



# The Chanticleer

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

Date Dec 14, 2017

Place Pardini's Restaurant  
2257 W. Shaw Avenue

Program:

Social Hour 11:00 AM

Luncheon: 12 Noon

\$19 per person

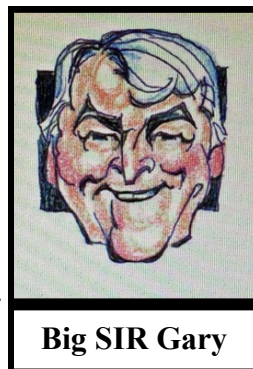
## Activities Calendar for December

Date	Event	Contact
Dec 4,11,18	Whitmer's Warriors Golf	Steve Chase
?	Poker	Michael Levine
Dec 7,13,21,28	SIRs Golf	Gilbert Matossian
None this month	Ladies Date Night	Howard Zinn
Dec 5,12,19,26	SIRS Bowling	Duke Marshall
Dec 5,19	SIR Bridge	Vic Froehmer
Dec 14	SIRs Luncheon	Ron Travis (RSVP)
Dec 19	History Roundtable	Mike Rumley
None	Technology	Roger Deal
None	Investments	Rich Colby
	Men's Luncheon -	Lee Moy
Dec 6,20	Horseshoes	Rich Lewis

*I've been a long time leaving but I'm going to be a long time gone."*  
*Willie Nelson*

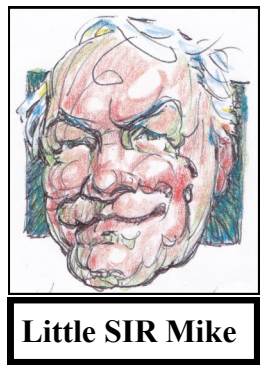
Goodbye-It has been fun. Well not exactly goodbye, I will be sitting faithfully in the general member of the monthly luncheons thinking, thank God, I made it out alive. Actually I'm looking forward to sitting in the audience, if only I can find a table that will have me.

One thing being Big SIR has taught me over this past year is that it isn't easy being the Big SIR for a twelve months when you only have ten months worth of ideas. Thank you for letting me fake it the last months. Mike Rumley has been a great Little Sir and (Big SIR Gary continued on page 2)



Big SIR Gary

Have you ever met a person who you did not know before but that you had formed an opinion of them based on hearsay? Well, I had. And, a mistake. My teacher instinct in me said that "temper what you hear with your own experience dealing with that person and then form your own opinion.



Little SIR Mike

December marks the last month of my Little SIRdom. It has been a fantastic ride. I look back with total humbleness in having a chance to be a part of this life fulfilling organization and just to have the chance to be a part of the leadership team is a special privilege. No one (Little SIR Mike continued on page 2)

(Big SIR Gary continued from page 1) has made my term as Big Sir a lot easier, and for that and many other things, I give him my most sincere thanks.

All in all it has been great fun with a few headaches thrown in for good measure. I have met and worked with some great people in the Area, Region and State and have developed a new appreciation for the entire SIR organization.

Mike will face some of the same headaches and I am sure that he is up to the task. The biggest issue, as always, is the recruitment of new members. We have turned the corner. After several years of declining membership, 2017 showed us holding our own. We started the year with around 200 active members and we will end the year with roughly the same number. This is good, but recruitment is a neverending issue which needs a constant effort.

In that regard I want to mention the New Member Derby. The Executive Committee has extended the derby to the branch luncheon in January so that you can bring a prospective member to the holiday party, and have him counted if he is inducted at the January meeting.

Thanks all of you, you have been swell. I will miss table nine constantly lobbying to be first in the lunch line. I just want you at that table to know that I did not buy your baleful whinning about needing to be finished with lunch to work the microphones, but I did appreciate receiving the envelopes with the "incentive" in them to get you fed first.

Well enough said. as my favorite statesman once said after wiping away the sweat around his upper lip, "You won't have Gary Smith to kick (Big SIR Gary continued on page 4)

(Little SIR Mike continued from page 1) person makes this branch as successful as it is. It is a team effort. Some of the stuff that we were able to accomplish this past year involved many people. For example, we revived the "Picnic" and took "Horse Racing" to a promotional level that is even being talked about at the State level. Again, many people were involved in the planning and executing of the activities; no one works in a vacuum. On a personal note, there were three gurus who guided me through the year. They have been a sounding board, a mitigation, and cheerleaders built into one. Thanks Ron Wilson and Perry Hoffman. And, above all, Thanks Gary for the kind support, the "ear" you gladly lent. and the not so good golf tips. I am looking forward to donning the Big SIR robe in 2018 and working with all the roosters in our branch to make it a successful year of fun and activities.

Thanksgiving has come and went and has triggered the holiday season. So much Turkey and so little time. I have so much to be thankful for. Wife, family, health, and SIRs. In December, Phyllis and I will celebrate our 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary taking our family to the beach. But, before that we will be front and center at our Ladies Day Luncheon on December 14<sup>th</sup>. I am looking forward to see Elvis entering the building. There is still time to sign up for what will be a memorable program.

I did not personally know Ray Phillips. Because he was a good golfer with a low handicap, I never got to play with him in flighted competition and it seemed like he didn't play in many Scrambles tournament. We didn't connect so the only thing I knew about Ray was that he was a character! There were stories abound about his perpetual "birthday" and "early dismissal" from the luncheon table. When I was pared with him on our (Little SIR Mike continued on page 4)

# A Short Biography of Rich Lewis

“Ya’ ever been to Ferndale? That’s Ferndale, California!’ I HAVEN’T! But that’s my loss. You see, that’s where SIR Rich Lewis hails from. An interesting place, an important place that serves as an important contributor to the where-with-all of all of us Californians. O.K.? It’s located way up there on the Coast of Northern California, not too far from Eureka. And what’s the big thing about Ferndale? Milk! Dairy products! Creameries! - and of course the cows that make it all possible. Wait ‘till you hear this story. You’ll then have an extra special respect for our guy, Rich Lewis. Here’s the way it goes.



Rich was born there back in 1946, grew up there in Ferndale, was educated and learned the dairy business there. You see, the Lewis family owned a dairy that was fed by some 100 cows. Raw milk went in and pasteurized/homogenized/butter/cream and other milk products came out. Those products were distributed throughout Northern California. How about that! Rich learned this business by working there as a youngster, as a teenager and on into adulthood.

That working part of his life was interrupted by college. He attended the nearby Humboldt State College and received a degree in Business Management. But upon graduation, he returned to the dairy business. It was in that time period that Ice Cream was introduced to their product line. Introduced is a mild expression of what really happened. If you can imagine, ice cream in their facility was produced in quantities of approximately 5 million gallons/year. Their ice cream actually found its way as far south as Fres-

no! And to this day, ice cream from that same creamery can be found in Costco. Rich, by that time, was managing the company! Try to think of this business; try to imagine producing all these products using a herd of cows. Yes, it all started with 100! By the time Rich left, they had expanded to approximately 10,000 cows! Try also to imagine the technology that had to accompany this industry to make it work. Those ten thousand animals had to be dealt with, fed, grazed, milked and in general, tended to – daily! Not a trivial challenge. But that’s what our man accomplished - successfully.

Our guy Rich Lewis eventually left the company. He joined up with ‘Dairy America’ a marketing organization headquartered in Dublin, CA. There, the objective was to represent the ‘manufacturers’ of dried milk powders and sell them. This position eventually brought him to Fresno. He would work there until he retired in 2012.

Lewis and his wife, Judi, now lived in Fresno. Here they enjoyed their 4 children and nine grandchildren. But in retirement, what do you do! Golf? Yes, golf was a part of the equation. But how do you integrate that along with retirement in some sensible way? Two things happened. One, a brother-in-law of Rich’s belonged to an organization called ‘Sons-in-Retirement’. Hummmm! He told Rich about it. There also appeared an article in the local Fresno Bee that talked about this same organization. That did it. Rich

called, talked to Howard Zinn, and as they say, the rest is history.

Rich Lewis became a member of SIR #159 in 2012. He is very active in golf having held the position of Treasurer of SIR #159 golf organization along with playing at all opportunities. He gets to play the courses, a varied group, including those of the high-end country clubs. It's all part of the Sons in Retirement formula. He is also currently a member of the Branch Board of Directors. The combination of meetings, luncheons, programs, activities and golf make this the ideal retirement in the eyes of this retiree. As Rich puts it, "I've made a lot of friends." That's what SIRs does for him - that's what SIRs does for us. And let's just put it this way, **"Rich Lewis, your presence here is a real asset to us. Thanks for being one of us!"**

*George Gianopulos*

Footnote: Rich has accepted and has been vote in as next year's little SIR.

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(Big SIR continued from page 2) around any-more." God bless you all.

***"The are some who start their retirement long before they stop working."** Robert Half*

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### **History Roundtable**

Our History Roundtable convened on November 14<sup>th</sup> to discuss the history of Thanksgiving. Everyone brought a little Trivia to the table to share. A national day of thanks was started by President Lincoln in 1863 to honor the Civil War soldiers who were fighting to preserve the union. It was moved to the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday in November by President Franklin Roosevelt as a means of boosting agricultural consumption during the Depression. There is no clear evidence of how Thanksgiving was associated with the Pilgrims as they really did not get along with the Native Americans in Plymouth. If any joint feasts with settlers and

(Little SIR Mike continued from page 2) November 8<sup>th</sup> Scramble tournament, I had a preconceived notion of what he would be like. I was totally wrong! "Mike, you're standing too far from the ball, move up a bit, that's right! (Wham, down the middle-200+) That will be \$50 please." The rest of the day he was a combination cheer leader and coach for our team. On our last hole at Dinuba, Ray sank a monster putt from off the green for our final birdie. Hugs and fist bumps all around. Sadly, it was Ray's last putt. I remember walking off the green thinking, "Boy, was I wrong. This is a real neat guy and I am going to make an effort to get to know him better."

There is a lesson in this-at least for me. There is a reason hearsay testimony is not allowed in court. I think I better understand why it is important to practice tolerance and open mindedness. I have Ray Phillips to thank for that.

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Native Americans occurred it was probably in Virginia or up in Boston where relations with the Natives was more amical. Wild Turkeys are really mean birds and will attack humans if provoked. The History Roundtable will not meet in December because of the holidays but will resume in January of 2018. Looking forward to seeing you at our next discussion.

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### **Attendance Report**

In November, 2017, SIR Branch #159 had 197 active members of which 126 were in attendance at Pardini's for the luncheon on the 12<sup>th</sup>. This plus 3 Emeritus represents 66% of the active membership. Of the 68 members absent, 46 were excused. Members are expected to attend the monthly meeting or to notify the Attendance Chairman when the wish to be excused. Three consecutive (Attendance continued on page 5)

(Attendance continued from page 4)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

Remember our lunch count depends on YOU responding to your caller and if plans change notifying either Ron Travis @322-1898 or myself, 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.

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

### **Procedures for inactive status or return to active status.**

Fellow SIRs please read the following message.

If you should find yourself in the position where you will be unable to attend the luncheons for several months, You must act! ex. My spouse is seriously ill and I am now the full time caretaker. What should I do about SIR?

You have some options. We have procedures in place to help. You could resign and know that you would be missed. Or you could request inactive status. There are several ways this can be accomplished. The simplest is to tell the caller who reminds us of the upcoming luncheon, that you need inactive status. Another option is to call the membership chairman, currently John Crawford, or the attendance chair, currently Duke Marshall. Both are listed inside the front cover of our directory. Of course over time those names will change but all chairmen are listed inside the directory cover. Once your request has been received we take it to the board. While on inactive status you will not be receiving calls about the lunch and

are not eligible to participate in events, but you are always welcome as a guest for the luncheon. When ready to return to active status, you will need to call the membership chairman or the attendance chairman and request a change in status.

*Duke Marshall, Attendance Chairman*

## **WOMEN'S BASKETBALL**

**FRESNO STATE V. WEBER STATE**

**WEDNESDAY 12/20/17 NOON**

**SAVE MART CENTER**

**\$6.00 each**

**Payment must be made no later than  
12/14/17 lunch. Checks should be made  
payable to: SIR 159**

**and mailed to:**

**Terry Byrne  
5518 N. La Ventana  
Fresno, CA 93723**

**Friends and family are welcome. If you  
do not pay in full by 12/14/17 lunch, you  
can still attend the game, but you will  
probably not be sitting with our group.**

## **HORSESHOES**

The next round of horseshoe competition will be on Wednesday December 20th. No game on Wednesday December 6 due to a prior commitment.

Maybe the time off will "cool" the hot hands of Dell Kerns, Mel Wyatt and Robert Rathburn giving the rest of us a chance to be in the **(Horseshoes continued on page 6)**

(Horseshoes continued from page 5) winner's circle. Dell and Mel were undefeated, and Robert only had one loss in the last round. Won't mention the name of the non-winners OR their scores.

Join us on December 20 and try your skill at "dethroning" these fine gentlemen.

### 159 Officers— 2017

Big SIR – Gary Smith

Little SIR – Mike Rumley

Secretary – Vic Froehmer

Asst. Secretary – Carl Merz

Treasurer –Shane Petersen

Asst. Treasurer – Roger McCoy

### Directors—2017

Roger Deal (Hon. Dir.)

Mike Williamson (2017)

Mike Moyle (2017)

Dell Kerns (2018)

Rich Lewis (2018)

Duke Marshall (2019)

Stuart Poytress (2019)

### 159 Officers— 2018

Big SIR – Mike Rumley

Little SIR – Rich Lewis

Secretary – Vic Froehmer

Asst. Secretary – Carl Merz

Treasurer – Stan Day

Asst. Treasurer – Shane Petersen

### Directors—2018

Roger Deal (Hon. Dir.)

Dell Kerns (2018)

Gary Becker (2018)

Duke Marshall (2019)

Stuart Poytress (2019)

Ron Wilson (2020)

Manual Nunez (2020)

### Bridge Results

October 31 1<sup>st</sup> Fred Wrazel

2<sup>nd</sup> Vic Froehmer 3<sup>rd</sup> Jim Lund

4<sup>th</sup> Hugh Cox 5<sup>th</sup> Janet Wrazel  
6<sup>th</sup> Gene Tognazzini 7<sup>th</sup> Robert  
Moore 8<sup>th</sup> George Rurik  
Consolation Bob Amato

High table 1,670 Vic  
Froehmer Fred Wrazel  
High score 4,640 Fred  
Wrazel

Nov 7 1<sup>st</sup> George Rurik  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vic Froehmer 3<sup>rd</sup> Nancy  
Ratliff 4<sup>th</sup> Fred Wrazel 5<sup>th</sup>  
Gene Tognazzini 6<sup>th</sup> Russ Mott  
7<sup>th</sup> Janet Wrazel

8<sup>th</sup> Bob Amato 9<sup>th</sup> Ron Rayburn  
10<sup>th</sup> Hugh Cox 11<sup>th</sup> Jim Lund  
12<sup>th</sup> Jim Stefanich  
13<sup>th</sup> Charlie Ratliff  
Consolation Bob Cleveland

High table 1,630 Russ Mott  
High score 4,440 George Rurik

Nov 21 1<sup>st</sup> Fred Wrazel  
2<sup>nd</sup> Russ Mott 3<sup>rd</sup> Gene  
Tognazzini 4<sup>th</sup> Vic Froehmer  
5<sup>th</sup> Hugh Cox 6<sup>th</sup> Jim Lund  
7<sup>th</sup> Ron Rayburn

Consolation Charles Ratliff

High table 1,250  
Fred Wrazel Gene Tognazzini  
High score 4,590 Fred Wrazel

### Anniversaries

Peggy & Rick Aranjó

Annabelle & Rick Flores

Beth & Ron Goering

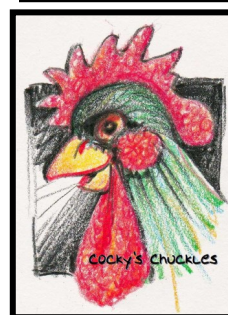
Barbara & Perry Huffman

Becky & Scott Lang

Judi & Rich Lewis  
Carol & Tim McCollum  
Angie & Jim Morgan  
Lasara & Manuel Nunez  
Debbie & Rick Pezzi  
Phyllis & Michael Rumley  
Susan & John Trimmell

### Birthdays

Don Avakian, Don Blosser, Jerry  
Brady Russ Conrad Don Corley  
Jeffrey Curtin Vic Froehmer  
Larry Henricksen Frank Kurihara  
Stan Littleworth Bob Mattson  
Carl Mhoon Michael Petrovich  
Fred Stein



In a Chicago hospital, a gentleman had made several attempts to get into the men's restroom, but it had always been occupied.

A nurse noticed his predicament.

"Sir", she said "You may use the ladies room if you promise not to touch any of the buttons on the wall."

He did what he needed to, and as he sat there he noticed the buttons he had promised not to touch were identified by letters: WW, WA, PP and a red one labeled ATR.

(Humor continued on page 7)

(Humor continued from page 6) Who would know if he touched them?

He couldn't resist. He pushed WW and warm water was sprayed gently upon his bottom.

Each button. What a nice feeling, he thought. Men's restrooms don't have nice things like this.

Anticipating greater pleasure, he pushed the WA button. Warm air replaced the warm water, gently drying his underside. When this stopped, he pushed the PP button. A large powder puff caressed his bottom adding a fragile scent of spring flower to this unbelievable pleasure.

The ladies restroom was more than a restroom, it is tender loving pleasure.

When the powder puff completed its pleasure, he couldn't wait to push the ATR button which he knew would be supreme ecstasy.

Next thing he knew he opened his eyes, he was in a hospital bed and a nurse was staring down at him.

"What happened?" he exclaimed. "The last thing I remember was pushing the ATR button."

"The button ATR is an Automatic Tampon Remover. Your penis is under your pillow."

### MEN NEVER LISTEN



I was in my back yard trying to launch a kite. I threw the kite up in the air, the wind would catch it for a few seconds, then it would come crashing back down to earth. I tried this a few more times with no success.

All the while, my wife Karen is watching from the kitchen window, Muttering to herself how men need to be told how to do everything.

She opens the window and yelled to me,

"You need a piece of tail."

I turned with a confused look on my face and yelled back, "Make up your mind. Last night, you told me to go fly a kite."



When the husband finally died his wife put the usual death notice in the paper, but added that he died of gonorrhea.

No sooner were the papers delivered when a friend of the family phoned and complained bitterly, 'You know very well that he died of diarrhea, not gonorrhoea.'

Replied the widow, 'I nursed him night and day so of course I know he died of diarrhea, but I thought it would be better for posterity to remember him as a great lover rather than the big shit he always was.'

### November's Best Bowling

The Fall-Spring league has begun.. We invite any and all SIR members to come join us – Tuesday afternoons, 1 PM at Bowlero Lanes (formerly Sierra Lanes) at the corner of Blackstone & Sierra. Anyone interested, please contact Duke Marshall @ 447-5388 or just show up and we will get you started. See you there. NOTE THE NEW DAY BUT OLD TIME.

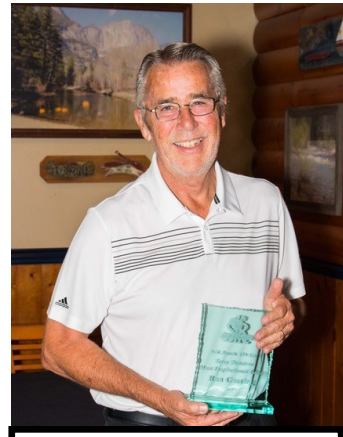
DATE		NAME	SCORE	BRANCH
31-Oct	Hi Scratch Series	Hector Leyva	589/213	159
	Hi Scratch Game	Duke Marshall	223	159
	Hi Hdcp. Series	Duke Marshall	655	159
	Hi Hdcp. Game	Merle Knapp	243	175
7-Nov	Hi Scratch Series	Alan Barton	625/227	159
	Hi Hdcp. Series	Duke Marshall	656	159
	Hi Scratch Game	Ed Beier	224	159
	Hi Hdcp. Game	James Noriega	221	159
14-Nov	Hi Scratch Series	Hector Leyva	700/289	159
	Hi Hdcp. Series	Duke Marshall	597	159
	Hi Scratch Game	Alan Barton	189	159
	Hi Hdcp. Game	Merle Knapp	211	175
21-Nov	Hi Scratch Series	Alan Barton	578	159
	Hi Hdcp. Series	Merle Knapp	591	175
	Hi Scratch Game	Hector Leyva	200	159
	Hi Hdcp. Game	Duke Marshall	207	159
28-Nov	Hi Scratch Series	Alan Barton	582/233	159
	Hi Hdcp. Series	Vic Froehmer	580	159
	Hi Scratch Game	James Noriega	171	159
	Hi Hdcp. Game	Merle Knapp	196	175

# Golfers Corner

I guess I am going to have to get used to writing more. I've made the bowling and attendance reports to be kinda simple and canned, easy to do. Now I am faced with a new challenge of preparing a golf report for the Chanticleer. I am feeling like there is a new fish on the line. Thanks to all of you that offered encouragement. I have big shoes to fill by following Gil and Mike who have set a very high bar. I always found that bar difficult until I learned to Flop. I will try to remember we are all out there looking for some craic, and that will be my aim. When you see Gilbert either on the course or at the luncheon, please give him a thanks for a good job and a slap on the back for me! Just a reminder the last two tournaments of December are designated for the Holiday Cup, this year at Dragonfly and Riverside. The new calendar is posted on our website and Nov/Dec of this year at the top. *Duke Marshall - new Golf Chair.*



Some of the guys at the Awards Breakfast



Inspirational Golfer  
Ron Goering



Area 29 Team Championship  
Fields, Briceno, Rathburn, Martinez, Matossian



159 Champions  
Low Net - Jerry Brady  
Low Gross - Joe Hushek



Golfers of the Year  
Rick Pezzi - Gilbert Matossian



Gary Morgan  
2017 Ron Rich Winner

## Branch 159 December Golf Schedule

*Chairman Ben Tyson*  
*(408)-202-4886*

- Thur 12/7 9AM SG Sherwood
- Wed 12/13 9AM SG Madera CC
- Thu 12/21 9AM SG Dragonfly
- Thu 12/28 9AM SG Riverside
- Thur 1/4 9:30 AM SG Pheasant Run
- Wed 1/10 9:30AM SG Ridge Creek
- Thur 1/18 9:30AM SG Sherwood
- Thur 1/25 9:30AM SG Madera Muni



Money Winners  
Gary Morgan - Rick Pezzi



Money Winner  
Duke Marshall



Gilbert with prize money





**Most Improved Golfer  
Russ Conrad**

**Area 29 Champions  
Duke Marshall Ron Goering Stan Day**

**Old and New Chairmen  
Gilbert & Duke**



**Team Player Champs  
Dell Kerns Perry Huffman**

**More Golfers at the Breakfast**

**Branch Team Scrambles  
Championship  
Nunez Moyle Hendrickson**



**Duke & Gilbert with the Awards**

# MEN'S LUNCHEON



Lee Moy, former Travel Director  
[LeeHealthStudio@gmail.com](mailto:LeeHealthStudio@gmail.com)

"Breaking Bread": Major Ted Feasel and son, Mr/s Lee Moy, Randy Morris, Gary Becker, Pete Openshaw, Ron Travis, Doug Duke, Mike Rumley, Reg Rosander and Mel Wyatt.