



Fresno Branch # 159 Inc.  
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Bulletin 286 Fresno Branch No. 159 Vol. XXV - No 6



# The Chanticleer

Date June 12, 2014  
Place Ramada Inn  
324 W. Shaw Ave

**New 159 website - [www.branch159.sirinc2.org](http://www.branch159.sirinc2.org)**  
**Program - Kerri L Donis Fresno Fire Chief**

Social Hour 11AM  
Luncheon: 12 Noon  
\$ 15 & no Buck Bucket

Here it is June and the hot weather has started. Enjoy the few 80 degree days we have left, it's going to be a long stretch of 90+ degrees days. I hope you enjoyed the Mother's Days luncheon at Pardini's. (I missed it since I was in Pennsylvania.) The few individual's I have asked about it, tell me that the service was excellent and the food was good. As I have said before last year another group scheduled the two dates at the Ramada on the second Thursdays of May and November. (November 13 will also be at Pardini's). So far this year most things are going great, we are still adding more members and attendance at the luncheons is ok according to Duke Marshall. The same amount of people as usual are enjoying SIRS activities, specially golf. We still need more bowlers on Friday afternoons at 1 pm at Sierra Lanes.



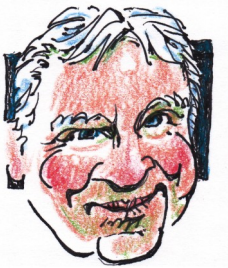
Big SIR James

**There are about 34 people who have not paid the yearly \$20 fee (really this is June the middle of the year). You will get a notice on your badges to pay Shane Peterson at the next luncheon in June.**

Also, let's all congratulate Lee Moy, our Travel Chairman. The one complaint I have heard of Lee is that he is **trying too hard**. *Come on, really, are you serious?* Didn't we all join SIRS to do things that are fun, meet new friends and enjoy their companionship? Lee, the Fresno State baseball and the tailgate were terrific. I really enjoyed it.

Lastly remember to attend the June luncheon and bring a guest?

The heat has all ready started and still life in the Valley goes on. And so does SIRS 159. A reminder, if you are interested in a position on the board, chairing an activity or running for Little Sir please let Howard Zinn or a board member know. Elections are to be scheduled soon. It is the members that make 159 the best and most active SIRS group in the state. Being a member and being involved is why our branch is successful.



Little SIR Dennis

Speaking of members, how about Lee Moy. He is and has really taken on the travel chair job with a lot of energy and gusto. Keep up the good work. By the way, our Spring ladies day luncheon was

## Normandy American Cemetery and Memorial at Omaha Beach





great. Our thanks to Joe Bencivengo and Shane Peterson for a job well done. Joe had arranged for our entertainment, PIPE ON THE HOB, an Irish & Celtic ensemble that had the folks a jumping. Guys and their Gals enjoyed a great meal and some gifts. Thanks guys. By the way, we have some members going on the HONOR FLIGHT in June. Have a safe trip gents. Our July luncheon speaker will detail their trip. Remember to stay cool and hydrated when your out and about. See you June12.

Our speaker for the month of June will be Kerri L. Donis, Fresno Fire Chief

**Sunshine**

Hey, Fellow Roosters.  
Keep these old birds in your thoughts and

prayers, and give them a word or two of encouragement, will you? To wit: SIR Steve Chase; SIR Michael Rumley; SIR John Racklin , SIR John Brechmann, SIR Dave Scharton, and SIR Mike Williamson.

As always, there are other guys that we don't know about who could profit from some kind words from a pal. Don't hold back, brothers. We are, after all, in this thing together.

*“Kind hearts are the gardens, kind thoughts are the roots, kind words are the flowers, kind deeds are the fruits. Take care of your garden, and keep the weeds out, fill it with sunshine, kind words, and kind deeds.” Quote - Henry Wadsworth Longfellow*

*Charles Barrett <charles@thebarretts.com>  
Sunshine Committee*

**SIR OF THE MONTH – RAY ALLEN**

Meet Ray Allen! Ray is one of our earliest Branch #159 members, active as few have been, having held lofty offices and chaired SIR events. Let’s take a look.



Ray Allen was born in Michigan, somewhere North of Detroit, about 20 miles he says. Home was out in the countryside in Oakland County. Out there, on a farm, the family raised chickens, turkeys, rabbits and pigs. There was room to raise vegetables, corn and fruit. Ray opines, “We didn’t live in the sticks! That was about two blocks away.” Ray grew up with his three sisters and four brothers.

In this rural setting, school was a two room schoolhouse located about a half a mile from the house. Things didn’t proceed well there; turns out the school was located just outside the county line. He had to go elsewhere. He was able to enter a school about one-and-a-half miles from

the house. This one he was able to attend for the next nine years. However, high school brought new issues, new challenges for Ray. To attend high school, Ray had to leave home and live with his grandparents in Rochester, MI, a small town of about 2500 folks. Ray reflects, “I started school in town with the big kids, fresh out of the sticks and dumber than dirt.” An exaggeration I’m sure! But one thing is for sure; Ray studied, worked, and did a whole array of sports. First the work. He did jobs - anything for a buck - like pumping gas, working the seed farm, life guard, the cemetery, lawns - needing mowing, the dairy farm, and on and on and on. That kept him in school, in clothes and with food. He says, ”I started high school at five feet two and was six feet two at graduation in June 1951.” His real love was baseball. But along with baseball, he played football, basketball and ran the mile in

vision who aced the 5th hole at Riverside on Wednesday, April 16th. Gilbert used a 7 iron from the 145 yard white tees. Witnessing Gilbert’s hole in one was fellow SIR 159 golfer Gary Parnell along with a couple of Riverside regulars. This was Gilbert’s first ever ace...but with his grooved swing in all probability it won’t be his last.

Thanks go to Gary Smith for serving as our monthly chairman in May...which had 5 events. Doing a great job collecting the money as assistant was Vic Froehmer. Serving as chairman for JUN will be Little Sir Dennis Costello...assisted by SIR Perry Huffman.

**Perry’s Pun for June**

The teacher asked the class to use the word “fascinate” in a sentence. Molly put up her hand and said, “My family went to my granddad's farm, and we all saw his pet sheep. It was fascinating”.

The teacher said, “That was good, but I wanted you to use the word “fascinate, not fascinating”.

Sally raised her hand. She said, “My family went to see Rock City and I was fascinated”.

The teacher said, “Well, that was good Sally, but I wanted you to use the word fascinate”

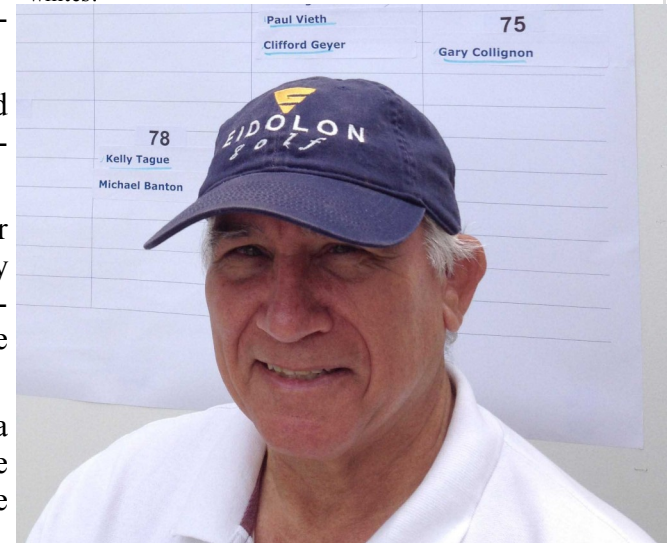
Little Johnny raised his hand. The teacher hesitated because she had been burned by Little Johnny before. But she finally decided there was no way he could damage the word “fascinate” so she called on him.

Johnny said, “My aunt Carolyn has a sweater with ten buttons, but her boobs are so big she can only fasten eight!” The teacher sat down and cried.

**GOD – I love this little Johnny!!!**



Jim Morgan and wife Annie standing below tee sign for the 18th hole at Chabot. Note that the 18th is a Par 6...649 yards from the whites!



Posting board at Poppy Ridge shows Butch Evans qualifies for the finals of the Senior Net Championship

## Computer Group

The Computer Group meeting will be on Tuesday, June 17, 2014, at 10:00 AM, at the Woodward Park Library, located at Champlain and Perrin. We can discuss and learn about all things technical, computers and new operating systems and programs, new smart phones, digital photography, and anything else you like.

**Dale Reichard, Computer Group Chair**

## GOLFERS CORNER

SIR 159 golf is heating up...not only weather wise but also with the onset of our competitive season. With so many matches and competitions being played there is a lot to report.

We'll start with our flighted individual match held at Madera Muni on MAY 1 On CTP hole # 6 Charlie Barrett was close at 3' 3". Russ Hower placed 2nd at 5' 5". On #15 Reg Rosander had a kick-in at 11" with Bob Rathburn not far behind at 3' 7". That's four tee shots within 6' of the pins...I guess the nice weather really brings out some good golf. In flight 1 Mike Moyle was low with net 65 followed by John Adams at net 68. The 2nd flight had Gary Kilgore in first with net 62, Dennis Rich next in a tiebreaker at net 65. Flight 3 saw Don Avakian with low net of the day at 59, Reg Rosander next at 63. In the 4th flight Nick Fierro took first in the tiebreaker over John Briceno, both with net 64s. Charles Barrett had the other low net 59 in flight 5 followed closely by Vic Froehmer at 60.

After the match SIR 159 had a lunch social at the course. The service was a bit ragged...but the food was great. I'd definitely recommend the grilled chicken sandwich next time you play Madera. :-)

The 1st round of our annual Ron Rich match play took place at Madera. Winning their matches and advancing to the 2nd round were : Mike Williamson, Charlie Barrett, Vic Froehmer, Dell Kerns, Rich Fimbres, John Briceno, Gary Smith, Reg Rosander, Butch Evans, Bobby Jones,

## Branch 159 June Golf Schedule Chairman Dennis Costello 676-5878

Thur 6/5	8AM	SG	Dinuba
Wed 6/11	9AM	SG	Madera CC
Thur 6/19	8AM	SG	Airways
Thur 6/26	8AM	SG	Riverside
Thur 7/3	8AM	SG	Lemoore
Wed 7/9	9AM	SG	Sierra Meadows

Gary Kilgore, Andy Evanko, Joe Hushek, John Volkman, Mike Moyle and Gilbert Matossian. As this article goes to press, some of these gentlemen had won their 2nd match (Belmont) and were advancing to their flight's championship round. Included in that group were Froehmer, Rosander, Jones, Evanko and Moyle.

On to our NCGA associate club competitions. In our club qualifier for the Associate Club Four-Ball Net Championship (2manBB) held at Pheasant Run, three twosomes qualified to advance to the sectional at Ridgemark in Hollister on MAY 29. Those were Froehmer/ Dana Khaler, John Adams/Evans and Matossian/Moyle. At our club qualifier for the Associate Club Championship (4man2BB) held at Riverbend, the foursome of Adams, Evans, Moyle & Matossian advanced to the 1st sectional that will also be held at Riverbend on JUN 26.

In the area 29 qualifier for the State SIR scramble held at Ridge Creek Dinuba, the team of Evans, Dan Rodriguez, Khaler and Bob Wiens fired a gross 65, net 54.7, to advance to the state finals to be held at Ranch Solano G.C. in Fairfield on AUG 11. The 2nd place team, with an outside chance of being invited to the finals, was Moyle, Kilgor, Joe Marshall and Alan Bynum (gross 66, net 57.5).

In NCGA Senior Net Championship qualifiers held on MAY 8, both Evans and Matossian qualified to move on. Gilbert qualified at Ridgemark in Hollister and Butch qualified at Poppy Ridge in Livermore. Both golfers will play in the finals to be held at Del Monte in Monterey on JUN 2 & 3.

Last but not least, kudos go to Gilbert Matos-

track.

Life took a different turn upon graduation. Ray Allen received his draft notice in June 1952; the army wanted him. Assessing his options, Ray joined the Air Force. He reflects, "This was one of the best decisions of my life." His service spanned four and a half years. In that time, after the preliminaries of basic and specialty training, Allen was sent to Castle Air Force Base near Merced. There, he served as a crew chief on the B-47 and later the B-52. As Crew Chief, Allen supervised the service of the aircraft, i.e. fuel, expendables, armament, weapons, everything needed for the hours-long missions they flew routinely. This, of course, was in the period of the Cold War! Aircraft took off from U.S. airbases such as Castle Field, flew a mission to the Soviet Union, and turned back only when it reached the Soviet border. Not too far behind was another U.S. aircraft, and another, and another. How many times did Allen fly this course? Many, many times. Should the aircraft land somewhere along the way or on return, the Crew Chief saw to it that the plane was serviced for completion of the mission.

Fresno, California was not too far from Castle for Ray Allen. Night spots were known and frequented. It was here that Ray met 'Birdie', "At the Rainbow Ballroom!" he says. They would marry in Reno in 1955; that's 59 years for Ray and Birdie!. Their first child was born at the base hospital in 1956.

Ray Allen was release from the service in 1956, whereupon he moved his family back to Michigan. That lasted about three years. Things did not go well, Now, looking over a family of four children, 3 girls and a boy, Michigan did not fit the bill for him. As he puts it, "Got back to California with what fit in the car and ten bucks to start over again." What followed was a short stint with a telephone company in Exeter, and then a 29 year career with the City of Fresno. For a time he handled about 1500 head of cattle,

some saddle horses and raised feed for them all. That was at the Water Treatment Plant where he was also a plant operator for about five years. From there, he got into supervision and management. It was in that period that he received a degree in Public Administration. He retired in 1988.

"What to do in retirement?", Ray asked himself. What loomed before him was a new-found organization in Fresno called 'Sons in Retirement'. Hummm! Maybe this would do it. Well, it did! Ray joined SIR Branch #159 in 1992. In that time, he has rarely missed a meeting except for a period of 2 years when a serious health issue befell him. Thanks to family, friends and prayer, he survived. He is with us once more. Over his SIR years, he has played golf, served as Secretary for 3 years, became Little SIR in 2002. And it was in 2003 that Ray Allen took over the reins as Big SIR. He also served as a member of the Board of Directors for a couple of years. He reflects, "I have truly enjoyed my time with this group, making new friends at the meetings and on the golf course." There is little more one can ask for at this time in his life!

It is we, Ray Allen, SIRS of Branch #159, who have benefited from and enjoyed *knowing you!* For this, *we thank YOU!*

- George Gianopulos

**Perry Pun** Morris, an 82 year-old man, went to the doctor to get a physical. A few days later, the doctor saw Morris walking down the street with a gorgeous young woman on his arm. A couple of days later, the doctor spoke to Morris and said, 'You're really doing great, aren't you?' *Morris replied, 'Just doing what you said, Doc: 'Get a hot mamma and be cheerful.'* The doctor said, 'I didn't say that.. I said, 'You've got a heart murmur; be careful.'



## June Menu

**Beef Tri-Tip Roast**  
**Sesame Chicken Teriyaki**  
**Roasted New Potatoes**  
**Macaroni Salad**  
**Fresh Seasoned Vegetables**  
**1Green & 1Fruit Salad**  
**Rolls & Butter**  
**Coffee, Tea, & Decaf**  
**Assorted Desserts**

### **Bridge Scores**

**April 29** 1st. Jim Lund, 2nd. George Rurik  
 3rd. John Williford, 4th. Bob Cleveland  
 5th. Vic Froehmer, 6th. Larry Knoll  
 7th. Gene Tognazzini, 8th. Fred Wrazel  
 9th. Hugh Cox  
 Consolation: Allen Bertelsen  
 High score: 5290  
 High table: 1900  
 Bob Cleveland - Larry Knoll

**May 6** 1st. Jim Lund, 2nd. Jack Leonard  
 3rd. Larry Knoll, 4th. Bob Cleveland  
 Consolation: Fred Wrazel  
 High score: 3630  
 High Table: 1270 Jim Lund

**May 20** 1st. Jim Lund, 2nd. John Williford  
 3rd. Larry Knoll  
 Consolation: Fred Wrazel  
 High score: 4810  
 High table: 1990  
 Larry Knoll John Williford

### May Anniversaries

John & Lynn Adams  
 Bo & Loretta Bolin  
 George & Betty Culverwell  
 Steven & Flo Deak

George & Irene Gruner  
 Gordon & Nadine Lowe  
 Jack & Patty Morrill  
 Bob & Shirley Rathburn  
 Dave & Layne Scharton  
 Jim & Mary Vaughan  
 Stan & Ruth Weinstein  
 Mike & Karen Williamson  
 Dan & Pauline Ybanez

### June Anniversaries

Wanda & Jack Begley  
 Elaine & Mel Bisgaard  
 Angela & John Briceno  
 Julia & Don Corley  
 Martha & Roger Deal  
 Becky & Tom Dougherty  
 Myrtle & Estle Finney  
 Dorothy & Lee Halverstadt  
 Hilda & Charles Jaurigue  
 Betty & Bob Knebel  
 LuAnn & Michael Levine  
 Jackie & Tom MacNicol  
 Mi & Lee Moy  
 Sandy & Corky Nakayama  
 Barbara & Gary Parnell  
 Stephanie & Shane Petersen  
 Evelyn & George Rurik  
 Sharon & Tom Ryno  
 Helen & Warren Shaw  
 Ginny & Bob Sheffield  
 Harriet & Jim Sheldon  
 Bernice & Gus Short  
 Sharon & Bernie Stepanek  
 Nancy & John Wright  
 Marjorie & Jim Wulf  
 Mary & Rich Zanarini

### May Birthdays

Allan Bertelsen , Howard Boston , John  
 Briceno Joe Cabral , Rich Colby, George  
 Culverwell, Steven Deak , Bob Doig ,Bob

Dowell, George Gong, Russ Hewer ,  
 Dimitri Kostiw, Gordon Lowe , Richard  
 Nelson, Gerald Nelson, Warren Nelson,  
 Jack Neugebauer, Manuel Nunez, Fred Os-  
 terberg, Dale Reichard, Art Rice, Mike Rob-  
 inson, Gus Short, Lou Shuemake, Claude  
 Torrez, Jim Vaughan, Stan Weinstein, Bob  
 Wiens , Erv Zander

### June Birthdays

Jack Begley, Pete Bergman, Edward Casta-  
 non, Daryl DeRouchey, Richard Fimbres,  
 Ron Jones, Allen Layne, John Leal, Bill Ly-  
 ons, Jim Mobley, Mike Moyle, Merle Peter-  
 sen, Charlie Philips, Graham Ruff, Stan  
 Silva, Bernie Stepanek, Mike Williamson,  
 Fred Wrazel, John Wright

### Travel

Travel is going Green. Consult SIR 159  
 website for detailed information regarding: 1)  
 a particular travel event/activity, 2) yearly  
 calendar, and/or 3) surveys.

Please complete the spring 2014 survey  
 and e-mail your answers to Lee Moy. Only  
 interested persons will receive e-mails per-  
 taining to a particular event/activity. This  
 will reduce e-mails sent. Saving on the cost  
 of printing will downsize the carbon foot-  
 print.

Thinking about going on the USS Hornet  
 trip? At the June luncheon give your  
 SIR 159-\$55 check to Lee Moy. A bus will  
 be reserved once we have 50 sign-ups. Dead-  
 line: July, 11th .

### Attendance Report

In May, 2014, SIR Branch #159 had 266  
 active members. We enjoyed the Ladies Day  
 luncheon at Pardini's. We were entertained

by a local group of musicians known as Pipe  
 on the Hob. I have to admit that the first La-  
 die's Day luncheon I attended with Sirs was in  
 May of 2010 and it was a packed house. I was  
 disappointed in this years turnout. I believe we  
 were just under 150 in attendance ( or 75 Sirs  
 + their ladies). That means that just a tick  
 over 25% of our great branch were there.  
 Members are expected to attend the monthly  
 meeting or to notify the Attendance Chairman  
 when the wish to be excused. Three consecu-  
 tive unexcused absences or six unexcused ab-  
 sences 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 [DukMar-  
 shal@aol.com](mailto:DukMarshal@aol.com) When you call or email please  
 include your NAME and BADGE NUMBER  
**Duke Marshall, Attendance Chairman**

### April Bowling Scores

Although we're few in number we're the fin-  
 est in the land. Hurry back Carrol, Leroy,  
 Joe, and Rich. We invite any and all SIR  
 members to come join us – Friday after-  
 noons, 1 PM Sierra Lanes. If you can walk 4  
 steps, you can bowl! Anyone interested  
 please contact Duke Marshall @ 447-5388,  
 See you.

Date	Name	Score
4-Apr	Hi Series Vic Froemer	656 159
	Hi Game Tom Harlan	250 175
11-Apr	Hi Series Vic Froemer	650 159
	Hi Game Vic Froemer	269 159
18-Apr	Hi Series Vic Froemer	641 159
	Hi Game Vic Froemer	226 159
25-Apr	Hi Series Duke Marshall	600 159
	Hi Game Duke Marshall	224 159