. My goal was to take a consumer friendly approach to wine. I hope I've achieved that. I sometimes have to remind myself that it's only fermented grape juice. Wine is simple, not complicated, avoid wine snobs and trust your palate. Find a wine that you like, one you can afford, and enjoy it. There are no rules. Now, on to year 15.

Central Coast Wine Trails

Santa Barbara County has seven AVA's. Santa Maria Valley was the first, created in 1981. The Bien Nacido Vineyard was planted in 1972 and is recognized as an iconic vineyard. This is where Santa Barbara County's wine boom started and spending a few days in Santa Maria makes sense. The second approved AVA is the Santa Ynez Valley, created in 1983. In 1980 there were 21 combined wineries and vineyards, today there were more than 200.

If you plan on visiting, go to sbcountywines.com. They list nine wine trails. Here are just a few: Foxen Valley with 14 tasting rooms, Los Olivos 20, Santa Maria 14, Santa Ynez 25, and the Santa Barbara Urban Wine Trail with 28. The website has everything you'll need for a road trip. Plan your trip to include a tasting/picnic in Paso Robles coming and the same at the SLO Coastal Wineries going home.

I highly recommend Vines and Vision, The Winemakers of Santa Barbara County, words by Dennis Kettmann and photography by Macduff Everton. The photography is visually lush and with an extremely comprehensive text, Vines and Visions is the only book you'll need to understand the dynamic wine country of Santa Barbara County.

What's On Our Table

Two white deals, both winning Best of Class and Double Golds in the 2021 Sonoma County Harvest Fair. The best Sauvignon Blanc under \$25 is the 2020 Ferrari-Carano Fume Blanc, SRP \$15. The best Chardonnay under \$25 is the 2019 Benziger Family Winery Sonoma County Chardonnay, SRP \$16.99. Both are a few dollars less on sale. Do you know a serious wine lover who really knows wine and you never know what gift to give? Splurge and give Vines and Visions Problem solved. **Cheers!**

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



BIRTHDAYS IN NOVEMBER

Brad Bates, Ed Boyle, Jerry DeGraff, Ray Land, Rock Libby,
Robert Lotspeich, Greg Miranda, Gary Potter, Bill Stires, David Brown,
Larry Ashabraner, Clarence Garcia



ANNIVERSARIES IN NOVEMBER

Homer Beckler, Rick Kindle, Roy Klevmyr,
Rick Martin, Tom Mickelsen

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 info.

Rigo Arteaga Cars ETC advertisement with logo and address.

JAYS Tires advertisement with logo and contact info.

PMZ REAL ESTATE TRACEE STORMS advertisement with photo and contact info.

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

PMZ REAL ESTATE KEVIN STORMS advertisement with photo and contact info.

TURLOCK BRANCH NO. 143 OFFICERS AND CHAIRMEN OFFICERS FOR 2021

| | | |
|---------------------------------|--|----------|
| Big Sir..... | Rock Libby | 634-6508 |
| Little Sir/Web Master..... | Greg Back | 585-6862 |
| Secretary | Ken Edwards | 620-9532 |
| Assistant Secretary | Larry Date | 632-7287 |
| Treasurer..... | Leonard Zumstein | 634-8878 |
| Assistant Treasurer..... | Mike Sakaguchi | 602-5740 |
| Membership..... | Larry Hughes | 578-1194 |
| Assistant Membership..... | Ted Thorne | 874-2249 |
| Recruiting..... | OPEN | |
| Bowling | Tony Ferro | 634-8377 |
| 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..... | Greg Back | 585-6862 |
| Directors: | Gary Toombs, Kevin Byrne, Bob Holly, Larry Hughes, Fred Courter, Mike Sakaguchi | |

STATE OFFICERS

State President: Stu Williams - 510-865-5000
State Vice President: Rick Kindle - 209-652-8608
Regional Director: Dale Decker - 209-533-0455
Area 18 Governor: Richard Provost 209-222-1910