



Fresno Branch # 159 Inc.  
1749 N Ring Ave.  
Fresno, Ca.,93723-9253

Return Service Requested

Nonprofit Org.  
U S Postage  
Paid  
Fresno, CA 93706  
Permit #2627

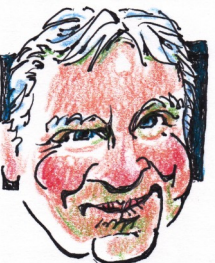
Bulletin 281	Fresno Branch No. 159	Vol. XXV - No 1
	<h1>The Chanticleer</h1>	
Date Jan. 9, 2014 Place: Ramada Inn 324 W. Shaw Avenue	<b>New 159 website - <a href="http://www.branch159.sirinc2.org">www.branch159.sirinc2.org</a> Program - Dean Eller Central California Blood Bank</b>	Social Hour 11AM Luncheon: 12 Noon \$ 15 - No Buck Bucket

I joined SIRs to go bowling and play golf. It has been lots of fun doing those activities; however the best part of SIRs is the new friendships and acquaintances I have made in the past seven years. As incoming Big SIR I hope to continue meeting more SIRS members and making new friendships. Also I hope to do as great as Howard Zinn and all past Big Sirs. Let's also welcome Dennis Costello as new Little Sir. Also, John Crawford will be taking Roger Deal's position as Membership Chairman.



Big SIR James

H A P P Y N E W YEAR. May 2014 bring all of us and are families good health and happiness. Thank all of you for your confidence in appointing me Little Sir and a special thanks to he previous Big Sirs for their advise and support. My desire is to do the best job I can to serve Branch 159. I will have a challenge following Big Sir Howard Zinn and Little Sir James Noiraga and all they have accomplished.



Little SIR Dennis

But here I go anyway. I have found as a member of this great group, SIRS 159, that being involved is he best way to participate. There are several activities and committees that is hard not to be involved in some way. Getting and being involved can mean new friends and good times, When you come to the SIRs meeting look at the activity signs on the tables. Talk to the chairman of that activity and find out what is going on and how you can get involved.

Another way is to become a caller. Its is a great way to remind members of luncheons and other activities as well checking on their well being. Try sitting at a different table for lunch and meet other Sirs. Have a good time. Volunteer to help out at the check in tables collecting money or help handing out the name badges. REMEMBER when you join Sirs you are in-

My message for the New Year is that you become acquainted with one or more SIR member that you have not met with. Wouldn't it be terrific if at the luncheons we all could walk in and sit at any random table and know everyone sitting there? Second, let's get involved in our activities. Did you know there are only six officers and seven Directors, yet there are 24 Branch Chairmen who are the core of SIRs 159. We need to thank these gentlemen, without them SIRs 159 would not be such a great organization. Become involved in the activities and remember **BRING A FRIEND to next luncheon.**

<p>SIRS 159 JANUARY'S LADIES DATE NIGHT Ovideo Ristorante Italiano 3097 W, Bullard Ave. SW Corner of Bullard &amp; Marks WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 15 5:30 DRINKS - 6:00 DINNER Choice of Lasangna, Ravioli or Pasta (Fettucine Alla Pana, Rigatone, or Spaghetti) The above served with pasta, tossed Green Salad, Vegetables, Bread and Butter Coffee or Iced Tea All for \$16.95 BE ON TIME PAY YOUR OWN BILL YOUR NO-HOST COUPLE GEORGE &amp; DOROTHEA GIANOPULOS 432-4630 CALL THEM FOR RESERVATIONS</p>	<p><b><u>NOTICE FROM THE BEC</u></b></p> <p><b>Effective January 1, 2014, Branch 159 will be assessing dues to each member in the amount of \$20.00, payable on or before January 31, 2014. This collection of dues, approved by the BEC, replaces the voluntary "Buck Bucket and enables Branch 159 to meet its "Authorized Expenses." Please complete the coupon below and bring to the first meeting in January or mail to Treasurer Shane Petersen</b></p>
--	--

**2014 Branch Dues**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ BADGE # \_\_\_\_\_ Amount \$ 20  
(Make check payable to SIR Branch 159) Pay at the door or mail check to: Treasurer: Shane Petersen, 3245 E Sample Ave., Fresno, CA. 93710-5910

volve!! Here's to a great 2014.

By the way, if you know of someone who may be an informative speaker please let me know.

The schedule speaker for January is Mr. Dean Eller, President & CEO of the Jenny Eller Donor Center, Central California Blood Bank.

**January Menu**  
**Meat Loaf & Fried Chicken**  
**Rice Pilaf & Coleslaw**  
**Fresh Seasonal Vegetables**  
**1Green & 1 Fruit Salad**  
**Rolls & Butter**  
**Coffee, Tea, & Decaf**  
**Assorted Dessert**

## SIR OF THE MONTH ED GAVIGAN

Ed Gavigan was born in San Francisco in 1922. A local product of California, he was raised in San Francisco, attended school from the early grades through Poly Technique High School, graduating with the Class of 1941. He majored in commercial subjects giving him skills and competence in office work, such as filing, typing, and short hand. These, we will learn, came in very important later. His sport was Track; a speedster in the 100 and the 200 yard dashes. During his senior year, his team won the conference.

Before the year was out, before he even got his feet on the ground from high school, the War started. As Ed tells it, "My mom went with me to the recruiting station to join the Navy!" He was in the Navy a short few weeks after signing up and found himself going through Boot Camp in San Diego. That only lasted a few weeks. He was shunted up to Bremerton, WA where he was assigned to an aircraft carrier, the USS Nassau. Almost immediately, the carrier sailed down to Alameda, picked up a full complement of aircraft and crews and was on its way to Pearl Harbor. Ed says that as they were sailing slowly into Pearl, he saw the pumping action in the attempt to raise the Battleship USS Oklahoma, one of several somber images he carries with him today.

From Hawaii it was out across the Pacific to New Caledonia where began a series of War ad-



ventures few have ever witnessed. Ed, bolstered by his 'office' education, was assigned to an important record keeping role, accounting for all aircraft, their disposition, crew assignments, their mission records, losses along with accident reports and pilot flight hour logs. How about that for a recent high school graduate! What followed were Army, Marine Corps, and Naval battles across the Pacific. They included Guadalcanal, the Gilbert, Marshall, Caroline Island battles, the re-taking of the Aleutian Islands, New Guinea and the Philippines. Ed was released in 1945 as the War ended.

Before the War, Ed had spent a short time as an apprentice in the world of the newspaper press. When he returned, he went to work for the San Francisco Examiner, a very large and widely read newspaper. He worked in the press room! He served his apprenticeship and became a full-fledged pressman. And that he was for the next 40 years - at the Examiner and later at the Chronicle when the two papers merged.

But lets not get ahead of ourselves. In 1947, Ed met Pat! Yes, Pat became Ed's wife - they are now celebrating 65 years. That is a record!

In those days, automation wasn't an important element in the machinery that produced the paper. Ed describes (and has pictures of) the enormous press, those giant rolls of newsprint paper - each weighing 3/4 tons - the print cylin-

## Computer Group

The Computer Group will meet on Tuesday, January 21, 2014, at 1:00 PM, at Woodward Park Library, located at Champlain and Perrin. We try to answer questions about computers and other technical stuff, cell phones, digital photography and such.  
**Dale Reichard, Computer Group Chair**

## Perry's January Pun

### Ole and Sven in Hell

Ole and Sven die in a snowmobiling accident, drunker than skunks, And go to Hell. The Devil observes that they are really enjoying themselves. He says to them 'Doesn't the heat and smoke bother you?' Ole replies, 'Vell, ya know, ve're from norden Minnesoota, da land of snow an ice, an ve're yust happy fer a chance ta varm up a little bit, ya know.'

The devil decides that these two aren't miserable enough and turns up the heat even more. When he returns to the room of the two from Minnesota, the devil finds them in light jackets and hats, grilling Walleye and drinking beer. The devil is astonished and exclaims, 'Everyone down here is in misery, and you two seem to be enjoying yourselves?' Sven replies, 'Vell, ya know, ve don't git too much varm veather up dere at da Falls, so ve've yust got ta haff a fish fry vhen da veather's dis nice.'

The devil is absolutely furious. He can hardly see straight. Finally he comes up with the answer. The two guys love the heat because they have been cold all their lives. The devil decides to turn all the heat off in Hell. The next morning, the temperature is 60 below zero, icicles are hanging everywhere, and people are shivering so bad that they are unable to wail, moan or gnash their teeth. The devil smiles and heads for the room with Ole and Sven. He gets there and finds them back in their parkas, bomber hats, and mittens. They are jumping up and down, cheering, yelling and screaming like mad men.

The devil is dumbfounded, 'I don't understand, when I turn up the heat you're happy. Now its freezing cold and you're still happy. What is wrong with you two?'

They both look at the devil in surprise and say, 'Vell, don't ya know, if hell iss froze over, dat must mean da Vikings von da Super Bowl



Attendance Awards. Tied for 2nd - Don Avakian with Bob Moore (not shown) \$52.50, 4th - Rick Pezzi \$30, 5th - Jim Whitmer \$15,  
1st - Mike Williamson \$75 (43 matches/weeks)



Area 29 Golf Coordinator Butch Evans presenting the Area 29 Branch Championship Plaque to SIR 159 (accepted by 159 Golf Director Mike Moyle).

## Golfers Corner

Our once a year match at Fig Garden provided the setting for our flighted individual on DEC 5th. Unfortunately we can only get on Fig Garden by booking tee times...not our usual shotgun start. Golfers at the back end of the match don't get to tee off until 11:00 AM which makes for a later afternoon finish. Our turnout of less than 40 players reflected the tee time starts. In the 1st flight Ray Phillips had low net of the day at 69. Jim Morgan followed with net 72. In flight 2 Gilbert Matossian was low with net 71. Bob Rathburn was 2nd with net 72. In the 3rd flight Rich Lewis took top honors with net 72, James Noriega next at net 73. Flight 4 had Ed Dorn capture first with net 70. Nick Fierro took 2nd with net 74. In the CTP competitions, on hole # 3 Lee Moy was close at 2' 4" followed by Mike Kochmanski at 4' 2". Hole # 17 had Steve Whitehead low at 7' 6" with Gilbert Matossian next at 9'.

When this article is received in early JAN, our new format for monthly matches in 2014 will have been initiated. What that means is that the match on the third week of each month is now a scramble or a shamble played by the whole group. There will be no 4man2BB or 2manBB played concurrently on that week. This month's match at Riverbend on JAN 16th (the 3rd Thursday of the month) will have everyone who signs up playing a shambles. Turnout for our first of the month individual matches has been good. We hope the turnout for these 3rd week of the month group events will do just as well. Having a 2nd match each month that is only one format will make it easier for our

monthly chairmen (won't have as many headaches with reconfiguring foursomes as in the 2 formats due to no shows). The 2nd tweak for 2014 is that on 5 match months (JAN, MAY, JUL & OCT) the 5th match will have a novelty format chosen by that month's chairman. This month our chairman Dennis Ensminger has chosen to have the novelty match played with each golfer selecting only 4 clubs to play with in their bag. Could it be that scores won't vary much from normal that day at Airways on JAN 30th? :-))

If you haven't noticed...Butch has 2014 schedules up on the website for both SIR159 and our other 3 local SIR branches. Dates for SIR State qualifiers and finals appear on the consolidated calendar. On our own calendar the Ron Rich match play begins on APR 4 and runs over 7 - 8 weeks. Our 159 Branch Championship will be held JUL 3 & 9.

A big THANKS go out to Little SIR Dennis Costello who finished his 4th tour of duty as either monthly chairman or assistant in 2013. Lee Moy served well collecting fees for DEC. As previously mentioned, Dennis Ensminger is our January chairman. Assisting will be Claude Torres.

### Branch 159 January Golf Schedule *Chairman Dennis Ensminger 297-0540*

Thur	1/2	10AM	SG	Pheasant Run
Wed	1/8	10AM	SG	Ridge Creek
Thur	1/16	10AM	SG	Riverbend
Thur	1/23	9AM	SG	Belmont
Thur	1/30	10AM	SG	Airways
Thur	2/6	10AM	SG	Madera Muni
Wed	2/12	10AM	SG	Riverside

der, the folding machine. He can still describe how a 1500 pound roll of paper could be manipulated by two guys, he and another pressman, onto the giant press, how 40 lb print plates were mounted on the print cylinder preparing for a print cycle. He still tells that the folded newspaper had to be, in the end, stacked by hand. Of course as time went by, much of the above was automated or mechanized to minimize the human hands-on need.

Forty years later, Ed retires! He sits around for a while, but then is swept up into the world of Sons in Retirement - yes, there in San Fran in 1985. But three years later, circumstances brought Ed and Pat to Fresno. Almost immediately, he found a brand new SIR branch being formed here in Fresno. He joined! He was here, in Branch #159, at its 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting! And he's been here ever since.

What has Ed done in and for SIR? The list is long. How about being Attendance Chairman for six years, almost from the beginning. He pioneered the Friday bowling league; he only retired from that position a couple of years ago. His hobby was photography! He put it to work in our Branch as the SIR Photographer. While he's still snapping, he's relegated himself to a lesser, assistant's position. But pictures still come out of Ed's camera.

Ed has had many honors over these 20-some years in Branch #159. In no particular order, Ed received the Honorary Life Member honor in 1997. When he completed 10 years as an HLM, he became a 'Senior HLM'. When Ed turned 90years old, he received the Senior SIR President's Award. For his devotion to SIR bowling, he was presented with a special Clock Trophy for his work with the bowling league. Further, Ed received an award from Branch #175 for his Seventeen Years as Bowling Secretary.

Ed exemplifies the 'best of SIRs' with this history of contribution to the 'well being' of this

organization. We often say to our members, 'Get involved! The organization is only as good as that to which is contributed by its members!' Here, above, is an example of what one of our members did over his 20-plus years. It all has made this organization a better place to be, to be a SIR in Branch #159!

Thanks for everything **Ed Gavigan!**

**By George N. Gianopulos**

### Bridge Scores

**Dec. 3** 1st. George Rurik, 2nd. Fred Wrazel  
3rd. Jim Peterson, 4th. Gene Tognazzini  
5th. John Williford

Consolation: Allen Bertelsen

High score: 6180

High table: 1780

John Williford - Jim Peterson

**Dec. 17** 1st. Jim Lund, 2nd. John Williford  
3rd. Fred Wrazel, 4th. Gene Tognazzini  
5th. Ron Vieira, 6th. George Rurik  
7th. Larry Knoll

Consolation: Bob Cleveland

High score: 4150

High table: 1700

Ron Vieira - Jim Peterson

### December Birthdays

Don Avakian, Don Blosser, Bo Bolin, Don Corley, Joe D'Amico, Bruno Ferioli, Vic Froehmer, Frank Kurihara, Stan Littleworth, Pete Martinez, Carl Mhoon, Chuck Royce, George Rurik, Tom Ryno, George Schmidt, Ed Smiley, Fred Stein,

### January Birthdays

Ron Copp, Dennis Costello, Hugh Cox, John Crawford, Mike Fair, Gerry Fields, Bill Hedman, Gary Kilgore, Nick Lapietra, Oz Lone Ken Lust, Duke Marshall, Jack Morrill, Corky Nakayama, Gary Parnell, John Rackin, Alex Ramirez, Michael Rumley, Ron Travis,

**December Anniversaries**

Henry & Peggy Aranjó  
 Norm & Betty Bainter  
 Bud & Diane Burrows  
 Lee & Val Fanucchi  
 Perry & Barbara Huffman  
 Rich & Judi Lewis  
 Ken & Helen Lust  
 Gene & Linda Marshall  
 Manuel & Lasara Nunez  
 Rick & Debbie Pezzi  
 Michael & Phyllis Rumley  
 Gene & Karen Tognazzini  
 Jack & Leslie Whitaker

**November Bowling Scores**

The time change and medical problems have cut our numbers down but we are still rolling. Certainly a few more of you could use a Friday afternoon escape to join your fellow Sirs for a couple hours of fellowship. – Friday afternoons, 1 PM Sierra Lanes. Anyone interested please contact Duke Marshall @ 447-5388. It is all handicapped . See you there

1-Nov	Hi Series	Tom Harlan	634	175
	Hi Game	Tom Harlan	252	175
8-Nov	Hi Series	Duke Marshall	640	159
	Hi Game	Vic Froemer	245	159
15-Nov	Hi Series	Bill Ripley	693	175
	Hi Game	Bill Ripley	276	175
22-Nov	Hi Series	Duke Marshall	647	159
	Hi Game	Vic Froemer	224	159
29-Nov	Hi Series	Duke Marshall	627	159
	Hi Game	Duke Marshall	224	159

**January Anniversaries**

Alan & Sue Barton  
 Sam & Marissa Calaguas  
 Larry & Dian Cox  
 Bruno & Marjorie Ferioli  
 Roy & Frances Harris  
 Jim & Jeanne Johnson  
 Stan & Carole Littleworth  
 Dick & Jane McDonough  
 Merle & Jackie Petersen  
 Howard & Diane Ray  
 Orié & Dolores Reed  
 George & Barbara Rodriguez  
 Ron & Beverly Travis

**Sunshine**

I am pleased to report that Bob Wilderson's six-hour surgery went well. After a week in the hospital, Bob is home in time to spend the holidays with Elaine and the family, while feeling much better. The prognosis is positive, and he expects to attend the January luncheon meeting. Good news, indeed.

In the same vein, when you see fellow roosters Jim Whitmer and Dennis Costello, please greet and encourage them with expressions of support as they deal with nagging but troublesome health issues.

There are, undoubtedly, others who struggle at this season with health, loss and loneliness issues - and do so silently and out of sight. Let us be alert and responsive to our brothers in need. Spread comfort and support with Christmas joy while doing all we can to help each other.

**Happy holidays to all! May you and your family, each and every one, enjoy a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!!**

**Attendance Report**

In December, 2013, SIR Branch #159 had 297 members. There were more than 200 SIRs and there ladies in attendance at the Ladies' Day Luncheon. The Clovis North Chamber Choir got us into the holiday spirit with many great holiday tunes. Members are expected to attend the monthly meeting or to notify the Attendance Chairman when the wish to be excused (except for the Ladies Days in May and December). Three consecutive unexcused absences or six unexcused absences in a twelve month period constitutes a jeopardy to membership. If you are unable to attend a future meeting, PLEASE call 447-5388 or send an email to [DukMarshal@aol.com](mailto:DukMarshal@aol.com) When you call or email please include your NAME and BADGE NUMBER

***Duke Marshall, Attendance Chairman***

**Travel**

***PART I*** - Thanks membership for your participation in our recent Travel survey. Here are the results with 77% returning the ballots. Almost 100 SIRs have travel plans for 2014, with nearly 40 people who haven't made any arrangements yet. Over 80 veterans were amongst those in attendance; 40 others did not serve. The Sunday brunch at the Wawona Hotel in Yosemite garnered the most interest, with military base visitations running a close second. Many of you expressed an interest in a FSU game/tailgate. Out-of-town trips mustered the most response with many selecting San Luis Obispo; Monterey followed closely.

Rounding out the tally were votes for LA and SF (in that order). Of the local places,

the Underground Gardens was clearly top on some people's list; the Meux House was the second choice.

Suggestions were made for a European trip (Italy, Spain, Portugal, England), with popular stops in the East Coast (Boston, DC, New England) rated next. Rounding out the suggestions were trips to Alaska, the Pacific NorthWest (Idaho, Oregon, Washington), and the Hawaiian Islands. Pack your bags! PS See the actual tally on the SIRS 159-Travel-website.

***PART II*** - Some of the fellow SIRs have provided invaluable assistance. I'd like to recognize those who have been helpful:

Don Ryan ([www.vacationsbyrail.com](http://www.vacationsbyrail.com)), Mike Kilijian (Paso Robles Air Museum, Camp Roberts-USO), Charles Barrett (Sacramento-National Railroad Museum), Gilbert Matossian (cruise interest), Joe Montegano, George Rodriguez, and Mike Moyle (fistful of pencils), Don Avakian (box of pencils), Mr/Mrs. Russ Hewer (distributing flyers), and Bruce Evans (Travel website postings). Plus, morale support from Don Blosser, John Crawford, Vic Froehmer, Perry Huffman, Duke Marshall, Corky Nakayama, Reg Rosander, Lynn Streit, Bob Wilson, Howard Zinn, and Mike Williamson. Table 14 did an excellent, 100% effort to discuss & tally their own results. Special thanks to Ray Ensher for leading the way.