

# The Town Crower

Volume 39, Number 6

The Monthly Newsletter for SIR Branch 103

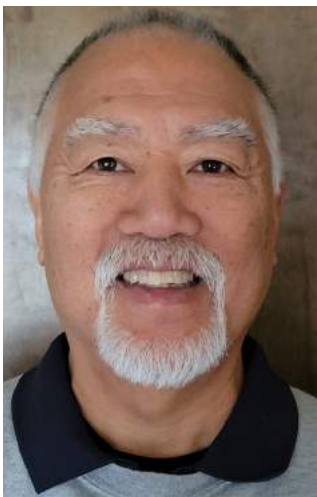
June 2022



## Modesto SIR Branch 103

DEDICATED to the PROMOTION of INDEPENDENCE and DIGNITY for MEN

### **Big Sir Crows** By Jeff Chin



**Big Sir Jeff Chin**

Well, we are packing again to leave Modesto. This is our big trip with the church traveling to Guatemala to help build houses and repair/handout wheelchairs. I have always considered packing to be the worst exercise of any kind of travel, whether for a few days or a few weeks. We will be there for a couple of weeks, leaving June 6, 2022 and returning June 21, 2022. I will have stories to tell you about our travel.

How many of you enjoy traveling? Our next activity to learn about the members of Branch 103 will be about travel. I am devising a method of recording how many of you travel and where. The easiest way seems to just give everyone at a luncheon a world map and a pen to mark their destinations, and then just combine them to get a total for the branch, with the results reported in a newsletter. There are members who enjoy traveling the world, and then there are those enjoy just staying at home in Modesto.

The BEC adopted a policy regarding the requirement of luncheon attendance. The pandemic has reduced our membership and luncheon attendance. The requirement of 6 luncheons per year has been the requirement these past few years, but it hasn't been enforced. The new policy for Branch 103 eliminates the requirement of luncheon attendance to remain membership. Any dues-paying member can participate in all of SIR activities without being required to attend luncheons. This policy will be re-examined each year. SIR is a social club for men, we belong to associate with each other. We eat, play golf, bowl, travel, and other activities to spend time with our friends. We go to luncheons to eat with our friends and visit monthly.

I apologize to those of you who have served in the armed forces protecting this country. There should have been an acknowledgement of your service in the newsletter last month. I will make up for this in the July or August newsletter. Thank you for your service.

The State SIR and your branch leaders are in the process of developing a method of documentation and reporting of COVID home testing. A form will be available to be signed before any SIR activity acknowledging a negative test result. This will allow non-vaccinated members, with negative test results, to participate in our activities.

I need to alert you to a possible change in the location of our luncheons. There are a few bids on the Seasons, and if it is sold, we will have to find another location. Margarito, the manager and head chef at the Seasons, is looking into opening his own location. More news in the next few months.

# GOLF



All payments for golf must be made by 6:00 PM Wednesday before the Monday Tournament. There will be NO payments at the golf course. Mail all checks to Roger Smith, 3612 Incline Ct., Riverbank, CA 95367-3123. Make all checks to SIRs Golf. Write on the bottom of the check the date of the tournament and the course. All fees, golf and cart fees must be paid with check.

If you want to ride/play with someone, please let us know and give us all the information (ride, walk, play

- Mon. June 6-Elkhorn, 8:00, \$48 (cart incl.) Host 144
- Mon. June 13-Creekside, 8:00, \$34 (cart opt.\$15) Host 103
- Mon. June 20-Teleli, 8:00, \$59 (cart incl.) Host 164
- Mon. June 27-Dry Creek, 8:00, \$48 (cart incl.) Host 144
- Tues. July 5-Dryden, 8:00, \$32 (cart opt.\$15) Host 103
- Mon. July 11-Castle Oaks, 8:00, \$59 (car incl.) Host 164
- Mon. July 18-Creekside, 8:00, \$34 (cart opt.\$15) Host 144
- Mon. July 25-Swenson, 8:00, \$46 (cart incl.) Host 103

## Muni-Creekside Golf

Muni-Creekside Golf is an activity that was created by Bob Kredit and Don Reed. This is now a SIR sponsored event. This is a weekly event held at Creekside Golf Course on Thursday mornings. Tee times are first come, first serve, and requests must be made by email or message to Bob Kredit at 6:00 pm the prior Wednesday to the golf tee time. You must have a tee time before coming to the course.

## SIR Bowling Tournaments

- June 9 and 10 Dublin Earl Anthony's Dublin Bowl Tourn. Manager: Harvey McAninch 510-441-3803
- July 27 and 28 Concord Clayton Valley Bowl Tourn. Manager: Dan Weller 925-935-5510

## HOW MANY STATES HAVE YOU VISITED?



How many states have you traveled to, not just through. Each state that you have traveled to brings back a particular memory. Some of you are well-traveled and have visited each state. Some of you have made it a journey with a purpose, such as, visiting every major league baseball home. Have you been to the National Baseball Hall of Fame, Niagara Falls, or the Catskill Mountains (New York)? Mark the map and count the states visited.

# SIR Branch 103 BEC Minutes

By Secretary Don Rowe (First Draft)

**Attendance:** Big SIR Jeff Chin, Secretary, Don Rowe, Assistant Secretary Coe Barnard. Treasurer, Joe Stackhouse  
**Directors:** Kerry Newman, Dave Cooper, Doug Imberi, and Gary Del Nero.

**Absent:** Little Sir Dick Nelson, Assistant Treasurer, Richard Provost, Director Dennis Imhoff, Committee Chairs Bill Stires (travel)

**Committee Representatives present:** Tom Evans, (programs), (Bob Kredit, (Membership and data processing) Jeff Chin, (newsletter and Computer Club), Roger Smith (Golf)

**Guests:**

**Call to Order:** Big SIR Jeff Chin, called the meeting to order at 7:35 A.M. at Denny's. There were 8 Executive Board members present for a quorum.

**Reports:**

**Secretary:** Apr. 29 Minutes were offered for modification. Motion to accept: Rowe, 2nd Stackhouse- PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

**Treasurer:** Joe Stackhouse's May 25 report showed the Beginning balance-\$5,129.11. Receipts: luncheon proceeds less contribution portion- \$\$1,0629.00, Donations/dues-\$0, Raffle- \$\$40.00. Total receipts- \$1,069.00. Checks written- \$97.77 to Dennis Imhoff for retractable banner, Direct debit \$8.00 for checks, Season's Catering-\$1,065.81. Total deductions-\$1,171.58. Ending balance is \$5,026.53. -Motion to accept: Stackhouse, 2nd Barnard-PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

**Big SIR:** 1. Jeff said that he and his wife will be in Guatemala June 6-21. 2. Jeff reported that The Seasons is for sale. The current manager is trying to find another hall. If he finds one, he will honor our contract.

**Little SIR:** AB

**Membership:** Bob reported that 53 members were at lunch. One new member application was presented- Gary Coonce. Motion to accept: Rowe, 2nd Smith PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

State Sir Board has said that local branches rule of 6 luncheons must be attended yearly, may be waived to no mandatory luncheons by local branches. Discussion was had. Motion: Waive the mandatory luncheon rule. If passed, it will be re-visited yearly. Kredit, 2nd Smith- PASSED 7-2.

**Luncheon:** Good food!

**Correspondence:** NA

**Program:** Tom reported that for June, Jack Zech, a farmer, will discuss the Delta whiskey facility. In July, Terry Withrow, Supervisor, will be our speaker. For August, Scott Collins from Modesto Public Works will be our speaker.

**Sunshine:** Gary said her will send cards Bill Irby-stints, and Leo Havener-heart.

**Health and Safety:** Kerry reported that there is an uptick in Covid cases. Also, vaccines for 2-5-year-olds has been approved. He also said that the Monkey Pox is not airborne.

**Thursday Golf:** Bob Kredit said that Thursday golf is going well.

**Golf:** Roger Smith reminded player that the Dryden Tournament will be played on Tuesday. He also said that the flights of tournament will try to be within 6 handicap strokes.

**Newsletter:** Jeff said it is going nicely.

**Bowling:** NA

**Merchandising:** NA

**Data Processing:** NA

**Travel:** NA

**Computer:** NA

**Dine Out:** WE NEED VOLUTEERS TO SET UP FUTURE DINE OUTS!!

**Other:**

**Old Business:** The nominating committee for Officers and Board members, will be approaching people to take over these positions. WE NEED A LITTLE SIR, TREASURER AND ASSITANT, SECRETARY, AND DIRECTORS. MANY OF US HAVE SERVED A LONG TIME AND WOULD LIKE TO GET NEW MEMBERS WITH NEW IDEAS.

**New Business:** Because of low membership and low numbers at luncheons, the idea of merging Branch 103 and Branch 144 was discussed. Jeff said that he will contact Branch 144 concerning this idea.

Adjournment: 8:39 A.M

## Branch 103 General Membership Luncheon

June 22, 2022

10:30 am - 1:00 pm

The Seasons

945 Mc Henry Ave. Modesto, CA

Luncheon Price \$21.00



|               |           |      |
|---------------|-----------|------|
| Don Stevenson | 6/02/1950 | #41  |
| Gary Coonce   | 6/11/1965 | #5   |
| Claude Ham    | 6/19/1940 | #26  |
| Ken Lindsay   | 6/22/1960 | #1   |
| Dick Nelson   | 6/23/1947 | #197 |
| Vic Whaley    | 6/29/1953 | #20  |

## Couples Dine Out

There is no Couples Dine Out this month.

## LADIES' DINE-OUT



The Ladies' Dine-out will be at Smokey's Neighborhood Grill, 501 Bangs Ave., Modesto on June 23, 2022, at 11:30 am. All are invited and bring your friends, no reservations are required.

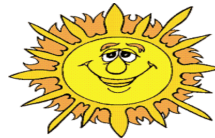
## June Program

By Tom Evans

Jack Zech will be our speaker at the June Luncheon. He is a fourth-generation owner-operator at Victoria Island Farms and co-founder of the Sabbatical Labs Distillery, the first distillery in San Joaquin County since prohibition. Sabbatical uses crops grown on Victoria Island to produce whiskey, gin, amaro, and other spirits.

Victoria Island was the world's largest grower/packer/marketer of asparagus in the 1990s and early 2000s. When costs forced the asparagus crop overseas, the company had to reinvent itself. While helping to execute his grandfather's vision for a shift to permanent crops on the island, Jack used a mothballed asparagus packing facility to create Sabbatical.

The new edition of SIR Happenings has been posted on the SIR website: <http://sirinc.org/sirhappenings/>



By Gary Del Nero

*Sunshine*

I talked with Leo Havener, who had a brief medical issue. He is still taking tests and was able to golf Monday at Dryden. He was in great spirits. Tried to talk with William Irby, who had some medical issues. I have not talked with him as yet, hopefully, he will be ok. Remember to hydrate whenever possible. It's going to get hot on golf course and or on baseball field.



# ALL ABOUT ME

Branch 103 has 97 members. A member will be chosen to tell all about themselves. Little Sir Dick Nelson will interview members each month. The member who Dick interviewed this month is Gary Del Nero.

You can spot Gary walking into Creekside, pushing a large orange and black golf bag. He stops by the putting green and engages in easy conversation with a variety of people.

Gary is the Sunshine Committee for Branch 103 . He makes the calls when people are sick , notifies the branch members, and sends out get well cards.

“My Dad farmed 143 acres of alfalfa and milked 100 cows on Crows Landing Rd. When I was in 5th grade, Dad sold the cows and bought 40 acres of almonds in Turlock.” Gary graduated from Turlock High. While watching Police Story on tv, he became hooked on police work. He went to MJC and got an AS degree in Police Science. Gary worked as a deputy with the Stanislaus County Sheriff’s Department . In his 43 year career his assignments varied from jailer, bailiff, detective, Field Training officer, Dare, Explorer Scout advisor, and volunteer Stars co-ordinator., as well as the Police Activity League. He retired at 50 and spent 14 years in the Reserves. “ I enjoyed helping people.. And sometimes you can help people by arresting them. “ Ask Gary about his favorite case ..It’s a great story .

Gary was a member of the Ceres Planning Commission for 17 years.

Gary and his wife , Molly live in Ceres. They recently celebrated their 40th anniversary. They have a son, Marshall, who has special needs, and a daughter who is married to police man in Tracy .

Gary is a past Sirs President. “I just joined to play golf. The cost is minimal for most people in comparison to other things... and you can make some really good friends. “ Gary also enjoys slow pitch baseball, and bowling. However, he really lights up as he recounts the exploits of his two grandsons.

# Travel

Bill Stires

## **Top of Switzerland and Oberammergau, Germany and the Passion Play August 27-September 7, 2022**

There are only 2 spots left for our group. Price: \$6,425 double occupancy. Deposit of \$750 per person to hold reservation. Highlights:

- 2 night stay in Zurich, Switzerland. Tour of city and leisure time on own.
- 1 night stay in Interlaken, Switzerland. A trip to the "top of Europe" with a panorama 360 degree experience of viewing France, Germany, and Italy.
- 2 night stay in Brienz, Switzerland. Visit a woodcarving museum, walk through the romantic Brunngrasse, once awarded the title, "Most Beautiful Street in Europe."
- 2 night stay in Lucerne, Switzerland. A tour of the city and a farewell dinner to Switzerland.
- 2 night stay in Oberammergau and the Passion Play. The Passion Play takes place only once every 10 years and is performed by people that live in Oberammergau.
- 2 night stay in Munich, Germany. Orientation featuring Olympic Stadium, Olympic Tower and Marienplatz. 17 meals, headsets throughout the tour, and much more.

## **Autumn Colors Trip to East Coast**

October 13-22, 2023

Price: \$4,330 double occupancy  
Air fare to be added in December 2022. Deposit of \$500 per person to hold reservation. Highlights: 2 nights stay in Boston. Tour of city, free time on own. Visit Manchester, Vermont; Burlington, Vermont; North Conway, New Hampshire; Bar Harbor, Maine; Acadia National Park; Portsmouth, New Hampshire. Scenic drives along the Mohawk Trail and Kancamagus Highway. Professional local tour guide for entire trip. 9 nights of First-Class Hotel accommodations. 14 meals including a regional lobster feast. This trip will fill up fast, so sign up early.

## **Scenic Ireland**

April 14-27, 2023

There will only be 24 guests on this trip. Price: \$5,395 double, \$6195 single. Deposit of \$500 per person is required to hold space on this trip. Sign up by June 15, 2022 to get \$50.00 discount. Final payment is due no later than **December 15, 2022.** This is a small group departure limited to 24 passengers. Sign up early to reserve your spot on this exciting trip.

Tour includes: Roundtrip airport transfers, Roundtrip economy air to and from Shannon, Ireland, 12 nights First Class Hotel Accommodations, 18 meals: 12 Breakfasts and 6 Dinners, Gratuities on tour for Tour Manager and Bus Driver, Audio headsets for flexible sightseeing, and all portage and restaurant gratuities.

Highlights include stops at Cliffs of Moher, Connemara, Galway, Derry, Northern Ireland -Giant's Causeway, Belfast, Waterford, Blarney, Ring of Kerry and Dublin.

If interested in any trips, call Bill Stires at home phone 209-544-2684, cell phone 209 988-5445, or email [bstires46@gmail.com](mailto:bstires46@gmail.com) to receive a reservation form. Friends, neighbors and relatives can go on any of the SIR trips.



## SIR STATE OFFICERS

State Pres. Richard Kindle..... 209 652-8608  
State Vice Pres. Dave Gonzales..... 916-587-3538  
Reg. 2 Dir. Dale Decker..... 209 533-0455  
Gov. Area 18 Richard J. Provost..... 209 577-8219

## SIR BRANCH 103 OFFICERS

Big Sir Jeffery Chin ..... 209 602-3912  
Little Sir Richard Nelson..... 209 701-8108  
Secretary Don Rowe ..... 209 634-0100  
Asst. Secretary Coe Barnard ..... 209 602-0661  
Treasurer Joe Stackhouse..... 209 578-4593  
Asst. Treasurer Richard Provost..... 209 543-0972  
Doug Imberi ..... 209 596-1298  
Gary Del Nero ..... 209 681-1100  
Dennis Imhoff ..... 209 846-9529  
Roger Smith ..... 209 614-8684  
Kerry Newman ..... 209 579-7747  
Dave Cooper ..... 209 578-3789



## COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

|  |   |
|--|---|
| Membership Bob Kredit..... 209 672-0326            | Sunshine Chair Gary Del Nero.....209 681-1100 |
| Assistant  | Health & Safety Kerry Newman...209 579-7747   |
| Program Chair Tom Evans ..... 209 551-1836         | Chaplain Joe Stackhouse.....209 543-0972      |
| Assistant  | Asst. Chaplain Gary Goodman .....209 578-0848 |
| Member Orient. Richard Provost ..... 209 222-1910  | Meal Tickets Don Rowe.....209 634-0100        |
| Public Relations Bob Kredit .....209 672-0326      | Raffle .....Roy Bruk, Jim Bickner, Mike Filan |
| Bowling Vern Masse ..... 209 544-1953              | Table Setup Don Rowe .....209 634-0100        |
| Bowling Dominic Genova ..... 209 523-1663          | Table Setup Bill Caldwell .....209 529-4125   |
| Golf Chair Roger Smith..... 209 614-8684           | Table Setup Jim Bickner .....209 522-4345     |
| Golf Co-Chair Kerry Newman .....209 579-7747       | Lead Singer Ed Davis .....209 522-4080        |
| Golf Co-Chair Gerald Hott .....209 602-2910        | Backup Singer Gary Goodman .....209 578-0848  |
| Golf Handicap Jerry Strain..... 209 574-9301       | Audit Committee: Kerry Newman, Coe Barnard    |
| Book Exchange                                      | Nominating Committee: Doug Imberi, Bob Kredit |
| Travel Area 18 Bill Stires ..... 209 988-5445,     | Ladies Dine Out Barbara Webb.....209 526-6511 |
| 209 544-2684                                       |   |
| Merchandise Sales Dennis Imhoff ..... 209 846-9529 |   |
| Lunch Menu Jeffery Chin..... 209 602-3912          |   |
| Computer Club Jeffery Chin ..... 209 602-3912      |   |
| Dine Out .....Monthly Volunteer                    |   |

## HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS

Bill Caldwell, Lon Loudermilk Don Reed and Bob Kredit

## NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Jeffery Chin .... jefferygary@msn.com .....602-3912

### SIR DISCLAIMER and ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS

All trips and other activities arranged by and for SONS IN RETIREMENT, Inc., and its branches are for the convenience and pleasure of the members and their guests who desire to participate. Sons In Retirement, Inc. and its branches do not assume responsibility for the well-being or safety of the passengers, or their property, in any matter pertaining to said tours or other activities. Regular members missing three (3) consecutive meetings shall be notified by Form Letter 4 of their pending membership termination. Certification of attendance at another Branch meeting will be considered as a credit to the attendance record. Individual Branches may limit the number of make-ups during a twelve (12) month period.

Stanislaus Branch #103  
1613 Poust Rd.  
Modesto, CA 95358-1084  
A Non-Profit Organization

**Branch 103 Website**

[www.sirinc2.org/  
branch103](http://www.sirinc2.org/branch103)

INCORPORATED

