



# The Chanticleer

Date December 13, 2012

Place: Ramada Inn

324 W. Shaw Avenue

### New 159 website - [www.branch159.sirinc2.org](http://www.branch159.sirinc2.org)

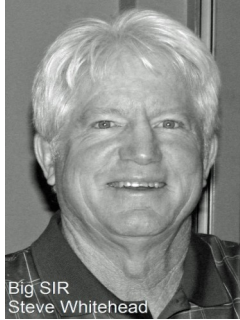
### Program - Music by Season's Greeters

Social Hour 11:00 AM

Luncheon: 12 Noon

\$ 18 per person

Well, this is my final Chanticleer article for the year. I just want to say thanks to my fellow officers, the board and all the members for all the support and help throughout the year. We have such a great group that works together so well, the organization can run itself. So there shouldn't be any fear for anyone that wants to get involved.



Big SIR  
Steve Whitehead

A couple of issues that our membership should think about in the future are 1). Converting the Chanticleer to email and our website for those with the ability to accept it. The printing and postal requirements and cost are ever changing. We can still provide a hard copy for those who are not computerized. 2). It's been several years since we

have had to incur any price increase from the Ramada for luncheons. Alan Baxter did a terrific job in negotiating this during his tenure and has set forth an agenda to keep this at a minimum for possibly a couple years to come.

We are fortunate to have Howard Zinn as the next Big Sir. I know he and the board will achieve an acceptable transition for the membership regarding these and many other issues throughout the year.

Lastly, it's been a blast getting to know everyone in the membership. The biggest fear at my age is that I would never be able to remember so many names. I have to say, I almost know all of you by name and I'm proud of it. That's how much I've enjoyed being a part of SIR's and you, the members. Keep bringing guest to keep us strong and I look forward to seeing all of you soon. Happy Holidays!

## BRANCH #159 ---

# Sons in Retirement



## Annual Ladies Holiday Luncheon



### Ramada Inn

Thursday, December 13, 2012  
11AM: Social Hour  
12 Noon: Lunch & Program

#### Luncheon Choices-

- Roast Turkey & Dressing
- Baked Ham & Yams
- Dessert -

- Featuring -

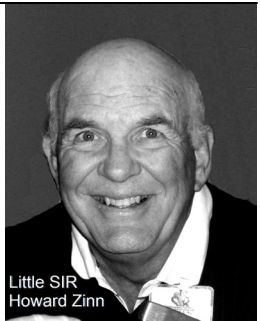
A Program of Music by

**"Season's Greeters"**

-- an Ensemble of Performers with Roots in "Wrinkles"!

-- DOOR PRIZES FOR THE LADIES --

Happy Holidays. I hope this newsletter finds you Happy and Healthy. I hope you all plan to attend the Ladies day luncheon with your special partner. Great entertainment and a lot of prizes have been secured for those who attend the party. This is my last note to you as Little Sir. I want to thank Big Sir Steve Whitehead for all his hard work and for guiding me through my first year as an officer in our group. I know he will be around to catch me if I stumble as will the other Board members who so often help run this great organization we represent. My wish for all of us is Peace and harmony for the New Year.



Little SIR  
Howard Zinn

Please Welcome James Noriega, Little Sir for 2013. I want to thank him for filling in for me in my absence at the November meeting. I apologize that our scheduled speaker, Shane Krogan, was unable to attend our meeting.

## \$18 Per Person

## SIR #159 Annual Christmas Luncheon



Reserve by mailing check to:

Shane Petersen  
3067 E. Warner Ave.  
Fresno, CA 93710

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Guest: \_\_\_\_\_

Turkey  Ham

Turkey  Ham

\*Make checks payable to "SIR Branch #159"

He would like to reschedule and tell us why he was delayed. A special thank you to John Volkman for filling in at the last minute. John has run a Marathon in every state of the US and has qualified and run in the Boston Marathon numerous times. He coaches "Team in Training" athletes.

We will have musical entertainment for our December Meeting. Our January speaker will be Janet Young, superintendent of Clovis Unified Schools. Hopefully she will tell us where our future is going as far as our youths are concerned. Many of our members have worked with and for her. She comes highly recommended.

**May you all have a blessed holiday season and Joyous and prosperous New Year.**

### Sunshine Desk

After our last meeting, upon leaving the Ramada, Stan Sherman stumbled, fell and ended up in the hospital. Word is he's doing good what with a fractured hip. Not to be passed up, John Metzger fractured his elbow in an 'in-house' fall. Talked to him - he's doing well. And Allan Baxter underwent eye surgery; he reports he's seeing well for the procedure. Let's all wish these fellow SIR's well. However, I am saddened to report our loss of Byron Carlson, Leo Bopp and Art Steffensen; Art passed away a few weeks ago, and not sure of the dates on Leo and Byron but all will be missed. "May Their Memory be Eternal!"

Note: The Branch is looking for a volunteer to take over the 'Sunshine Desk' next year. If you are of a mind to, **VOLUNTEER!**

**SIR George Gianopoulos**

### GOLFERS CORNER

Big Muni golf course (Riverside) was the site for our individual flighted tournament in November. 57 golfers turned out for the 4 flight event. In the 1st flight Ted Fox was low at net 67 followed by Jim Morgan at net 69. In flight 2

Gary Smith placed first with net 63 and Bob Moore 2nd at net 68. John Briceno had low net of the day (62) to take first in the 3rd flight. Placing 2nd was Jim Whitmere with net 67. In the 4th flight Ron Wilson edged out Bill Leavitt for first in a tiebreaker, both firing net 66.

In the CTP contests Rich Lulejian was first at 3' 10" on hole #5 followed by Gerry Fields at 5' 2". On the 11th hole Jim Morgan was closest at 15' 9" with Dick McDonough 2nd at 16' 8".

SIR 159 golf held our annual awards luncheon at the Ramada on Friday OCT 26. Perpetual and individual trophies were awarded to individuals who had won them in tournaments throughout our 2012 golfing season.

Earning Sir 159 Golfer of the Year for 2012 was Bob Rathburn. Bob earned a total of 119 points for the season (1 point for each time playing in individual, 2manBB or 4man2BB events added to points earned for being in the money). Other top point getters were Terry Dondero 2nd at 112 points, Howard Zinn 3rd at 111 points and Mike Williamson 4th at 103 points. SIR 159 Team Player of the Year for 2012 (scramble and shamble events) went to George Rodriguez with a total of 154 points. Don Avakian was second with 144 points. Cash prizes were awarded to those SIR golfers who played most often in 159 events. Playing 42 weeks out of the year and receiving \$15 each were Dell Kerns, Duke Marshall and Ron Wilson. Mike Williamson and Bob Rathburn each played 43 times and received \$52.50 each. The SIR 159 golfer playing the most this past season (45 times) was Terry Dondero who received \$75. Golfers mark your calendars now that the 2013 awards banquet will be Friday, OCT 25 in 2013.

*It's come to our attention that some of our regular golfers might have a skewed view of SIR Branch 159. SIR 159 is a monthly luncheon group first and foremost.* It offers various activities like golf, bowling, tennis, fishing, bridge, computers, etc. It is not a golf group. As retired gentlemen we are very fortunate to have such a group to belong to. At-

tending the monthly luncheons and helping support the club through the \$2 bucket is vital to support the health of our luncheon group. So golfers we need to do our part. If you don't go to luncheons someone else has to pick up for your slack. I know that I'll probably be out of town at least a couple times during the year on luncheon day. To make sure the club doesn't miss my support it's easy to write a \$24 check and put it in the bucket in January. Let's all stand behind and support this great group we belong to.

Don't forget renewal of your handicap for 2013. Make out a check for \$39 to SIR 159 and either hand it or mail it to John Brechmann (handicap chair) or Rich Zanarini (treasurer).

Serving as monthly chairman for November was Charles Barrett (what a trooper...spends the night in the hospital and is back at it the following week). Doing a great job as assistant was Nick Fierro. Chairman for December is Dennis Costello who will be assisted by Perry Huffman.

### Bridge Scores

**Nov. 2** 1st. George Rurik, 2nd. Jim Whitmer, 3rd. Bob Cleveland, 4th. Allen Bertelsen 5th. Larry Knoll

Consolation: Jack Leonard

High score: 4930

High table: 1530

Jim Whitmer - George Rurik

**Nov. 16** 1st. Allen Bertelsen 2nd. Vic Froehmer, 3rd. Hugh Cox, 4th. Jim Peterson, 5th. Jack Leonard, 6th. Dick Hansen  
Consolation: Russ Mott

High score: 4090

High table: 1690

John Williford - Vic Froehmer

### SIR 159 Couples Bridge Tournament

Bridge tournament scores are coming in slowly, but there is plenty of time for everyone who

is behind to catch up. The highest score received thus far is 4810 by John and Mary Ellen Williford. We have one small slam, bid and made, by Russ and Tess Mott. So just enjoy the holiday season and get back to your tournament plays as soon as you can.

**SIR - Larry Knoll**

**Computer Group**

There will be **no Computer Group Meeting in December**, due to the closeness of the Holidays and the usual crowding of time that causes. We will meet again on January 15, 2013.

**Dale Reichard, Computer Group Chair**

**October Bowling Scores**

The new league has started and we invite any SIR member to come join us – Friday mornings, 10AM Sierra Lanes. Anyone interested please contact Ted Fox @ 298-3179, See you.

DATE		Name	Score	Branch
5-Oct	HI SERIES	Jim Whitmer	594	159
	HI GAME	Rich Zanarini	220	159
12-Oct	HI SERIES	Bill Kinder	657	169
	HI GAME	Jerry Brown	236	159
19-Oct	HI SERIES	Carrol Dahl	660	159
	HI GAME	James Noreiga	241	159
26-Oct	HI SERIES	No Bowling		

**EDITOR'S NOTE – Mike Williamson  
ARE YOU IN THIS NEW BOOK?**

Congratulations to George Gruner on the release of his new book titled "Into the Night." Several members of SIRs 159 with World War II connections to Fresno area military bases will find their exploits revealed in fellow SIR George Gruner's new book: "Hammer Field, Camp Pinedale, and Fresno Fairgrounds." Published by the Clovis Veterans Memorial District to benefit the Fresno Veterans Memorial Museum and the military room of the Clovis Museum, the 270-page book contains more than 60 illustrations and lists more than 600 names, some of them you are sure to know. Gruner says the book is a perfect gift for an old Grandpa who wants to remember what mili-

tary life was like back some 70 years ago—or tell their offspring all about it. He says he will have copies at the December meeting. The book sells for \$36.70, including tax. He will take cash or a check made out to the Clovis Veterans Memorial District. His autograph comes free.

**November Attendance Report**

In November 2012, Fresno SIR Branch #159 had 285 members with 188 of those members attending the November 8, 2012 luncheon. There were 97 members absent. Members are expected to attend the luncheon meetings or to notify the Attendance Chairman whenever they wish to be excused. Three consecutive unexcused absences or six absences in a twelve-month period constitutes a jeopardy to your membership.

When you call or email your intentions, please include your badge number with your name. Should you say you are coming, but something arises that prevents your Luncheon attendance, please notify our head Caller Ron Travis at 322-1898 by Monday 9:30 AM so he can reduce the meal count. If you are not coming and want an excused absence instead of unexcused, call our Attendance Chairman Allan Baxter at 434-1037.

**Allan Baxter - Attendance Chairman**

**Branch 159 December Golf Schedule**

**Chairman Dennis Costello - 676-5878**

Thur	12/6	9:30	TT	Fig Garden
Wed	12/12	10AM	SG	Madera CC
Thur	12/20	10AM	SG	Airways
Thur	12/27	10AM	SG	Riverside
Thur	01/03	10AM	SG	Sherwood
Wed	01/09	10AM	SG	Ridge Creek

**A few words from Treasurer Shane Petersen**

I would like to thank all of our members who participated in the 2012 Buck Bucket program. This program allows the Branch to meet its financial obligations in a timely manner. Included in this month's Chanticleer is the sign up for the 2013 Branch 159 Buck Bucket program. I look forward to your contributions and do thank you in advance.

It should be noted that our lunch price at the Ramada for 2013 will be \$15.00. We have been fortunate to have had the \$14.00 rate for 4 1/2 years and believe the new rate will allow for some changes and improvements in our meal selections. I look forward to seeing all of you at the December Ladies Day Holiday luncheon.

**2013 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



Fresno Branch # 159 Inc

135 W. Athens Ave.

Clovis, Ca. 93611-3514

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TREASURER; Michael Berry 707-837-1792

VICE PRESIDENT; Richard Dettmer 530-755-4118  
DIRECTOR REGION 8 Edward Dorn (559) 433-0670

SECRETARY Eckart Sellinger 415-602-7176  
GOVERNOR AREA 29 Douglas Hanson 559-222-0497

**BRANCH 159 OFFICERS**

BIG SIR; Steve Whitehead 307-6830  
LITTLE SIR; Howard Zinn 431-6797  
SECRETARY; Perry Huffman 323-8478  
TREASURER; Shane Petersen 298-0976

ASST. SECRETARY; Vic Froehmer 270-4354  
ASST. TREASURER; Joe Bencivengo 298--5854

**DIRECTORS**

Carrol Dahl (2012) 439-5874  
Dennis Ensminger (2014) 297-0540

Dave Scharton (2012) 436-1523  
Claude Torrez (2014) 251-7993

Rich Colby (2013) 260-5887  
George Gianopulos (2013) 432-4630  
Roger Deal (Perm. Hon.) 297-7022

***Activities Chairmen***

ATTENDANCE; Allan Baxter 343-1037

BOWLING; Jim Whitmer 439-3799

BRIDGE, COUPLES; Larry Knoll 222-0323

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 CHAIRMAN;

CHAPLAIN; Jack Leonard 322-5733  
FISHING; Reg Rosander 897-7394  
GREETER; Bruno Ferioli 435-6603  
LIBRARY; John Porkorny 323-8506  
PHOTOGRAPHER; Ed Gavigan, 298-3101  
ROOSTER ITEMS; Dennis Costello 676-5878  
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  
POKER; Dave Metzger 298-5163  
SUNSHINE; George Gianopulos 432-4630

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

TRAVEL; Corky Nakayama 298-4258

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