

# 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”**

**NOVEMBER 2022 Newsletter - Turlock Branch 143**



## BIG SIR GREG BACK SAYS...

### Happy Turkey Day!!!

Best wishes to you and yours this Thanksgiving. If you weren't at last month's lunch meeting you missed a good one. **We are back at the Denair Community Center and it felt like coming home.** Our new caterer, Nicolau Farms, was great and the program was fantastic. The speakers from the Tuskegee Airmen Heritage Association gave us a very interesting historical perspective from their family's point of view. Attendance was outstanding with more than 100 attending.



Our membership drive is gaining momentum. Over the past few months we have added 5 new members and welcomed back many members who have not been able to attend lunch meetings due to the branch COVID restrictions which were recently lifted. Let's maintain the momentum and keep growing our membership. I would like to ask each of you to bring a guest to a meeting, treat them to lunch and share your enjoyment of SIR.

**With our new caterer also comes the need to get a count of how many lunches we need them to prepare**

**for us. If you plan to come to this month's meeting please RSVP to Little SIR Gary Toombs by Friday, November 11, to reserve your lunch. You can reach Gary at 209-604-8406. Tickets will be sold at the door. Please remember that if you RSVP we will order a lunch for you and if you then do not attend you may be charged for that lunch. I hope to see you all there.**

December will be here before you know it and now is the time to start planning for our annual **Christmas Lady's Day lunch.** This is always a fun event and enjoyed by all. Bring your wives, sisters, daughters, granddaughters, nieces, or significant others. All are welcome. **As usual, tickets are \$20 each, advance sale only and will not be available at the door.** Lady's Day tickets will be on sale at the November lunch meeting.

That's it for this month, but I will leave you with a little seasonal trivia... A new survey found that 80% of men claim they help cook Thanksgiving dinner. Which makes sense, when you hear that they consider saying "that smells good" to be helping.

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

## JOIN US IN NOVEMBER

**11:30 am - Sir Lunch meeting NOVEMBER 16th - WILL BE HELD AT Denair Community Center in Denair, doors open at 10:30. This Luncheon will be by RSVP. Tickets will be sold at the door. The deadline for your RSVP is Friday November 11th. RSVP to Little SIR Gary Toombs at 209-604-8406 to reserve your luncheon.**

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



# SIR TRAVEL

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



## SCENIC IRELAND TRIP THROUGH IRELAND AND NORTHERN IRELAND APRIL 14-27, 2023

Price: \$5,395 Double Occupancy  
Single \$6,195 - Air Included, Roundtrip

\$500.00 DEPOSIT TO HOLD YOUR PLACE  
Final payment due on December 15, 2022

Sign up early to reserve your spot on this exciting trip

**\$50.00 Discount extended to November 30, 2022. Still room for the trip.**

**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 INCLUDING A PRE-TOUR NIGHT IN BOSTON

**10 Days, October 13 - October 22, 2023 Price: \$4,330 double occupancy, Single \$5325**  
**Air Fare to be added in December 2022. 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](mailto:bstires46@gmail.com)  
to receive a brochure and reservation form for any of the trips.**

# NEWS & NOTES - SIR 143

## SIR ACTIVITIES:

Here are a few of the activities offered by Sirs #143

**POOL & BILLARDS - Ken Kajjoka 602-8351**

**COMMERATIVE AIR FORCE -**

**Ken Kajjoka 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**. The prices are due to inflation.

**SIR Branch 143 November Lunch Meeting**  
**We are back to the Denair Community Center**

**Date: Wednesday,  
November 16th, 2022**

**Time: Doors Open at ~10:30am**

**Place: Denair Community Center**

Luncheon this month will be catered by the famous Nicolau Farms catering.

Tickets are \$20 and attendance is by RSVP. If you would like to attend please RSVP to Little SIR Gary Toombs at 209-604-8406. **THE RSVP MUST BE MADE NO LATER THAN FRIDAY, November 11th**

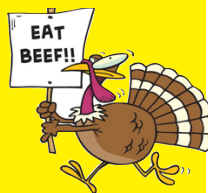
## AS PER THE BYLAWS for SIR #143 MEETINGS:

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...

The menu for the November meeting is:

- Turkey
- Mashed Potatoes, Gravy
- Green beans with bacon



We have a new caterer, Nicolau Farms, who served us a great lunch last month. But with our new caterer also comes the need to get a count of how many lunches we need them to prepare for us. If you plan to come to this month's meeting please RSVP to Little SIR Gary Toombs by Friday, November 11, to reserve your lunch. You can reach Gary at 209-604-8406. Tickets will be sold at the door. Please remember that if you RSVP we will order a lunch for you and if you then do not attend you may be charged for that lunch.

I hope to see you all there.

## Christmas Ladies Day Lunch is Coming!

December will be here before you know it, and now is the time to start planning our annual Christmas Lady's Day lunch. This is always a fun event and is enjoyed by all. Bring your wives, sisters, daughters, grand-daughters, nieces, or significant others. All are welcome. As usual, tickets are \$20 each, advance sale only, and will not be available at the door.



## IT'S DINE-IN-DINE-OUT TIME

**No Dine Out This Month**  
**as we welcome the Ladies**  
**for a special lunch in December**

# **BEC MINUTES**

## **BRANCH 143 - SIR EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING**

### **Held on -OCTOBER 22, 2022**

**Meeting called to order at 8:23 AM** Quorum is present. Site: My Garden Café

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

**Absent:** Kevin Byrne and Bill Stires

**Guests:** Rick Kindie, SIR State President, Robert Lotspeich, Mark Taylor and Mike Reed

**Treasurer's Report:** Leonard Zumstein reports income of \$30 dues from new member Roger Jackson and \$297 from Bill Stires for travel insurance. Payments of \$50 to Larry Hughes for supplies and \$32.52 for Guest Lunches. This leaves us with a checkbook balance of \$4,053.23 and cash on hand of \$275 for a total of \$4,328.29. At today's meeting expenditures of \$10.50 to Bob Holly for ice and \$51.16 to Rock Libby for drinks for our Wednesday luncheon were presented. This report was unanimously approved with a 1st by Joe Adams and 2nd by Rock Libby.

**Secretary's Report:** Rock Libby's report was unanimously approved as emailed to the BEC and published in the Newsletter with a 1st by Ed Darrah and 2nd by Bob Holly.

**Membership:** Larry Hughes reports one new application for membership from Richard Brown and two members to reinstate, Sandy Newsome and Alan Serpa. Richard Brown's membership was unanimously approved by the BEC with a 1st by Rock Libby and 2nd by Joe Adams. The reinstatement of Sandy Newsome and Alan Serpa was unanimously approved with a 1st by Bob Holly and 2nd by Joe Adams. Larry reports membership at 115 which is two over our goal for this point in the year.

**Dine In/Dine Out:** Gary Toombs reports on a very good evening at the Kindles on the 13th with approximately 50 in attendance. November and December events are to be determined at this time.

**Travel:** Bill Stires was absent but reports that the Ireland trip still has openings available.

**Program:** Gary Potter was absent but we have scheduled for November Scott Kuykendahl, Stanislaus County Superintendent of Schools. This promises to be a very interesting program and will be held at the Denair Community Center on November 16th.

**Golf:** Tom Pannier will be taking over for Joe Adams on 1/1/23. NCGA dues are due and must be paid prior to 1/1/23 in order to play with full privileges in SIR Golf. Let us all take a moment to thank Joe Adams for many (15?) years of dedication to our SIR Golf program as the Region Chairman and our Chapter Golf Chair. Well done Joe!! Welcome Tom.

**Bocce Ball:** Mike Johnson was absent but Gary Toombs reported Bocce was to be played the day of our meeting and possibly every Friday at 11:00 AM, at Dust Bowl Brewery on Fulkerth Road.

**New Business:** Our December luncheon will be a Ladies Day with tickets on sale at our November luncheon. Rick Kindie will take care of table cloths and pointsettias. Rock Libby will communicate with the Caterer regarding menus for Thanksgiving and Christmas lunches. Gary Toombs will take RSVPs for our November luncheon. There was discussion of selling tickets at each luncheon for the following month's luncheon.

There was discussion of moving HLM (Honorary Life Member) members who qualify to the status of HLM Emeritus to free up room to award more HLMs. Moving Duane Larson to HLM Emeritus was unanimously approved with 1st by Ed Darrah and 2nd by Joe Adams. There was discussion of Facebook advertising to increase membership. It was decided this would be put off until after the first of the year. Greg Back presented some budget projections which included dues and various prices. After this discussion an **increase in dues to \$40 and lunch to \$25 was unanimously approved** with a 1st by Bob Holly and 2nd by Joe Adams. Ten Pin Bowling has been discussed as a possible future luncheon site but for the time being, it was determined we will remain at Denair Community Center.

**Old Business:** We held recognition and pinning of Honorary Life Members at our September luncheon. Efforts will continue to deliver pins to our shut-in HLMs. Gary Toombs will be listed as the contact person for our ongoing Turlock Journal notice of lunch meetings. He replaces Larry Hughes.

**The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 with unanimous approval. 1st by Ed Darrah and 2nd by Mike Reed. Respectfully submitted, Rock Libby, Secretary SIR Branch 143**



# RV TRAVEL

Ken Kajioka  
RV Chairman



## BLACK OAK CASINO RV PARK TOULUMNE

APRIL 2 - April 7, 2023

More Info to follow



Sign-Up Procedure: Deadline December 31, 2022

Ken Kajioka 209-602-8351

1. Call Black Oaks 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
- 4 Reservation will ask for a credit card # but will not bill

### BRING A GUEST!

This event is open to friends and relatives. This event will be cancelled if we don't have a minimum of 10 rigs.

## SPEAKER FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER WILL BE 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 (SCOPE) with a staff of 1,100 and a budget of over \$261 million. SCOPE 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 SCOPE and now Superintendent of Schools.

Kuykendall led the Educational Options Division at SCOPE for eight years and has been instrumental in developing innovative programs for both students and adults. He's been responsible for overseeing all SCOPE alternative education schools, including the Stanislaus Military Academy, Valley Charter High School and Come Back Kids, a program offering adults a second chance at a high school diploma. He's was also responsible for the culinary arts program in Oakdale, the SCOPE Preventions Department, School Attendance Review Board, and for many years Yes Entertainment Stage (YES) Company.



# Here are a few photos from our October Dine Out at Rick and Judy Kindle's





# THE WINE LINE

By Russ Winton

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



### A Consumer Friendly Approach to Wine

A good friend who encouraged me to write this column said, "Make sure you make your column consumer friendly and none of that pinky waving wine snobbery stuff." After 15 years and 360 'Wine Line' columns, I've tried stay true to that approach. Since we're all consumers, I'm on your side. We're all looking for the best possible wine experience and that includes avoiding the boring adjective-laden-wine-speak of snooty wine snobs.

#### Trust Your Palate

Fifteen years ago I had five mission statements but I have since reduced it to one. It is, trust YOUR palate to find a wine that you like, one you can afford and enjoy it. That's all there is to it! I've also discovered a simplified wine rating system. The credit goes to [www.winecountrygetaways.com](http://www.winecountrygetaways.com). Since wine is a personal choice, trusting your palate is key to this five point scale. I love this wine = 5 points. I really like this wine = 4 points. This wine is good = 3 points. This wine is not that good = 2 points. I don't really care for this wine = 1 point. What's better than having your own personal wine rating scale?

#### September 3, 2008

I looked back to 'Wine Lines' first birthday to see what wines were on our table in 2008. Whites; 2006 Aveleda

Vinho Verde \$7, 2006 Kim Crawford Marlborough Sauvignon Blanc \$12.99, 2006 Pine Ridge Chenin Blanc-Viognier \$12, 2006 Little Black Dress Chardonnay \$10, 2007 Marques de Caceres Rioja \$4.99 and the 2007 Geyser Peak Sauvignon Blanc \$10. Red wines were; 2004 Columbia Crest Grand Estates Merlot \$11, 2005 Cycles Gladiator Cabernet Sauvignon \$10, 2004 Columbia Two Vines Shiraz \$5.99, Cycles Gladiator Merlot and Syrah each \$10 and the 2005 Gallo of Sonoma Pinot Noir, a fantastic bargain at \$8.99.

#### Year Sixteen

Fifteen years of 'Wine Line' would not have been possible without the Navigator. Together, we discovered California Wine Country in 1972 and look forward to another 50 years. Yes, the wine glass is still half full and on to year Sixteen. Cheers!

#### What's on Our Table

I spotted a unique wine label at the Grocery Outlet. It had a big C painted over a colorful piece of abstract art. It was a 2018 Columbia Valley Merlot C Reserve. The back label stated it was from the Wahluke Slope AVA and it was just \$5.99! I found the same label on a 2018 Paso Robles Cabernet Sauvignon (\$6.99), a 2019 Santa Lucia Highlands Pinot Noir (\$6.99) and a 2019 Arroyo Seco Chardonnay (\$5.99). The wines are the Sommelier Selection for the Crystal Cruise Line. If you're familiar with that cruise line, you'll know why I'm going back for more steals.

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



## BIRTHDAYS IN NOVEMBER

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

## ANNIVERSARIES IN NOVEMBER

Rick Kindle, Rick Martin, Homer Beckler,  
Tom Mickelsen



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## 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 .....	Bob Holly	668-2786
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 .....	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 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 Kindel - 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