



# The Chanticleer

Date January 12, 2012

Social Hour 11:00 AM

Place: Ramada Inn

159 website - [www.branch159.sirinc.org](http://www.branch159.sirinc.org)

Luncheon: 12 Noon

324 W. Shaw Avenue

Program - Ellen Knapp Regional CEO/American Red Cross

\$14 plus buck bucket

## Big SIR Steve Whitehead

Happy Holidays everyone! We have a lot of content for you to enjoy in this month's Chanticleer, so I will be brief.

My goal this year is to hopefully continue the progress that has been made by past leadership, the board and the great membership of Chapter 159. There is a reason why we are considered one of the best Chapters in the state. It's because of the pride of our membership. We should all be proud in that we are part of a family, not just an organization.

Since it's time for New Year's resolutions, let's continue to grow our membership, keep our finances healthy and fully enjoy each others company. As a new big SIR, please continue to lend your support, advice and guidance. I will need it.

There should be a lot of holiday stories, so let's have a great turnout at the January luncheon!

## Little SIR—Howard Zinn

Happy New Year fellow SIRS. It is my honor to make my first Chanticleer address and to serve as your Little SIR for 2012. I'll need your help, advice and welcome any guest speakers you have in mind for the coming year. In just two-and-a-half years of membership in 159, I have met and greeted several of you through golf and travel. I hope 2012 brings you lower golf scores and many trips and outings with friends and family.

I hope you all attended the end of the year Ladies Day Luncheon. I trust you enjoyed the Sunnyside choir/ensemble. I hope all of you had a wonderful holiday season and new years celebration. May your resolutions for the new year come true. Mine are health, happiness and time with family.

I look forward to working with Big SIR Steve Whitehead, the board and all of you who make 159 the best club in Fresno. As Little SIR I will bow at the podium to the

### January Menu

Meat Loaf &amp; Fried Chicken

Rice Pilaf &amp; Coleslaw

Fresh Seasonal Vegetables

1 Green &amp; 1 Fruit Salad

Rolls &amp; Butter

Coffee, Tea, &amp; Decaf

Assorted Dessert

BIG SIR. Your input as a member is always welcome and appreciated.

Our speaker for January will be Ellen Knapp, Regional Chief Executive Officer of the American Red Cross, Central Valley Region. She was nominated and selected as one of the Top Ten Women of the Year by the Marjaree Mason Center. I expect her presentation to be interesting and informative.

See you at the January meeting!

## Outgoing Big SIR—Allan Baxter

What a wonderful Holiday Ladies Day Lunch. The Sunnyside High School Chamber Choir was fantastic and for those who missed the luncheon, you really missed a great performance.

As we prepare for 2012, I hope every member thinks about how he can help make our Branch a better Branch and that you give your new Big SIR Steve Whitehead as much support as you gave me, after all, it is really your Branch! I would like to challenge each member to bring at least two guests throughout the year. There is no doubt in my mind most visitors will join making our Branch even stronger. Our "Web Master," Bruce (Butch) Evans continues to do a wonderful job with our Chanticleer on the web so check out the site. <http://www.branch159.sirinc.org>. For those who prefer to pre-pay the Buck Bucket, do not forget to bring your check for \$24.00 in January. Our Branch has local and SIR state obligations and your pre-payment really allows our treasurer to manage our funds.

Again, I thank all of the members for the suggestions and support provided this past year. I have really enjoyed being your Big SIR. Without question, any successes I have had; it is because of your help.

## Sunshine

I was out of the country for several weeks and found a number of 'Sunshine' items on my answer machine when I returned. They included messages that Dick Hall had had a little episode from which he is now recovered. Also, I was informed that Carroll Kearny had been ill along with Richard Knipper. Finally, I did receive an email message informing me that Sonny Hatter had undergone surgery; however, I have not been able to contact him since my return. Do get well guys; we're rooting for you!

**Sir George Gianopulos**

### Computer Group

The Computer Group will meet on Tuesday, January 17, 2012 at 1:00 PM, in the Woodward Park Library, located at Champlain and Perrin. Hope to see you all there, and of course, wives are always welcome.

**Dale Reichard, Computer Group Chair**

### December Attendance Report

**In December 2011, Fresno SIR Branch #159 closed the year with 290 members. 159 is the fourth largest group in SIR, but we are near the bottom in attendance with a yearly average attendance of 66%; the approximate state average is 74%.**

Members are expected to attend meetings or to notify the Attendance Chairman whenever they wish to be excused. Three consecutive unexcused absences or six unexcused absences in a twelve-month period constitute a jeopardy to membership.

**When you call or email, please include your badge number with your name. Should you say you are coming, but something arises that prevents your Luncheon attendance, please call our head Caller Ron Travis at 322-1898 by Monday 9:30am so he can reduce the meal count. If you are not coming and want an excused absence instead of unexcused call our Attendance Chairman Steve Wray at 243-1527.**

*Steve Wray— Attendance Chairman*

### Birthdays:

Ron Copp, Bill Cosner, Dennis Costello  
Hugh Cox, Mike Fair, Gerry Fields, Bill

Hedman, Elton Holland, Harold Horg  
Nick Lapietra, Ken Lust, Duke Marshall, Jack Moody, Jack Morrill, Corky Nakayama, Alex Ramirez, Ron Travis, Bob Wilson

### Anniversaries

Alan & Sue Barton  
Larry & Dian Cox  
Terry & Cynthia Dondero  
Bruno & Marjorie Ferioli  
Bob & Nancy Hanvey  
Roy & Frances Harris  
Bill & Gil Johnson  
Stan & Carole Littleworth  
Dick & Jane McDonough  
Merle & Jackie Petersen  
Howard & Diane Ray  
Orie & Dolores Reed  
Tim & Becky Robertson  
George & Barbara Rodriguez  
Ron & Beverly Travis

### Bridge Scores

#### *September 30*

1st. George Rurik, 2nd. Fred Wrazel  
3rd. Bob Haw, 4th. Bob Cleveland  
5th. Jim Whitmer, 6th. Jack Leonard  
7th. Mike Escobar

Consolation: Dick Hansen

High score: 6150

High table: 2020

Bob Haw - George Rurik

#### *November 18*

1st. Jim Lund, 2nd. Russ Mott,  
3rd. Jim Whitmer, 4th. Bob Osmandson,  
5th. Ron Vieira, 6th. Jim Peterson,  
7th. Hugh Cox

Consolation: Vic Froehmer

High score: 5520

High table: 1640

Bob Haw - Jim Lund

### *December 2*

1st. Larry Knoll, 2nd. George Rurik,  
3rd. Jim Peterson, 4th. Allen Bertelsen,  
5th. Bud Thompson, 6th. Fred Wrazel

Consolation: John Williford

High Score: 6210

High table: 1380

Larry Knoll - Ron Vieira

### *December 16*

1st. Ron Vieira, 2nd. Larry Knoll  
3rd. Bud Thompson, 4th. Jim Lund  
5th. Bert Bertelsen, 6th. Fred Wrazel

Consolation: Hugh Cox

High score: 4520

High table: 1760

Mike Escobar - John Williford

### Branch 159 January Golf Schedule *Chairman Mike Williamson 251-3103*

Thur	1/5	10AM	SG	Sherwood
Wed	1/11	10AM	SG	Ridge Creek
Thur	1/19	10AM	SG	Madera Muni
Thur	1/26	10AM	SG	Airways
Thur	2/2	10AM	SG	Belmont G&CC
Wed	2/8	10AM	SG	Madera G&CC

### Golfers Corner

Well from absolutely great golfing weather in November, we experienced two cancellations due to weather by mid month December.

Unfortunately, the first match of the month happened to coincide with the horrendous winds that hit Fresno and other parts of the state late in the evening

## **Chaplain Jack Leonard's Veterans Day request that, 'All military veterans stand up!'**



on Wednesday, NOV 30th and carried over to the next day, Thursday, DEC 1.

Belmont Country Club was the scheduled site for our Thursday match on that morning. Close to sixty SIR golfers were signed up for our first of the month all individual match. Upon arrival at the course around 7:30 AM, there were a lot of grim faces in the pro shop. We were advised that 15 trees had come down over night and that due to liability and safety issues we wouldn't be allowed on the course. Indeed, while out in the parking lot letting arriving golfers know that play had been cancelled, we witnessed a towering palm tree being bent by the gusting winds to come into contact with a live power line. Bright sparks erupted and the palm tree was served a quick haircut, many of it's fronds falling to the ground and littering the parking lot. Later, when most everyone had gone home, five of us SIRs were in the restaurant when a huge oak tree fell between the 10th and 12th fairways. This happened right about 9:00 AM, which had been our scheduled start time. Good thing that we hadn't been allowed on the course.

Bad weather struck again on the 15th of December when we were rained out at Pheasant Run in Chowchilla.

The one match that we did get to play in December before going to press was at Madera Country Club. Frost on the ground and the club's members waiting to get off delayed our start time. Once underway though, the temperature climbed, the sun was out and it turned out to be a fine day for golf. Lynn Streit won the CTP (closest to the pin) on hole 8 at 7 feet 6 inches. Rich Colby won the CTP on hole 16 at 5 feet 1 inch. First place in the scramble was captured by Don Avakian and Larry Daniels. Robert Rathburn and Paul Hyland took first place in the 2man1.

Members are reminded to get your money to John Brechmann to pay for your 2012 NCGA handicaps. Make \$39 check out to SIR 159 and send to John (or give it to him at this month's luncheon).

Chairman for December matches was Mike Moyle. I would like to thank my very diligent money collecting assistant, Ron Wilson, for a job well done. As stated by a previous chairman, it is nice to receive emails when getting requests to be added or dropped from a tournament. The requests are easily saved and a reply easily sent. Just a cleaner system than having a pencil and pad by each phone.

For those of you without computers or the internet, you might not

have heard that a consolidated 4 branch SIR (Fresno area) golfing calendar for 2012 is now available from Art Daly on line. You might ask a SIR 159 golfing buddy to run off a copy for you, as it is a handy resource enabling you to join other SIR groups in their golfing events.

Golf chairman for January is Mike Williamson, ph # 251-3103. Email mdw93727@yahoo.com Assisting will be Joe Marshall.

### November Bowling Scores

The new league has started and we invite any SIR member to come join us – Friday mornings, 10AM Sierra Lanes. See you.

DATE		Name	Score	Branch
4-Nov	HI SERIES	Bev Dickinson	651	159
	HI GAME	Jerry Brown	263	159
11-Nov	HI SERIES	Dimitri Kostiv	617	159
	HI GAME	Tom Harlan	227	175
18-Nov	HI SERIES	Dimitri Kostiv	644	159
	HI GAME	Bill Ripley	238	175
25-Nov	HI SERIES	Rich Zanarini	623	159
	HI GAME	Bill Ripley	231	175

### Where the Buck Bucket Goes

Printing/Supplies	= .96
- (Including CHANTICLEER/159 DIRECTORIES)	
Postage	= .22
Officers Expenses	= .15
State Sir Quarterly Assessment - (\$1.00 per member)	= .28
Other -	= .39
(Reserve Build-up/mileage/Bank Fees)	
TOTAL -	= 2.00

### 2012 PREPAID BUCK BUCKET

Name \_\_\_\_\_ BADGE # \_\_\_\_\_ Amount \$ 24

(Make check payable to **SIR Branch 159**) Pay at the door or mail check to: Treasurer: Shane Petersen, 3067 E Warner, Fresno, CA. 93710-4954

**' was captured in this panorama, November 11,2011.'**





Fresno Branch # 159 Inc

135 W. Athens Ave.

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Roger Deal (Perm. Hon.) 297-7022

**Activities Chairmen**

ATTENDANCE; Steve Wray 243-1527

BOWLING; Tom Harlan 431-1755

BRIDGE, COUPLES; Steve Wray 243-1527

BRIDGE, MENS; John Williford 439-3209  
DISTRIBUTION; Bert Bertelsen 432-1852  
GOLF HDCPS; John Brechmann 435-4144  
HUMOR; Perry Huffman 323-8478  
NEWSLETTER; Mike Williamson 251-3103  
PUBLICITY; Steve Whitehead 307-6830  
TELEPHONE COMMITTEE CO-CHAIRMAN;

CHAPLAIN; Jack Leonard 322-5733  
FISHING; Bob Jones (Temp) 434-6709  
GREETER; Bruno Ferioli 435-6603  
LIBRARY; John Porkorny 323-8506  
PHOTOGRAPHER; Ed Gavigan, 298-3101  
ROOSTER ITEMS; Fred Osterberg 299-2909  
Steve Wray 243-1527 and Ron Travis 322-1898

COMPUTER GROUP; Dale Reichard 299-2917  
GOLF; Mike Moyle 432-8601  
HISTORIAN; Mike Farley 834-3305  
MEMBERSHIP; Roger Deal 297-7022  
PIANIST;  
SUNSHINE; George Gianopulos 432-4630

AREA 29 GOLFCHAIRMAN Bruce Evans 271-2024 TENNIS; George Culverwell 431-6500

TRAVEL; Carrol Dahl 439-5874

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