



The Chanticleer

New 159 website - www.branch159.sirinc2.org

Program: Nathan Magsig County Supervisor

Date February 9, 2017

Place Pardini's Restaurant
2257 W. Shaw Avenue

Social Hour 11:00 AM

Luncheon: 12 Noon
\$15 and no Buck Bucket

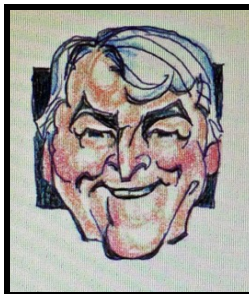
Activities Calendar for February

Date	Event	Contact
February 6, 13, 20, 27	Whitmer's Warriors Golf	Steve Chase
February 2, 8, 16, 23	SIRs Golf	Gilbert Matossian
February 3, 10, 17, 24	SIRS Bowling	Duke Marshall
February 7, 21	SIR Bridge	Vic Froehmer
February 8	SIRs Luncheon	Ron Travis (RSVP)
February 14	History Roundtable	Mike Rumley
February 14	Technology	Roger Deal
February 14	Investments	Rich Colby
February 15	Lady's Date Night	(Open)
February 22	FSC Women's Basketball	Terry Byrne

"Lead us not into temptation. Just tell us where it is and we'll find it ourselves." - Sam Levinson

One down and eleven to go. I want to thank **Mike Rumley** for preparing and moderating last month's program. I personally have found that the more I know about SIR, the more I come to appreciate it. I want to welcome **Chris Kahn** and **Steve Hernandez** to our group. I hope you both get involved in all the activities that we have to offer. For those of you who have not yet met them, please take the opportunity to shake their hands and say hello.

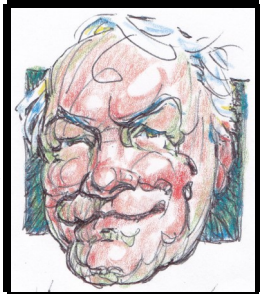
Each month one of our esteemed callers will call you and ask if you will be at the luncheon. We total the number, and on the Sunday before the luncheon, call the total to Pardini's. The amount we pay to Pardini's is based on the number we call in. Last month we called in thirteen more lunches than were actually served – thirteen no-shows. This cost the branch about (**Big SIR continued on page 2**) (**Big SIR continued from page 1**) \$195.00 (yes, I know the number doesn't exactly compute, but there is a formu-



Big SIR Gary

There is an old British proverb that says "Absence makes the heart grow fonder." which I am sure means that when [people](#) we [love](#) are not with us, we love them even more. I am certain that this applies to only people we miss and not other things. For example, I do not miss the gastric intestinal distress I incurred from eating undercooked pinto beans Super Bowl Sunday. Nor do I miss the feeling of isolation from my friends caused by the former condition. What I do miss is not seeing all of the Roosters in our Branch 159 Barnyard taking advantage of all that SIRs offers. In one week you can play golf, get educated on the newest technology, play cards, attend a history roundtable, and get the latest stock tips. You can take your significant other to dinner on Lady's Date night. Finish off the week by bowling a few games with your SIRs friends. Check out to see what trips Terry Byrne has planned for the month. You also have the opportunity to renew old acquaintances by attending a luncheon with speakers of note from the community. So "Get Up and Get Out!"

This month's speaker (**Little SIR continued on page 2**) (**Little SIR continued from page 1**) should prove to be interest-



Little SIR Mike

la). I know that things happen, it has happened to me where I said I was going but couldn't get there. But here's the thing. If you say you will be there, but cannot make it, give Shane a call so we don't have to pay for a no-show. Thanks!

I will be in Mexico next month, Mike will run the meeting. Treat him kindly because he is so shy. The SIR golf cruise is so great, this is my third time and I have never had a negative experience. Well one. On one cruise I did lose the twist contest; a result that I consider totally unfair. It was us against another couple in the finals. Since they were obviously inferior dancers, I was already visualizing that plastic ship trophy glistening on the mantle reflecting its gleaming magnificence under the spotlight. I snapped my knees right and I snapped my shoulders left in perfect timing to Chubby's lilting "Come on Baby"!

Over and over, snapping away, I could see the other couple, the pretenders. What was that – were they actually "dipping"? On it went for two more minutes, Jeanette and I piling on the points in what would be the biggest mismatch since the 1940 NFL Championship (Bears 76 – Redskins 0). There we were in the end, we had given it our all and the only thing left was to pick up our trophy and give the interview. But fickle fate felt otherwise. In the worst decision since the Browns drafted Johnny Manziel, the trophy went (Big SIR continued on page 5) (Big SIR continued from page 2) to the others. And we went home dejected but unbowed. If only we had dipped. Jeanette says I should get over it. I don't think so, I'm still trying to find the pretenders for a rematch.

ing. Nathan Magsig is a member of the County Board of Supervisors. You may recall that he was the former mayor of Clovis and a member of the Clovis City Council before taking on this new challenge. Born and raised in the community Nathan knows the issues and the challenges that Fresno County faces. We are lucky to have him as our guest on February 8th.

February always meant to me that spring was around the corner. It may seem like a long way off but it is not too early to start planning our Lady's Day picnic and barbeque in May at Kearney Park. If you are interested in helping with the planning or wish to be a part of a committee please contact myself or John Crawford.

The 2017 assessments are now due.
The assessments pay for;
The printing of our Chanticleer and Directories,
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

New Members



Steve Hernandez

Work - Retired – Lineman – PG&E
Phone- 559-438-8666 Email –
estebanhernandez007 @yahoo.com



Chris Kahn

Work – Retired – USN Air Traffic
Controller

Phone - 408-799-7862
Email –
chrisk4463@yahoo.com

From Treasurer Shane Petersen;

It is imperative that everyone that reports to our callers who said they are coming to the luncheons, realize that they are obligated to be at the luncheons. We are held accountable for all those who say they are coming and we must pay for the number that is called in to Pardini's. If you cannot come, please call Ron Travis @ 322-1898 at least one day prior to the luncheon and tell him you will be unable to make it. Our last luncheon in January, we had 13 members not show up and it cost our club \$268!!

If you are not sure if you can come to the luncheon, tell your caller "no, you won't be there", and then later if you decide you are able to make it, call Ron Travis and tell him so. We can always add to the count at the luncheon, we cannot subtract. Thank you.

Attendance Report

In January, 2017, SIR Branch #159 had 199 active members of which 134 were in attendance at Pardini's for the luncheon on the 12th. This represents 67% of the active membership. Of the 65 members absent, 27 were

excused. Members are expected to attend the monthly meeting or to notify the Attendance Chairman when the wish to be excused. 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 When you call or email please include your NAME and BADGE NUMBER

Remember our lunch count depends on YOU responding to your caller and if plans change notifying either Ron Travis @322-1898 or myself, at the number above by **HIGH NOON of the MONDAY before** luncheon or ASAP! Our callers begin making those calls on the Thursday-Sunday prior to the luncheon. Please do your part. **We are charged for lunches when we report that you are attending and then don't attend.**

For Ladies' Day (May & December) contact Shane Petersen @ 916-1821.

Duke Marshall, Attendance Chairman

History Roundtable

You would not think that a roundtable discussion on the Ottoman Empire would be of any interest. But, you would be wrong. The "Roundtable" discussion revealed that the long lived Ottoman Empire was indeed at its height the largest continuous rule of any empire in World History. One the peculiarities of the Ottomans was its elite fighting force called the Janissaries. These were young Christian boys taken by the Turks and raised in a strict environment to be the protectors of the throne and the Sultan.

The Roundtable will meet again at 11:00 AM on Tuesday, February 14, 2017 at the Yosemite Falls Café at Blackstone and Shaw. It is only fitting that the topic would be the history of Valentine's Day. Please come by for stimulating discussion, friends, and lunch.

Birthdays

Joe Bencivengo, Bud Burrows, Alan Bynum, Steve Chase, Michael Cunningham, Roger Deal, Ted Feasel, George Gruner, Joe Hushek, Bob Jones, William Laudig, Roger McCoy, David Metzger, Randy Morris, Lee Moy, Danny Munoz, Abel Parra-Gutierrez, Rick Ransom

Anniversaries

Mary Ann & Al Baez
Lety & Carlos Fernandez
Britt & Russ Hewer
Lois & Allen Layne
Betty & Sal Morales
Betsy & Jim Peterson
Patty & Alex Ramirez
Nancy & Don Smith
Geneva & Russ Wyatt

Computer Group

The SIR Computer Group will meet Feb. 14 (the second Tuesday, since the third was not available) at 1:00 PM at the Woodward Park Regional Library "River Room" 944 East Perrin Ave, Fresno CA 93720. All SIR Branches, Wives and Guests are welcome. Bring your Computer, Smartphone, Digital Media, Windows 10, Photography or other Tech Issues you need help with. Following our 1-2pm meeting, Rich Colby's Investing/Economic Group will meet at 2-3 pm. **Roger Deal**

Investment & Economy Group

The SIRs Invest/Econ group will meet Feb. 14 at 2:00 -3:00 PM at the Woodward Park Regional Library "River Room" 944 East Perrin Ave, Fresno CA 93720. Bring your thoughts and questions about where to make a buck in the stock market. This meeting follows the SIRs Computer Group in the same room. Rich Colby rcolby@comcast.net



Bridge Results

January 3, 1st Gene Tognazzini, 2nd Vic Froehmer, 3rd Hugh Cox, 4th Charles Ratliff, 5th Russ Watt
Consultation - Jim Lund
High table 3,920 Gene Tognazzini Vic Froehmer
High score 1,270 Gene Tognazzini

January 17, 1st Hugh Cox, 2nd Gene Tognazzini, 3rd Bob Cleveland, 4th Vic Froehmer, 5th Charles Ratliff
Consultation - Jim Lund
High table 1,140 Vic Froehmer
High score 3,320 Hugh Cox

Golfers Corner

2017 SIR 159 Golf Club Committee.

Here is the team of volunteers that make up our SIR 159 Golf Club Committee: Gilbert Matossian (Chairman), Gary Morgan (Handicap), Duke Marshall (Scoring), Rich Lewis (Treasurer), Mike Moyle (Roster, NCGA relations, Area 29 Chairman), Butch Evans (Webmaster, Division 5) and John Volkman (Statistics). In addition, the following Roosters handpicked by the Chairman, participate in the committee's vote(s): Mike Williamson, Reg Rosander, Steve Chase, Stuart Poytress. If you are interested in working on the committee for 2018, please contact the Chairman.

RECRUITMENT

At our January luncheon, you heard from our new Big SIR that branch 159 is doing well and is on par with the other top SIR branches. That's great news and congratulations to outgoing Big Sir Perry for steering our branch in 2016. But in my opinion our golfers could do better when it comes to recruiting new golfers/members. Do you know that in 2016, one member recruited 3 new members! Wow.. that's a great result and is very encouraging. We have almost 100 golfers in our branch. So let's suggest a goal for 2017 to each golfer: "Bring one prospective member to play with us or to a luncheon by next July". If your guest has no handicap, that's no problem, we'll help him get a GHIN to participate in our tournaments.

Why keep SIR 159 for yourself? Share it with your friends, ex-workers, on the range (a great place to meet new players),... and your neighbor's wife will probably thank you for getting him out of the house! To help you, we have a new "SIR 159 Golf" contact card (photo below) to hand out to your guests and prospective members. Keep a few in your wallet. You can pick them up at each weekly tournament with our monthly chairman. Voila!

SIR Branch 159 Golf Website.

Branch 159 February Golf Schedule

Chairman Dennis Ensminger 291-2053

Thur	2/2	9:AM	SG	Belmont CC
Wed	2/8	9:AM	SG	Airways
Thur	2/16	9:AM	SG	Madera Muni
Thur	2/23	9:AM	SG	Lemoore
Thur	3/2	9:AM	SG	Riverside
Wed	3/8	9:AM	SG	Ridge Creek
Thur	3/16	9:AM	SG	Dragonfly
Thur	3/23	9:AM	SG	Sherwood
Thur	3/30	9:AM	SG	Airways

Our 2017 golf schedule is posted on our website and is up-



dated quite often, remember to check it frequently. We're also in the process of updating some pages and upload more information.

2017 Branch 159 Team Championship.

Scheduled for June 5 at Sherwood. The format is Scramble, 4man team set by computer (ABCD).

2017 Branch 159 Individual Championship.

We'll play Gross and Net handicap (both flighted). This year should be easier as we'll use 2 best rounds out of 3. Scheduled venues are Pheasant Run (Sep 28), Riverside (Oct 11) and Airways (Oct 19). In other words, you can play all 3 and keep the best 2 scores (gross & net), or play only 2. Its your choice.

Sunshine

Gung Hai Fat Choy!! It's the year of the rooster! Make that the SIR Rooster and it carries a lot more meaning. Hope you are all ready to celebrate long and loud!.. This is going to be a great year, we are fine tuning our many activities and lunches and sally forth with much optimism.

As far as Sunshine is concerned, three of our downed roosters are healing nicely and should be showing up back in the barnyard soon. Hank Gomar is back home, Russ Knapp still in nursing facility and healing but slowly, not everyone can get over a hip broken in four places, Jim Whitmer is back home and may need a ride to the Luncheon soon, Russ Hewer is home and healing nicely and should be back on the golf course in about a month.

We are mourning two fallen men; Charles Olono passed January 17th and had his Mass and Funeral. Dave Betts just passed last Wednesday, January 25th., Dave was a big time golfer, golf chairman, and state golf officer and will be sorely missed, as will Charley Olono who also knew

his way around the links.

Charles Barrett has agreed to once again join the Sunshine committee so you can send me any messages about our downed members, or if my phone is lost again, give Chuck a call at; 436-8338, email-Charles@thebarretts.com, my numbers are 960-8294 or ronwilson7777@outlook.com please let us know.

Charles Barrett or Ron Wilson Chairmen

It always feels better after you vent.

A couple of new things on the horizon. Charlie Barrett is working on our Facebook. There should be a blurb in this Chanticleer about it. Basically, if you have any news of importance regarding an event that happened, or will be happening, you should send it to Charlie, along with pictures and he will see that it gets up on Facebook. How this happens, I cannot say being technologically challenged (I was recently told by **Butch Evans** that the bulk of my e-mails were being sent to an anonymous widow in Detroit. If you have not received a response from me to something you e-mailed me, see her, I've done my part).

The BEC is in the process of writing procedural by-laws which will be posted on our website. This will be a fairly long process. However, when you are elected to a new position of honor, it is our hope that you will have a set of procedures to guide you.

Lastly but not leastly two things. If you are interested in being our "shirt guy" please let me or Dell Kerns know. SG will get the beautiful logoed shirts worn by many of our members on your backs. To make the position more attractive, we guarantee long hours, no benefits and minimal appreciation. And finally, if you are currently in possession of any SIR banners or other equipment, please let us know. We want to make those items available for display or use at our events.

See you in March.

"It is one of the blessings of old friends that you can be stupid with them." - Ralph Waldon Emerson

**FINAL NOTICE
WOMEN'S BASKETBALL
FRESNO STATE**

V

SAN DIEGO STATE

Wednesday February 22, 2017

7:00 PM

[Interested? Contact Terry at tjbyrne952@gmail.com or](mailto:tjbyrne952@gmail.com)

559 341-8776

BEFORE February 10, 2017

Tickets are approximately \$11.00

January Bowling Scores

The new fall league has started and we invite any SIR member to come join us – Friday afternoons, 1 PM Sierra Lanes. Anyone interested please contact Duke Marshall @ 447-5388 or just show up and we will get you started. See you there.

DATE	NAME	SCORE	BRANCH
6-Jan	Hi Hdcp. Series	Jim Peterson	646 169
	Hi Scratch Series	Jim Peterson	586 169
	Hi Hdcp. Game	Bill Ripley	227 175
	Hi Scratch Game	Jim Peterson	206 169
13-Jan	Hi Hdcp. Series	James Noriega	632 159
	Hi Scratch Series	Jim Peterson	569 169
	Hi Hdcp. Game	Jim Peterson	258 169
	Hi Scratch Game	Jim Peterson	246 169
20-Jan	Hi Hdcp. Series	Bill Laudig	645 159
	Hi Scratch Series	Bill Laudig	585 159
	Hi Hdcp. Game	Bill Laudig	232 159
	Hi Scratch Game	Bill Laudig	212 159
27-Jan	Hi Hdcp. Series	Merle Knapp	603 175
	Hi Scratch Series	Duke Marshall	531 159
	Hi Hdcp. Game	Rich Lewis	216 159
	Hi Scratch Game	Daryl DeRouchey	193 159

SIR FACEBOOK:

Gentlemen, SIR Branch 159 is now a page on Facebook. Search for it under that name, and you will find new ways to communicate and express yourself regarding Branch events, happenings, and activities. Got something to tell the guys? Consider doing so on the Facebook page! What to be in the know as to what is going on, then check the page! Got some cool pictures relating to SIR life, post them on the page. Let's make this a cool new way to both spread the word to others, while staying informed your self. SIR FACEBOOK page for Branch 159 - use it and have some fun.

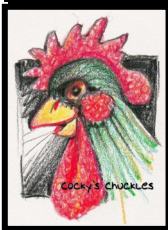
Charlie Barrett



On February 21 (Tuesday) at 11:30 am Single SIR Guys will be treated to a specially arranged Chinese New Year's lunch. A table for 10 has been reserved. Please notify Lee Moy if you are most interested in tasting top shelf cuisine at Hunan Restaurant (Herndon & Cedar). Come & explore the world's offerings.

While the name may imply that this is for single SIR guys, married couples are encouraged to partake, too. While Date Night is held in the evenings, Dino-o-SIR luncheons start when business opens. All ingredients are the freshest; waitresses are refreshed. This is a very relaxing, informal time to enjoy the deliciously prepared meals. We all look forward to our time together just like we do at our regularly scheduled branch luncheons.

Deadline: Feb 17 (Friday)
 Cost: \$ 22/person
 RSVP: Lee Moy
 709-9851
LeeHealthStudio@gmail.com



In Catholic schools, students are taught that lying is a sin. Instructors are also advised that using a bit of imagination is OK to express the truth differently without lying.

This is a perfect example of this teaching:

Getting a Hairdryer Through Customs.....

An attractive young woman on a flight from Ireland asked the priest beside her, 'Father, may I ask a favor?'

'Of course, child. What can I do for you?'

'I bought my mother an expensive hair dryer for her birthday. It is unopened

but well over the customs limits and I'm afraid they'll confiscate it. Is there any way you could carry it through customs for me? Could you possibly hide it under your robes for me?'

'I would love to help you my dear but, I must warn you, I will not tell a lie.'

'With your honest face, Father, I'm sure that no one will question you.' When they got to customs, she let the priest go first.

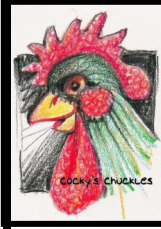
The official asked, 'Father, do you have anything to declare?'

'From the top of my head down to my waist I have nothing to declare.'

The official thought this answer a little strange, so he asked, 'And what do you have to declare from your waist to the floor?'

"I have a marvelous instrument that has been designed for use on women, but which, to date, remains unused.'

Roaring with laughter, the official said, 'Go ahead, Father. Next please!'



An award should go to the United Airlines gate agent in New York for being smart and funny, while making her point, when confronted with a passenger who probably deserved to fly as car-

go. For all of you out there who have had to deal with an irate customer, this one is for you.

A crowded United Airlines flight was cancelled. A single agent was re-booking a long line of inconvenienced travelers.

Suddenly, an angry passenger pushed his way to the desk. He slapped his ticket on the counter and said,

"I HAVE to be on this flight and it has to be FIRST CLASS."

The agent replied, 'I'm sorry, sir. I'll be happy to try to help you, but I've got to help these folks first; and then I'm sure we'll be able to work something out.'

The passenger was unimpressed. He asked loudly, so that the passengers behind him could hear,

"DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA WHO I AM?"

Without hesitating, the agent smiled and grabbed her public address microphone.

"May I have your attention, please?", she began, her voice heard clearly throughout the terminal..

"We have a passenger here at Gate 14 WHO DOES NOT KNOW WHO HE IS. If anyone can help him with his identity, please come to Gate 14."

With the folks behind him in line laughing hysterically,