



The Chanticleer

New 159 website - www.branch159.sirinc2.org

Date January 14, 2016

Place Pardini's Restaurant
2257 W. Shaw Avenue

Social Hour 11:00 AM

Meeting : 12 Noon
\$ 15 and no Buck Bucket

Program: The RAMP Program & How It Works

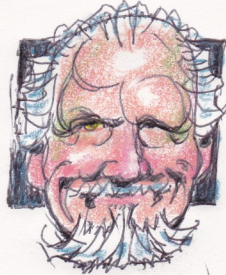
It has been a pleasure serving you as secretary and humorist and then, getting speakers for our lunch as your Little SIR last year.

Years of give and take, with old and new SIR friends, continues to be a joy. Your humor and rough and tumble fellowship during various activities ...is all good and welcome fun.

As your Big Sir...my first priority is to be your cheer leader and to facilitate your ideas to improve and grow our Branch #159. We will do that by finding more ways to keep our Branch healthy and have fun.

Once we launch the year, please start thinking about getting your ideas to officers who will bring them to the board for discussion. Your SIR Directory is a good place to find officers and activities chairmen to discuss thoughts and to pass them along.

Little Sir, Gary Smith and his team will be working the **(Big SIR continued on Page 2)**



Big SIR Perry



Little SIR Gary

Hello all, I hope you have all had a wonderful and blessed Christmas.

This has been a very busy and exciting time for Jeanette and I. Not only did we sell her home which had been in the family for forty years and buy a new one, but we did it with a couple of fifteen day escrows. I remember, now, why, compared to moving, a root canal seems like a Christmas present.

I am excited to start a SIR's new year. My congratulation and thanks to Charlie and Perry for their superior service to the club this year, I can't express how excited I am to assist Perry in 2016. Unless you have been in their position you can't know the time and effort it takes. Hopefully every one of you will have the opportunity to find out for himself. To get the full Monty experience from SIR you have to be involved.

Finally I am excited about the January Luncheon. If you only get to one luncheon for the year, be sure it is in January. Instead of having one guest speaker, we are having 250. I call it "Everything you ever wanted to know about SIR." Let me tell you how it came about.

In October several of us had the privilege to attend a SIRS meeting in Manteca at which we were introduced to a program called RAMP. RAMP stands for Recruitment, Activities, Membership and Promotion. It serves as the 2016 blueprint for, the state, area, and each individual branch. We **(Little SIR continued on Page 4)**

The 2016 assessments are now due.

The assessments pay for;

The printing of our Chanticleer, administrative meetings, state assessments, extra lunches, & Wine for our raffles

Please make checks for \$15 payable to;

SIR Branch #159 Mail to;

Shane Petersen

3245 E. Sample

Fresno, Ca. 93710

Be A Friend - Bring a Friend

(Big SIR continued from Page 1) SIR RAMP program which is putting in place a group of SIRs who will establish procedures to grow membership and enhance activities for our members and guests. Each Activity Chairman can work with their guys to find ways to attract more participation.

We have found members who get involved in SIR activities, will find they have renewed value, make even more good friends, and enjoy the most fun. A positive deal.

Important: Mail your \$15 check to Shane Petersen or bring it to the January Lunch. If you are late on last year's assessment, pay that too. It renews your SIR membership and you will have paid your share of State fees and insurance costs. Good job.

Guys, step up and out to our first lunch of the Happy New Year to see your friends. Strut, cock-a-doodle, be brightly colored and bushy tailed. We will flock to SIR Pardini's fine dining for another festive celebration of our freedom in retirement.

Our SIR leadership continues to improve the quality of Pardini's food and service. We have

freed up the chef to take advantage of better in-season food values for all Fresno area SIR branches. Best dining deal.

This New Year...you can continue to be a lady's proud strutting Rooster when you escort her out for our Ladies Date Night Delight, Jan. 20th. Enjoy another visit with old and new friends. Your ladies are sharing an evening of Sir-Fun with Lady friends. Fine deal.

Hey...remember to get your good buddy to join us for Jan. lunch with Sirs. He will see how charming we are and learn of our variety of enjoyable activities. Then persuade him to join SIR #159 just for good social fun.

We are resuming rewards for members in good standing who are bringing new members who will keep our Branch strong. There will be more to come as we step up recruiting new SIR.

When you bring a guest or sponsor a new member...be sure to tell your caller for the food count. Come and introduce him to this Big SIR...meet some new folks and we will help you make him welcome. You can bet we will have another fine lunch.

SIR of the Month — Shane Petersen

He's the money man, the one who handles all the finances of SIR Branch #159. He is deft with numbers. 'He loves 'em!' He fills out all those complicated SIR Forms, balances the books, pays the bills, arranges special events - - - and loves doing it all. This is SIR Shane Petersen! He loves working with numbers and has been for a long time, in SIRs and in life.

But there's a side of Shane Petersen that does not emerge, beyond the fact that he is one swell guy. There, near the surface is one of deep feelings, of faith, of compassion, of love. He is literate - he has written three books and is working on the fourth. He is a poet. He loves sports, having played all of them at some time in his life - and still plays golf. We'll demonstrate this later.

Shane is the true local boy. He was born in Fresno,



grew up in Fresno, worked in Fresno throughout his working career, and, of course, retired here in Fresno. Let's take a look.

His father Merle, a strict disciplinarian, brought up Shane and his two brothers to work hard, do the job right the first time and save whatever compensation results. Some of this came out in school sports. He, they, played hard. He describes 'play' as a youngster growing up. He and his brothers went out in the morning and 'played' - it could have been baseball, football, basketball, soccer, whatever - and "had" to come home only when it was time for dinner. Going through the local schools, the 'sports' pattern persisted for him. He did them all - and he was good at them all. But Baseball was his true sports love. In high school, his baseball team won the Valley Champion-

ship! That was back in 1972 for McLane High School. A professional career in baseball was his goal. So on he went to Fresno City College. Some ridiculous rules were so restrictive that his quest was truly hampered (despite a batting average of over .400! and good grades in high school); he dropped out of baseball, left college and went to work.

Shane found work at a local SaveMart Supermarket, the same company his father worked for. Talk about starting out at the bottom, Shane's first position was a 'Bag Boy'! After a year, he moved into the Produce Department and a year later became manager of that department. There are some interesting insights that revealed to Shane that he now shares. "The reason why customers shop at a supermarket, is because of only two departments and they are the produce and meat departments". The admonition from Shane's father was, 'You'd better serve those customers well; you are the main core of the market!' This paid off. For the next 32 years, working 6 days a week, Shane served his customers on behalf of Save Mart.

Shane had met a lovely young lady back in high school. They fell in love; they married! With lovely Stephanie (Gianakopoulos), he shared a wonderful 38 years of happiness and bliss, bringing into this world two lovely daughters, Heather and Sarah. There are grandchildren that would now bless their lives. However, darkness fell over the Petersen household when tragedy struck and the love of his life, Stephanie was lost to a heart attack. Shane never questioned, "Why me?" With deep introspection and thought, there was only one place to turn to for strength and inner peace. That someone, invisible, looking in on Shane influenced him to jot down thoughts. These collections of words soon fit patterns, connecting those thoughts and ideas. With certain rhythms that emerged, poetry entered Shane's life. One book of poems reflects spiritual strength. He has gone on to write two more books. He is working on his fourth, entitled 'Somewhere in Heaven, Somewhere in Time'. This will be a 'must read' when it comes out; therein might lie answers to our own individual lingering questions.

Shane has gone on with this life. It works for him. He found and married another Stephanie. He jokes, "I had to look through five phone books to find another Stephanie!" Once again, he shares a beautiful life with a beautiful Stephanie; she has brought love and laughter back into his life.

Shane Petersen is a golfer. He used to love to play golf bare-footed! It was out on the links at Airways, playing alone one day, when he ran into some golfers who offered to let him join them. These guys were

Allan Baxter and other SIR #159 members. The invite was made, Shane accepted and went home announcing he was joining some outfit called SIRs. His father explained that he himself was a SIR and member of #159. "How did I not know this!" Shane remarked. So Shane's been a member since 2007. Later, his brother Preston would also join SIRs. As we observed earlier, Shane worked with Joe Benzevengo, then Treasurer, and later with Allan Baxter before himself becoming the 'full-blown' Treasurer of SIR Branch #159 that he is today.

Let's close with a poem, one of many from the pen of our own Shane Petersen:

FULL CIRCLE

**Born into this world
So innocent and unaware
This life we start without a care
Protected by our parents
Taking us under their wing
Giving unconditional love and nourishing**

**They try to keep us from harm
Be there for our every need
To bring us a band aide if we happen to bleed**

**As we grow older
We want to be on our own
They're always there for us
but they leave us alone**

**Forever watching over us
Still looking out for our concerns
Never asking for anything in return**

**We've reached our golden years
Our health is not the same
It's hard for us to
remember anyone's name**

**It's not easy for us to get around
And sometimes we can barely stand
We're so thankful for our children,
who hold our hand.**

SUNSHINE REPORT

Ahhh a new year, 2015 was a strange one Sunshine wise, our Big Sir, Charles Barrett went down playing in the rain at Riverside Golf Course, broke an ankle, BUT I talked to him tonight and he is up, walking with a cane what a guy!! George Culverwell, feeling fine, woke up one morning with Dementia. Turned out to be a blood clot near his heart. George still hasn't made it all the way back. But I heard from him tonight as well and he spoke to me. That is about

as close to a Christmas miracle as I'll ever see. Hallelujah, what a couple of tough old birds!! Larry Daniels still out trying to rehab a bad back. And, Howard Boston still out with a broken hip. Heal up and get well, your friends miss you.

Since we moved and went digital for the Chanticleer, there has been a remarkable drop in notifications of sick or injured Roosters. Either it's a miracle of wellness, or I'm just not getting the message. Please, please let me know if one of your friends is out for some reason. I can't do anything without your help.

Ron Wilson, ph. 960-8294 or better yet, ronwilson7777@outlook.com

(Little SIR continued from page 1) spoke with other branches which had already implemented it and were very successful in doing so. Several had successfully devoted a monthly luncheon to RAMP. They felt it was a great way to kick off the new year.

As I thought about it, I realized that for several years I left it to others to do the things that made SIR great. I failed to take advantage of all the wonderful things SIR has to offer because I was only superficially involved. So many of us do the same thing often because we don't know that much about the club. As I became more involved, I came to understand a truism. The more involved

you become, the more enjoyable SIR becomes and the healthier the branch becomes.

So here's the deal. We are going to explain the ins and outs of SIR, from what we are to how we do it and what we have to offer. We will explain RAMP and anything else you wish. This is to inform, not to strong arm for volunteers. So bring your questions, comments and criticisms and we'll discuss them as time allows. See you in January.

Editors Note — The Ladies Date Night has become a somewhat popular activity in our SIR group. I offer this as a suggestion (not an advertisement); the Maya Theatre on the Fresno State Campus offer Senior discounts (\$4 tickets) on Wednes-

day so you can take your wife or significant other out for dinner & a movie for a good price. Karen and I went to see "In the Heart of the Sea" last Wednesday, and it was very good.

Attendance Report

In December, 2015, SIR Branch #159 had 236 active members with 66 of those members attending the December 11, 2015 Ladies' Day Christmas luncheon. Total attendance at that luncheon was 131 members and guests. Members are expected to attend the monthly meeting or to notify the Attendance Chairman when the wish to be excused (with the exception for the 2 Ladies Days). 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 DukMarshall@aol.com When you call or email please include your NAME and BADGE NUMBER

D u k e M a r s h a l l ,
Attendance Chairman



America is the only country where a significant proportion of the population believes that professional wrestling is real but the moon landing was faked.

David Letterman

SIR BEST Bowling for November

The SIR bowling league is active and rolling. Come join in the fun on Friday afternoon at 1:00 pm. Cost is \$8 for 3 games. Check the data on the SIR 159 Bowling Page. Just click on the bowler icon. We welcome SIR members from all branches. We are a non-sanctioned league, we are there for the activity and comradely and FUN. Come join the fun.

Fall/Winter league began Sept. 11. It is never too late to join in the fun. Hope to see you there.

4-Dec	Hi Hdep. Series	Daryl Derouchey	659	159
	Hi Scratch Series	Daryl Derouchey	578	159
	Hi Hdep. Game	Tom Harlan	236	175
	Hi Scratch Game	Tom Harlan	201	175
	Hi Scratch Game	Daryl Derouchey	201	159
11-Dec	Hi Hdep. Series	Daryl Derouchey	626	159
	Hi Scratch Series	Daryl Derouchey	256	159
	Hi Hdep. Game	Daryl Derouchey	557	159
	Hi Scratch Game	Daryl Derouchey	233	159
18-Dec	Hi Hdep. Series	Merle Knapp	633	175
	Hi Scratch Series	Alan Barton	541	159
	Hi Hdep. Game	Merle Knapp	238	175
	Hi Scratch Game	Merle Knapp	203	175



Rick Pezzi
Most Improved Player

Golfers Corner

The 2015 season is over. Congratulations to all B159 members who played our weekly games and thumbs up to the golf team members. We organized almost 2400 rounds of golf, played at 12 venues, set up many branch tournaments, had several players qualify to the SIR State Individual Championship and Team Scramble, and to several NCGA Associate Championships. Not too bad for a group of retired sons!

Once again branch 159's NCGA players master list for 2016 will exceed 102 registered members. This will allow us to qualify up to 3 players in most NCGA Associate events for 2016. For those who did NOT renew their SIR 159 GHIN be aware that we'll drop your name from the branch players master list that we send on 01/13/2016 to the NCGA and your SIR 159 handicap will be inactive after

1/14/2016.

The 2016 branch 159 Golf Committee is made up with: Gilbert Matossian (Chair), John Brechmann (Handicap Chair), Duke Marshall (Scoring Chair), Rich Lewis (Treasurer), James Noriega, John Volkman (Stats), Mike Moyle, Butch Evans, Reg Rosander, Mike Williamson, Steve Chase, Gary Morgan.

In addition, to follow USGA & NCGA guidelines, a Handicap Committee has been formed with John Brechmann, Gilbert Matossian, Duke Marshall, Reg Rosander and Gary Morgan. One or more of its members have been certified by the NCGA. The Handicap Committee is responsible for all aspects of the USGA Handicap

System, including the computation of each member's handicap index, verification that all acceptable scores are recorded and that recorded scores are available for peer review.



Vic Froemer
Branch Championship
Flt #4 Low Net Runner Up

The first tournament in 2016 will be the Ron Rich single match play elimination scheduled to start February 18 at Madera Muni. The sign up sheet should be available at the January luncheon and is limited to 32 players. Due to a busy calendar, players need to complete round 1 and 2 within the allocated time period. There will be 4 flights of 8 players each, sorted according to their Handicap Index as of February 1, 2016. Round 1 play will use the H.I. as of 2/1 and throughout the tournament play will be at 85% of the Course Handicap. NEW SIR RULE effective 1/1/2016: If a ball may be lost outside a water hazard or may be out of bounds, to save time the player may play another ball provisionally in accordance with Rule 27-1. The player must inform his opponent in match play or his marker or a fellow-competitor that he intends to



Dell Kerns 2nd Place
Ron Rich Winner Flt# 4

Branch 159 January

Golf Schedule

Chairman Mike Williamson 251-3103

Thur 1/7 9:30AM SG Dragonfly
Wed 1/13 10AM SG Madera G&CC
Thur 1/21 10AM SG Ridge Creek-
Thur 1/28 10AM SG Pheasant Run
Thur 2/4 10AM SG Belmont CC
Wed 2/10 10AM SG Airways
Thur 2/18 10AM SG Madera Muni
Thur 2/25 10AM SG Lemoore



Shane Petersen
Ron Rich Winner Flt. #3

play a **provisional ball**, and he must play it before he or his **partner** goes forward to search



Don Avakian
Team Player of the Year

for the original ball. If the original ball is neither **lost** nor **out of bounds**, the player must abandon the **provisional ball** and continue playing the original ball. (USGA Rule 27.2)

This means the SIR player is no longer allowed to play a 2nd ball from the area where he thought his first ball was lost or O/B and add 2 strokes. From now on, the only SIR rule that differs from the USGA is the 6-inch bump.

Bridge Scores

Dec 1st. 1st. Jim Whitmer,
2nd. Gene Tognazzini, 3rd. Jack Leonard, 4th. George Rurik
Consolation: Bob Cleveland
High score: 3940 Jim Whitmer
High table: 1330
Gene Tognazzini Jim Whitmer

Dec 15 1st. Jim Whitmer,
2nd. George Rurik, 3rd. Vic Froehmer, 4th. Charles Ratliff,
5th. Hugh Cox, 6th. Gene Tognazzini, 7th. Bob Cleveland
8th. Russ Mott
Consolation: Jack Leonard
High score : 5930 Jim Whitmer
High table: 2040
Jim Whitmer George Rurik

December Anniversaries

Peggy & Henry Aranja
Betty & Norm Bainter
Diane & Bud Burrows
Annabelle & Rick Flores
Barbara & Perry Huffman
Becky & Scott Lang
Judi & Rich Lewis
Linda & Gene Marshall
Angie & Jim Morgan
Lasara & Manuel Nunez
Debbie & Rick Pezzi
Phyllis & Michael Rumley
Karen & Gene Tognazzini

January Anniversaries

Sue & Alan Barton
Dian & Larry Cox
Frances & Roy Harris
Cheryl & Mike Jerkovich
Carole & Stan Littleworth
Jane & Dick McDonough
Jackie & Merle Petersen
Judy & Richard Ransom
Diane & Howard Ray

December Birthdays

Don Avakian, Don Blosser,
Bo Bolin, Don Corley, Jeffrey Curtin, Joe D'Amico, Vic Froehmer, Frank Kurihara, Stan Littleworth, Bob Mattson, Carl Mhoon, Michael Petrovich, Chuck Royse, George Rurik Tom Ryno, Ed Smiley, Fred Stein

January Birthdays

Rich Bailey, Ray Cereghino
Ron Copp, Hugh Cox
John Crawford, Mike Fair
Gerry Fields, Bill Hedman
Gary Kilgore, Duke Marshall
Jack Morrill, John Rackin
Alex Ramirez, James Rodgers
Michael Rumley, Ron Travis

Digital Media

Computer Group

The Digital Media/Computer Group will meet Jan. 19 (third) Tuesday at 1 PM at the Woodward Park Library River Room 944 East Perrin Ave, Fresno. All SIR Branches, Wives and Guests are welcome. My new computer arrived and I have a firsthand account of using Windows 10, Computer to Computer data transfer, and Outlook Email issues.

Roger.Deal@Comcast.net