

The Town Crower

Volume 39, Number 11

The Monthly Newsletter for SIR Branch 103

November 2022

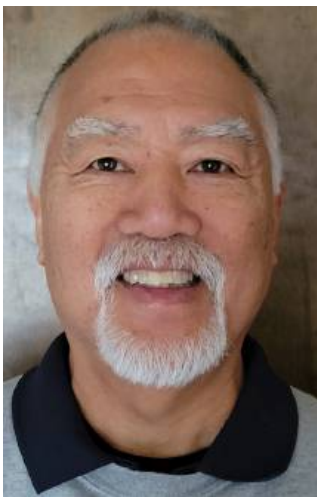


INCORPORATED

Modesto SIR Branch 103

DEDICATED to the PROMOTION of INDEPENDENCE and DIGNITY for MEN

Big Sir Crows By Jeff Chin



Big Sir Jeff Chin

It's with great pleasure that I while I write this brief letter, I listen to the rain falling outside. I have missed the rain, and even the fog in the air. I remember driving in the fog, complaining because we could only see one lane marker at a time. Good old days???

Because of the holidays, our November and December luncheons will be held on the THIRD Wednesdays, instead of the fourth Wednesday. We will return to the fourth Wednesdays in January. We will also be returning to the Masonic Temple for our luncheons in 2023.

Our end-of-the-year luncheon is set for December 14, 2022. Your spouse or significant other is invited and will attend free. You must purchase your ticket for the December luncheon at the November luncheon. When you purchase your ticket, you will receive two tickets to the luncheon. There will be a musical program at the luncheon.

Mike Quinn will perform music from the '60's and the '70's, along with some seasonal music. There will be a raffle of items brought to the luncheon. Please remember to bring something to add to the raffle. Everyone will receive one free raffle ticket each when they present their luncheon ticket.

2022 has come and almost gone. Let's take some time to reflect on this past year, the good times and the bad, the smiles and the tears, the joys and the heartaches. Think about someone you haven't had the opportunity to talk to recently and give them a call.

There will be a new page added to the newsletter. This page is a monthly calendar listing all the SIR Branch 103 events for the month. This page will be the last page of the newsletter, so you can put the page on the refrigerator or another place to see the calendar.



SIR Branch 103 BEC Minutes

By Secretary Don Rowe (First Draft)

October 28, 2022

Attendance: Big SIR Jeff Chin, Little Sir Dick Nelson, Secretary Don Rowe, Assistant Secretary Coe Barnard, Treasurer, Joe Stackhouse, Directors: Dennis Imhoff, Dave Cooper, Roger Smith, Doug Imberi, and Gary Del Nero.

Absent: Assistant Treasurer, Richard Provost, Directors: Kerry Newman, and Doug Imberi. Bill Stires (travel) Bob Kredit, (Membership and data processing)

Committee Representatives present: Tom Evans, (programs), (Jeff Chin, (newsletter and Computer Club)

Guests: None

Call to Order: Big SIR Jeff Chin, called the meeting to order at 7:42 A.M. at Denny's. There were 9 Executive Board members present for a quorum.

Reports:

Secretary: Sept.29 Minutes was offered for modification. Motion to accept: Rowe, 2nd Stackhouse-PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Treasurer: Joe Stackhouse's Sept. 21 report showed the Beginning balance-\$4,873.54. Receipts: luncheon proceeds less contribution portion- \$1228.00, dues-\$0, Raffle- \$53.00, Total receipts-\$1281.00. Checks written- Season's Catering-\$1,188.78, , Sir Assessment, \$182 Total deductions-\$1370.88. Ending balance is \$4,783.76. -Motion to accept: Stackhouse, 2nd Barnard-PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Big SIR: 1. Jeff suggested that we solicit ads for the newsletter. Other Branches do this. The Board agreed. 2. Jeff proposed a new activity- putt-putt golf at Funworks. We will try it on Oct. 12 at 4 PM. 3. We have a singer for our Ladies Day Luncheon in Dec. 4. We can bring wine for the Dec. Luncheon. 5. Water and coffee will be provided by 10:30 for our luncheons. 6. Remind members to bring raffle gifts for Dec. 7. Luncheon prices will go up.

Little SIR: None

Membership: Bob reported to Jeff that we have 106 members.

Luncheon: Good food! \$5.00 FOR THOSE WHO DO NOT EACH LUNCH.

Correspondence: NA

Program: Tom reported that our Oct. Jason Coulie, a former major league player, couldn't come. November, we will have Harrison Jones will tell us about Modesto landmarks.

Sunshine: Gary said that he is trying to locate Bob Bishop.

Health and Safety: NA

Thursday Golf: Thursday golf is going well.

Golf: 2. ALSO, PLAYERS NEED TO REPORT IN FOR EACH TOURNAMENT BY 8:30 (7:30 IN THE SPRING-SUMMER) TO ALLOW THOSE CHECKING YOU IN PLAY ALSO AND NEED TO WARM UP! 3. Bob Manning is securing tournament dates for next year. WE NEED TO INCREASE PLAYERS FOR OUR TOURNAMENTS SO THAT WE CAN SECURE SHOTGUN STARTS.

Newsletter: Jeff said it is going nicely.

Bowling: Jeff reported that they have 18 signed up for the tournament next Thur. and Fri.

Merchandising: Dennis has found a vendor and will start getting details for our merchandise.

Data Processing: Membership lists have been updated.

Travel: NA

Computer: NA

Dine Out: Bill Caldwell is hosting Jan 19 at Mimi's. Contact him in January, if interested.

Other: A discussion about using Facebook for our Branch.

Old Business:

New Business:

Adjournment: 8:23 A.M.

ALL ABOUT ME

Branch 103 has 105 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 Leo Havener.

A sign posted above Leo Havener's garage says, "Corvette Parking Only." Later, Leo explained that he had had three Corvettes, all convertibles, a 1988, a 2014, and his current 2021 wine-colored, mid engine with 495 H.P. When asked why he liked Corvettes so much, he smiled and said, "They are fun, fast, and loud. I like to drive fast, but never erratically," he added. When asked where he could really drive fast, he said, "Certain spots on I-5 and 99. I drove up from Temecula, set the cruise on 80 and never stopped."

Leo grew up in Modesto in a car family. His Dad was a mechanic who had his own shop. "When I was sixteen, I could have gotten a job as a journeyman mechanic in any shop in Modesto. My Dad was sort of hands off. We never took a vacation because he worked 6 days a week. Once a year, we would take a weekend to Redding to visit relatives. My parents were frugal. They taught me that you work for what you get. They would buy pants for me at Sears and Roebuck, but if I wanted Levi's, I had to buy my own."

As a kid in 7th and 8th grade, I milked goats at a goat dairy. In the summers, I worked at the dry lots. "I went to Modesto High and graduated in 1955. I was the offensive center and linebacker on the football team. I took auto mechanics, but I knew most of the stuff already. I knew how to rebore engines, and fit bearings. Modesto was a good place to grow up. You could get up early in the morning, drive to Santa Cruz and spend the day at the beach and come home or drive to the mountains. You could go out to the canals at night or swim in the day time. Everybody in Modesto used to swim in the canals. We used to cruise down 10th street and stop at the Lucky's store parking lot. We'd park the cars in a circle and turn on the radio and dance, until the cops came and chased us away.

I did a lot of drag racing. Blue Gum Ave. had a quarter mile marked off. I got a lot of tickets, but was never arrested. A fellow from Patterson came over and wanted to race on 10th street. I told him that I couldn't. I was on probation for my license. I swapped seats with my wife. She drove and beat the guy in my car. We would drag race on 10th street from sign to sign. Sometimes we would swap cars.' (Leo explained that two guys would see two girls and the passengers would exchange seats). 'I met my wife, Rose Marie, on a car swap on 10th street.'

They were married in 1958 and had two children. Leo's son managed a utility in Wildwood, his daughter was a music licensing agent for B.M.I., and signing musicians to contracts. Leo and Rose Marie were married for 53 years and had 7 grand kids, and 11 great grand kids. Leo's son was a world champion handball player. A granddaughter, working for a Washington D.C. law firm, helped attain the release of an ex-Marine detained in Moscow in a negotiated prisoner exchange in April 2022. Rose Marie came from a large Italian family. She and Leo traveled to Europe 8 times and often to Rhode Island to visit about 150 cousins in her family.

Leo worked for Hum Chevrolet and eventually for Alfred Matthews as a mechanic and later as service manager. Outside of work he played a lot of handball and rode dirt bikes. "There is nothing exciting about riding a motorcycle, unless you are going fast or sliding beyond the point at which you are supposed to die. I had an Osa 250 and rode in Enduro races where you go on trails, across creeks, up and hills. It's more of a skills test. I had to quit when I went over the handle bars at 70 mph. My son used to race Moto Cross and was Pro-Expert. Everybody in our family had a dirt bike.

I used to hunt with a group of 4 guys over by Bridgeport. In 27 years, we got 26 deer. I got a 256 pound 4 point buck. I shot him with a .308 at 100 yards. Took a while to get him out. We found a sheep herder. He wouldn't take any money. We gave him a six pack and hauled the deer out on his burro. When I could not play handball any more, I started playing golf. I enjoy the people. It's old guys having fun. I've been a member of Sirs for a number of years, with my kids not really close, these guys are like my family."

Leo is a NASCAR enthusiast. His favorite race place, Daytona. "I like the speed, atmosphere and the food. My favorite driver is Kyle Larsen from Elk Grove."

As a 14 year-old kid, he rebuilt his first engine. He swapped engines in cars, rebored engines, later raced cars on Blue Gum, and cruised on 10th Street. His entire working career was built around cars. Now as an older man, Leo cruises the interstate with his cruise set 10% above the posted limit, kicked back in his 2021 "Vette," which is loud, fun and fast."

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 with/ride).

Mon. Nov. 7-Micke Grove, 9:00, \$49 (cart incl.)
Host 144

Mon. Nov. 14-Dryden, 9:00, \$32 (cart opt. \$15)
Host 103

Mon. Nov. 21-Swenson, 9:00, \$46 (cart incl.) Host
064

Mon. Nov. 28-Creekside, 9:00, #34 (cart opt.
\$15) Host 144

Mon. Dec. 5-Elkhorn, 9:00, \$48 (cart incl.) Host
164

Mon. Dec. 12-Dryden, 9:00, \$32 (cart opt. \$15)
Host 103

Mon. Dec. 19-Creekside, 9:00, \$34 (cart opt. \$15)
Host 144

2022 Tisdall Memorial Tournament

Unofficial results of the 2022 Tisdall Memorial Bowling Tournament. Complete results will be published.

Division 1 Singles (176 average and above)

(1) Joseph Miceli, (2) Jeff Chin, (3) Rick Lazaro, (4) Bob Abujen, (5) Bert Abrahamzon, (6) Sam Griffis, (7) Michael Coe.

Division 1 Doubles (350 average and above)

(1) D.Brown/R. Lazaro, (2) B. Akers/S. Griffis, (3) J. Fry/K. Jones, (4) R. Brown/C. Hanley

Division 2 Singles (175 average and below)

(1) Larry Lardie, (2) Harvey McAninch, (3) Lynn Salazar, (4) Raymond Garcia, (5) Miguel Ferras, (6) Rob Brown, (7) Ernie Lewis

Division 2 Doubles (349 average and below)

(1) R. DiBasilio/C. Akin, (2) P. Abujen/B. Abujen, (3) V. Okumura/H. Look, (4) T. Abrahamzon/B. Abrahamzon

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.



League Bowls Tuesdays at 1 p.m.

McHenry Bowl, 3700 McHenry Ave.,
Modesto

Results from week 9 of League:

First Place-Team 5 (D.Genova, M.Webb, V.Masse, D.Brown) **Season High Scores:** Men Scratch Game: D. Brown-258, Men Handicap Game: A. Sterling-298, Men Scratch Series: B. Abujen-712, Men Handicap Series: G. Del Nero-728, Women Scratch Game: N. Brey-166, Women Handicap Game: P. Abujen-242, Women Handicap Series: B. Webb-681. **Individual High Average:** Men-B. Abujen-212, Women-B. Webb-151

Pickleball

If you don't know about pickleball, go online to you tube and watch videos to learn about the newest sport. It is one of the fastest growing sports in the country today. It is in Modesto to stay. The City of Modesto, in conjunction with the Central Valley Pickleball Club, has converted four tennis courts into 10 pickleball courts at Graceada Park. It is a sport for all ages. Courts are open seven days a week from 8:00 a.m. to dusk.

Branch 103 General Membership Luncheon

November 16, 2022

10:30 am - 1:00 pm

Masonic Temple

800 Rose Ave. Modesto, CA

Luncheon Price \$21.00



Paul Bender	11/08/1936	#59
James Palkoner	11/08/1943	#25
Jerry Hott	11/17/1945	#105
Ernie Garza	11/18/1946	#188
Mark Doniak	11/27/1957	#175

Couples Dine Out

There will be no Couples Dine Out in the months of November and December because of the holidays.



LADIES' DINE-OUT

There will be no Ladies Dine Out in the months of November and December because of the holidays.



By Gary Del Nero

Gene Freuechtenight has passed. He was in our SIR branch for about a year. Thoughts and prayers are with his wife and family., I will send a sympathy card. Again, great to see Bob Sykes at our meeting as well as Richard Provost. Great time ahead as we are in our special time of the year with Thanksgiving and Christmas coming up. Hope all have a glorious time with friends and family. Gary Del Nero Sunshine 103



BOOK CLUB: Bring a Book, Take a Book!

Earl Glenn is using the new book cabinet to display selections. You are encouraged to bring in your used books and take something back to read. There are usually some interesting and entertaining books available.

November Program

By Tom Evans

Our speaker for November will be Harrison Jones. He will speak about the landmarks in Modesto. Here is a brief history of Modesto:

In the late 1860s, Collis Huntington, Leland Stanford, Mark Hopkins, and Charles Crocker (the "Big Four") planned to extend the Central Pacific Railroad down the San Joaquin Valley, connecting northern and southern California. Land was purchased, subdivided and sold to pay for the railroad and establish a new railroad town. Modesto's original town layout is still visible - the 640-acre downtown with numbered streets parallel to today's Union Pacific Railroad. The first Central Pacific train reached Modesto on October 11, 1870, allowing local farmers to transport dry-farmed wheat to the Bay Area and providing passenger service. Modesto's first post office opened in November of 1870 on 9th Street (then Front Street). Before Modesto was established as a city, there were few institutions in place to maintain order. Major fires in 1881 and 1884 persuaded residents to incorporate the City of Modesto on August 6, 1884. Electric service began in 1891 and the first hospital was built in 1891 on the site of the County hospital on Scenic Drive; sewer and water service followed in 1892. These advances allowed Modesto to grow and marked the end of the Establishment Period. Unfortunately, most of the buildings from Modesto's Establishment Period have been lost.



Bill Stires

Scenic Ireland Trip through Ireland and Northern Ireland

April 14-27, 2023

Price: \$5,395 Double Occupancy Single \$6,195
\$500.00 Deposit to hold your place.
Final payment due on December 15, 2022

Sign up early to reserve your spot on this exciting trip.

\$50.00 Discount extended to November 30, 2022. Still room for the trip. Airfare and transportation to and from the airport is included 18 meals. Includes gratuities on tour for Tour Manager & Bus Driver
Highlights: 12 nights in First Class Hotel Accommodations, 1 night in Limerick, 1 night in Clifden, 1 in Sligo, 2 nights in Belfast in Northern Ireland. Visit Cliffs of Moher, local farms, an Abbey, Giant's Causeway, Titanic Experience, Hillsborough Castle, Belfast's O'Connell Street, St. Patrick's Cathedral, Trinity College, House of Waterford Crystal, Blarney Castle and the Kissing Stone, Garnish Island, Ring of Kerry, Dingle Peninsula, and **much, much more**. Leisure time to explore most of the towns and villages.

Autumn Colors trip to East Coast

October 13 - 22, 2023

Price: \$4,330 double occupancy Single: \$5,325
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.

Remember that relatives and friends may also go on all trips.

Call Bill Stires at 209-988-5445 or email at bstires46@gmail.com to receive .

SIR STATE OFFICERS

State Pres. Richard Kindle..... 209 652-8608
State Vice Pres. Dale Decker..... 209 533-0455
Reg. 2 Dir....Open.....
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 Goodman209 578-0848
Member Orient. Richard Provost 209 222-1910	Meal Tickets Don Rowe.....209 634-0100
Public Relations Bob Kredit209 672-0326	RaffleRoy Bruk,Jim Bickner, Mike Filan
Bowling Vern Masse 209 544-1953	Table Setup Don Rowe209 634-0100
Bowling Dominic Genova 209 523-1663	Table Setup Bill Caldwell209 529-4125
Golf Chair Roger Smith..... 209 614-8684	Table Setup Jim Bickner209 522-4345
Golf Co-Chair Kerry Newman209 579-7747	Lead Singer Ed Davis209 522-4080
Golf Co-Chair Gerald Hott209 602-2910	Backup Singer Gary Goodman209 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 OutMonthly Volunteer	

HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS

Bill Caldwell, Lon Loudermilk Don Reed and Bob Kredit

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Jeffery Chin jefferygaryc@msn.com602-3912

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.

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Modesto, CA 95358-1084
A Non-Profit Organization

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