

The Town Crower

Volume 40, Number 1

The Monthly Newsletter for SIR Branch 103

January 2023



INCORPORATED

Modesto SIR Branch 103

DEDICATED to the PROMOTION of INDEPENDENCE and DIGNITY for MEN

Branch 103 Website: www.sirinc2.org/branch103

Big Sir Crows By Dick Nelson



Big Sir Dick Nelson

As the new Big Sir for 2023, I will give my vision for the upcoming year at our January luncheon. It is a work in progress. In the past year, I have witnessed the drive and effort of Jeff Chin as he dealt with post Covid fallout of reduced membership. Having gone to State Sirs meetings, in person and on line, and listened to a familiar litany of reasons why membership has fallen. Though many of the reasons are valid, I think that we sell Sirs short. Sirs has value. As a men's social organization dedicated to the promotion of independence, Sirs creates opportunities to engage in normal human interaction in a variety of social settings, golf, bowling, and eating out. Sirs creates the opportunity to engage, to converse, to get out of the house, and make new friends. It is a well kept conspiracy to have fun which provides both mental and emotional stimulation and a modicum of physical activity. Sirs provides us the opportunity to laugh, sometimes at ourselves, and that is a good thing considering the myriad of challenges confronted on a golf course or a bowling alley.

How do we communicate this? The State Sirs looks at advertising and branding and there is a place for that, "Getting your name out there." Having worked for the oldest company still in operation in Stanislaus County, founded in 1892, whose success in the grain business withstood the hammerings of economic downturns and cultivated a customer base built on the premise of serving one customer at a time extremely well. You execute, adapt, and go forward.

I'd like to thank the guys who make Sirs go, who man the luncheon booths, chair the committees, and those who wrestle on the executive committee. I'd like to thank Jeff Chin for the great job he did last year as our Big Sir.

A final note: Membership Chair-Bob Kredit is resigning. We need someone to do this. Contact Bob Kredit-209-672-0326. This involves some computer entry.

SIR Branch 103 BEC Minutes

By Secretary Don Rowe (First Draft)

There was no meeting in December

NAME: _____

DATE: _____

Search January Words

BLIZZARD

NEW YEAR

EARMUFFS

HOT COCOA

SNOWMAN

CHRISTMAS

CHOCOLATE

SLIPPERY

HOLIDAYS

SLEDDING

SWEATER

SNOWFLAKE

SNOWBALL

FREEZING

POLAR BEAR

MITTENS

CELEBRATION

TOBOGGAN

HIBERNATE

GLOVES



K Y D R C C S Z T K D X C C Z R W F K N W F X
F R E A R M U F F S I F J O C N H N F E Z P N
H Z L B U N K D R L M T B Y J P G B J K Y O O
G U L L C D S O V N O O C R H K N E W A C L I
N K L I N H B N I I L B A A Z R I A H L A A T
I M A Z L Y O J O P Y O S E T C Z O P F M R A
D Y B Z M S W C V W W G D Y L E E C O W S B R
D L W A I F L D O L M G D W O P E O N O A E B
E A O R T Q U I B L B A O E Y G R C W N M A E
L E N D T J U A P E A N N N M E F T K S T R L
S I S O E S M P A P B T V V S N T O P P S M E
L D N D N X O H A W E X E Z D O Y H I T I X C
A I A O S S E V O L G R J J Q B P S D G R R E
T D S Y A D I L O H O F Y X X R U C I L H H C
F N I H Q O O D Y S W E A T E R C N M R C E R
E F W E C S J W K M L Z H I B E R N A T E F S

ALL ABOUT ME

Branch 103 has 105 members. A member will be chosen to tell all about themselves. Big Sir Dick Nelson will interview members each month. The member who Dick interviewed this month is Ray Tillery.

Ray Tillery lights up a gray cold morning while waiting at the first tee for the Thursday Sirs group. Ray, we need some sounds. Ray smiles, and Miranda Lambright takes off. Ray likes country music, old time country. His father played the fiddle. Ray was in a band called, The Marksmen, that played 60's rock. We played all over California, L.A. Convention Center, and three times at Arco up in Sacramento.

When you walk into Ray's apartment, you notice a couple of guitars and a mandolin on the wall. I do play the piano, but mostly I play guitar.

Ray was born in Modesto. He has three brothers and one sister. His dad worked for nurseries for a long time and later became a physical therapist assistant, as well as playing in bands. Ray attended Modesto High. I was married and had a son and still graduated in 1970.

I was drafted in 1971 and went into the Air Force stationed primarily at Vandenberg in Lompoc. I served as a weather observer, preparing hourly weather reports for missile support. When I got out in 1975, I figured I would have no problem finding a job. I applied to over 90 places and finally took a job as a janitor at Oak Valley Hospital. Later I moved to Memorial Hospital and eventually was in charge of their warehouse.

Ray went to work for Ma Bell as a line man. Funny thing, Ray said, I was afraid of heights. I got over that. In 2010, he was offered a golden parachute and retired a month before he turned 58. Two of Ray's sons work for AT&T after Ray told them he paid more in taxes than they made in a year.

Ray is intentional and disciplined about exercise. I get up early in the morning, have my two cups of coffee and do my exercises. He is partial to Oxycise, a group of breathing and stretching exercises. He has a notebook in which he jots blood pressure, pulse, heart rate as well as a phone app which notes the same and records his steps. He walks 5-7 miles a day. I have not missed.

I really like to play golf. I used to play over at Muni and there was this group of old guys who always slowed me down, but then I started to play with them and eventually joined Sirs a couple of years ago. Vince Jacobo asked me to join.

I like to fish for trout up around Kennedy Meadows. One of my favorite places to camp is Woodward Reservoir. Ray has a variety of interests including photography. I have a bunch of cameras, but you know something, (he holds up his phone) this just about as good as all of them.

As we wrapped up the interview Ray concluded, You know I've always pretty much done my own thing.

**Remember your \$20 Branch 103 Membership dues
for 2023. If you don't pay, you may not play golf or
bowl.**

Write check to SIR 103

GOLF

Bowling

TO ALL SIR MEMBERS: WE HAVE CHANGED THE WAY WE DO BUSINESS AS FAR AS TOURNAMENTS ARE CONCERNED. BEGINNING

JAN 1, 2022, YOU MUST HAVE YOUR REQUEST SUBMITTED TO YOUR CHAIRMAN NO LATER THAN FRIDAY AT 6:00 PM OF THE WEEK BEFORE YOU PLAN TO PLAY. IF YOU SUBMIT YOUR REQUEST AFTER THE **DEADLINE**, YOU WILL BE INSTRUCTED TO ARRIVE AT THE COURSE ON MONDAY, 45 MINUTES BEFORE THE START TIME, WITH YOUR CHECK FOR THE CORRECT AMOUNT AND THE HOST WILL FIT YOU INTO THE TOURNAMENT.

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. Jan. 9-Elkhorn, 9:00, \$48 (cart incl.) Host 144
Tues. Jan. 17-Atwater, 9:00, \$47 (cart incl.) Host 103
Mon. Jan. 23-Creekside, 9:00, \$34 (cart opt. \$15) Host 144
Mon. Jan. 30-Swenson, 9:00, Ride-\$46 (cart incl.) Walk-\$29 Host 103
Mon. Feb. 6-Dry Creek, 8:00, \$52 (cart incl.) Host 103
Mon. Feb. 13-Creekside, 9:00, \$34 (cart opt. \$15) Host 144
Tues. Feb. 21-Atwater, 9:00, \$49 (cart incl.) Host 143
Mon. Feb. 27-Creekside, 9:00, \$34 (cart opt. \$15) Host 103
Mon. Mar. 6-Manteca, 8:00, \$47 (cart incl.) Host 144
Mon. Mar. 13-Creekside, 9:00, \$34 (cart opt. \$15) Host 103B
Mon. Mar. 20-Tracy CC, 9:00, \$52 (cart incl.) Host 103
Mon. Mar. 27-Dryden, 9:00, \$32 (cart opt. \$15) Host 144



League Bowls Tuesdays at 1 p.m.

McHenry Bowl, 3700 McHenry Ave.,
Modesto

Results from week 18 of League:

First Place-Team 3 (J. Sterling, L. Salvi, J. Kincanon, A. Fidalgo) **Season High Scores:** Men Scratch Game: D. Brown-258, Men Handicap Game: A. Sterling-298, Men Scratch Series: B. Abujen-732, Men Handicap Series: J. Sterling-744, Women Scratch Game: N. Brey-166, Women Handicap Game: P. Abujen-242, Women Handicap Series: B. Webb-681. **Last Week's Top Scores:** Men Scratch Game: B. Abujen-210, A. Fidalgo-210, Men Scratch Series: B. Abujen-616, Men Handicap Game: J. Togliatti-239, Men Handicap Series: J. Togliatti-675, Women Scratch Game: B. Webb-192, Women Scratch Series: B. Webb-438, Women Handicap Game: B. Webb-246, Women Handicap Series: D. Bavaro-614, **Individual High Average:** Men-B. Abujen-208, Women-B. Webb-146



Creekside Golf

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.



Branch 103 General Membership Luncheon

January 25, 2023
10:30 am - 1:00 pm
Masonic Temple
800 Rose Ave. Modesto, CA
Luncheon Price \$21.00

Couples Dine Out

The January Dine Out is on January 19, 2023 at Mimi's Café at 3401 Dale Road, Modesto at 5:00 pm. If you would like to go please call Bill Caldwell at 209-303-3516 or email at wgcaldwell@aol.com.



LADIES' DINE-OUT

The Ladies Dine Out will be at BJ's Restaurant and Brewhouse at 3401 Dale Road, Modesto on Thursday, January 26, 2023 at 11:30 am. No reservations are required, please join us.



By Gary Del Nero

It was a tough year. Three of our leaders: Don Reed's, Bob Bishop's and Richard Provost's wives had passed in 2022. Dominick Genova's son also passed. A few others had personal losses, all this with the the lingering effect of COVID. I am sure we all will never forget this and last year. As part of Sunshine, I like to inform, to give condolences, and in ways comfort everyone that we are a United group (As close to a United group as we can be) for SIR's Branch 103. Happy New Year to everyone!

Gary Del Nero Sunshine 103



Ted Bracht	12/01/1947	#36
Don Von Buskirk	1/06/1937	#80
Claude McMillen	1/09/1943	#76
Don Reed	1/13/1935	#57
John Faria	1/20/1947	#15
Michael McClellan	1/27/1950	#32
Robert Fachner	1/27/1954	#11

Branch 103 Website

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



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.



Bill Stires

Trip is sold out at this time. Wait list for new passengers!

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

Airfare and transportation to and from the airport is included and 18 meals. Includes gratuities on tour for Tour Manager and 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: \$5,130 double occupancy Single: \$6,127

Final Payment due June 15, 2023

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 Mo-hawk 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 brochure.

SIR STATE OFFICERS

State Pres. Dave Gonzales 916-587-3538
State Vice Pres. Dale Decker.....209 533-0455
Area 18 Rep. Jeff Chin..... 209 602-3912

SIR BRANCH 103 OFFICERS

Big Sir Richard Nelson..... 209 701-8108
Little Sir Lance Underwood..... 209 681-6989
Secretary Don Rowe 209 634-0100
Asst. Secretary Coe Barnard 209 602-0661
Treasurer Ted Bracht.....209 573-1690
Asst. Treasurer Brian Donahue..... 209 969-0249
Jeff Chin..... 209 602-3912
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 Lance Underwood..... 209 681-6989	
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.

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

INCORPORATED



JANUARY 2023

No.	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
18	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
19	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
		SIR GOLF	SIR BOWLING		CREEKSIDE GOLF		CAF BREAK- FAST
20	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
		SIR GOLF	SIR BOWLING		CREEKSIDE GOLF DINE OUT		
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
		SIR GOLF	SIR BOWLING	SIR MEMBER LUNCHEON	CREEKSIDE GOLF LADIES LUNCH- EON	BEC MEET- ING	
22	29	30	31				
		SIR GOLF	SIR BOWLING				