

# The Town Crower

Volume 40, Number 3

The Monthly Newsletter for SIR Branch 103

March 2023



INCORPORATED

## Modesto SIR Branch 103

DEDICATED to the PROMOTION of INDEPENDENCE and DIGNITY for MEN

Branch 103 Website: [www.sirinc2.org/branch103](http://www.sirinc2.org/branch103)

### Big Sir Crows By Dick Nelson



#### Big Sir Dick Nelson

My wife met me at the door of the sanctuary, holding a cup of Starbucks coffee. "Ashley was waiting for you. She got you a cup of coffee." My 16 year old grand daughter had driven to Starbucks and bought me a cup of coffee. I basked in the glow, my grand daughter did something simple, but it was a treasured act, a thoughtful bit of kindness which stayed with me throughout the week. I texted her later in the week and thanked her for the special joy a simple cup of coffee had brought. She responded, "We'll have to do it again."

I have been the recipient of several things lately. A guy asked me if I liked fish and shared some salmon which he had caught in Alaska, another shared a wood carving which he had made. Some friends share books, phone calls. Sometimes a call, "Hey let's do lunch." Small things enrich our lives, cost little, and remind each other, "You matter." A bag full of oranges or a cup of cold water, a miniature Snickers, or some celebratory concoction passed around after a birdie, all enhance a small segment of time we enjoy together. Recently a fellow said, "Dick, after Thursday golf, you come over to my house and we'll have a beer, and I'll show you my garden." He has sixteen fruit trees, I have seven. I have weeds and he has none. He is proud of his garden and orchard and does not know that I just inherited a green house which I am looking forward to showing him. Competitive gardening will soon be a recognized Sirs' activity.

Speaking of Sirs' activities: Modesto's Best Burger. IM Burger good. I followed up on Jeff Chin's suggestion and took my wife a little later in the day. Scored a few points in taking her to lunch.

Golf: Monday golf could be enhanced a bit with larger fields. Simple way. Ask a friend but let Roger Smith know for Monday golf, Bob Kredit for Thursday. Thursday golf has more guys playing than on Monday.

Lunch: Good turnout. Help Sirs grow, bring a friend to lunch. Let me know who and when, in order to have both food and space.

Looking ahead to the introduction of pickleball at Graceda Park which will be happening soon. Stay Tuned

# SIR Branch 103 BEC Minutes

By Secretary Don Rowe (First Draft)

**Attendance:** Big SIR Dick Nelson, Little Sir Lance Underwood, Secretary Don Rowe, Treasurer, Ted Bracht, Assistant Treasurer, Brian Donahue Directors: Dennis Imhoff, Dave Cooper, Barry Brutica, Kerry Newman, Jeff Chin, and Gary Del Nero.

**Absent:** Assistant Secretary Coe Barnard, Tom Evans, (programs)

**Committee Representatives present:** Jeff Chin, (newsletter and Computer Club)

**Guests:** Richard Provost

**Call to Order:** Big SIR Dick Nelson, called the meeting to order at 7:28 A.M. at Denny's. There were 11 Executive Board members present for a quorum.

**Reports:**

**Secretary:** Jan.27 Minutes was offered for modification. Motion to accept: Rowe, 2nd Underwood-PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

**Treasurer:** Ted Bracht's Feb. 22 report showed the Beginning balance-\$4,740.83. Receipts: luncheon proceeds less contribution portion- \$1254.00, dues-\$340.00, Raffle- \$82.00, Merchandise- \$250.00. Total receipts- \$1,926.00. Checks written- Margarito's Catering-\$1612.73, Bank Charge, \$79.64, reimbursement to Dennis Imhoff (merchandise) Total deductions-\$1,851.35. Ending balance is \$4,815.48. -Motion to accept: Bracht 2nd Rowe-PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

**Big SIR:** 1. Big Sir Dick Nelson got confirmation from Margarito that he has proper liability insurance, and he filled out Form 64.

**Little SIR:** Lance asked who had the birthday list for our branch. Dave Cooper, Membership Chair, said that he would send Lance the lists of members' birthdays.

**Membership:** Dave Cooper reported that we now have 109 members.

**Luncheon:** Good food! \$5.00 FOR THOSE WHO DO NOT EACH LUNCH. LUNCHEON PRICES GOING UP-\$23.00 STARTING IN MARCH.

**Correspondence:** NA

**Program:** absent

**Sunshine:** Gary reported no one has informed him of illnesses or deaths.

**Health and Safety:** Kerry reported that a neurovirus is around and is contagious. The virus can be contagious on surfaces for 2-3 weeks.

**Thursday Golf:** Thursday golf is going well.

**Golf:** NA

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

**Bowling:** Bowling finals coming up.

**Activities:** Jeff has some activities planned: Lunch at In and Out Burgers, pickle ball in March, trips to Blackhawk Museum, and Castle Air Museum. Dates will be sent out.

**Merchandising:** Dennis reported that he sold \$250 in merchandise. The new vendor, Star Sports, offer more selections.

**Data Processing:** NA

**Travel:** NA

**Computer:** NA

**Dine Out:** Jeff Chin is looking for a Chinese restaurant.

**Other:** Jeff Chin suggested that the lunch servers leave the food out longer so members can get seconds. He also suggested that we make to-go plates of the lunch leftovers for sale to members to take home.

**New Business:** NA

**Adjournment:** 8:24 A.M

# ALL ABOUT ME

Branch 103 has 109 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 Terry Cherry.

Terry Cherry was born in Merced when his Dad was stationed at Castle Air Force Base. He has a brother who lives in Tennessee and a sister who lives in Kansas City, Oklahoma. "I attended Grace Davis High School. I did none of the things kids did, like football games, dances. I was a diver on the swim team. My main interest was reading science fiction. Upon graduation, I enlisted in the Navy in 1972.

I was a sonar man who tracked and identified hostile targets. When I was discharged, I was in the top 10% of all sonar men in the Pacific Fleet. My first ship was USS Lynde McCormick, a guided missile destroyer. Our ship made port calls in Hong Kong, Taiwan, Korea, Japan, Hawaii and the Philippines. One highlight, I spent three days on a Taiwanese ship teaching sonar to the Taiwanese. My second ship was a fast frigate, USS Meyer Kord which was called McNamara's folly. It was supposed to have two power plants, but only had one. I was discharged in 1976.

Terry started work at the Tracy Depot in 1992 in security and worked his way up to supervisor of 108 people. His team shipped items such as MRE's all over the world. He retired in 2015 after 30 years of federal service at the relatively young age of 58.

While at Tracy, he met his current wife, Yvonne. The relationship was slow to unfold. He knew her for eight years before dating her for three years. They have been married for 16 years. When asked what his secret was for a successful marriage, Terry replied, "Don't go to bed angry."

Terry's dad, Oscar encouraged Terry to join golf. They play golf together Thursday at Creekside. You can see a picture of father and son arm in arm walking down the fairway as the sun sets over a beautifully manicured course, just enjoying their time together celebrating small victories and consolation in small defeat. They are joined by Mark Lim, who is quiet, reserved, dignified, soft spoken. However, this is not the least bit accurate. The exchanges are often heated, pointed, politically incorrect. It's Democrats versus Republicans, with no holds barred and no place for weaklings. Terry says, "You really need your A game."

Terry's other interests include reading, fishing with an ultra lite rod and a 6# test for small and large mouth bass. He also does wood work, making letter openers from exotic woods as well as jewelry boxes.

# Pictures from February Luncheon





# 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. 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  
Mon. Apr. 3-Dry Creek, 8:00, \$52 (cart incl.) Host 103  
Mon. Apr. 10-Creekside, 8:00, \$34 (cart opt. \$15) Host 143  
Mon. Apr. 17-Swenson, 8:00, Ride-\$46 (cart incl.) Walk-\$29 Host 144  
Mon. Apr. 24-Dryden, 8:00, \$32 (cart opt. \$15) Host 103  
Mon. May 1-Atwater, 8:00, \$49 (cart incl.) Host 143  
Mon. May 8-Elkhorn, 8:00, \$48 (cart incl.) Host 144  
Mon. May 15-Creekside, \$34 (cart opt. \$15) Host 103  
Mon. May 22-Manteca, 8:00, \$47 (cart incl.) Host 144  
Tue. May 30-Dryden, 8:00, \$32 (cart opt. \$15) Host 103

**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**

# Bowling



League Bowls Tuesdays at 1 p.m.  
McHenry Bowl, 3700 McHenry Ave.,  
Modesto

**Congratulations to Team 3 for winning the second third of the league.**

Results from week 26 of League:

**First Place**-Team 1 (J. Hott, A. Sterling, J. Long) **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 Scratch Series: D. Bava-ro-439, Women Handicap Series: B. Webb-681. **Last Week's Top Scores:** Men Scratch Game: D. Brown-234, Men Scratch Series: D. Brown-678, Men Handicap Game: G. DelNero-251, Men Handicap Series: D. Brown-714, Women Scratch Game: B. Webb-142, Women Scratch Series: B. Webb-416, Women Handicap Game: B. Webb-197, Women Handicap Series: B. Webb-581, **Individual High Average:** Men-B. Abujen-208, Women-B. Webb-145



## Creekside Golf

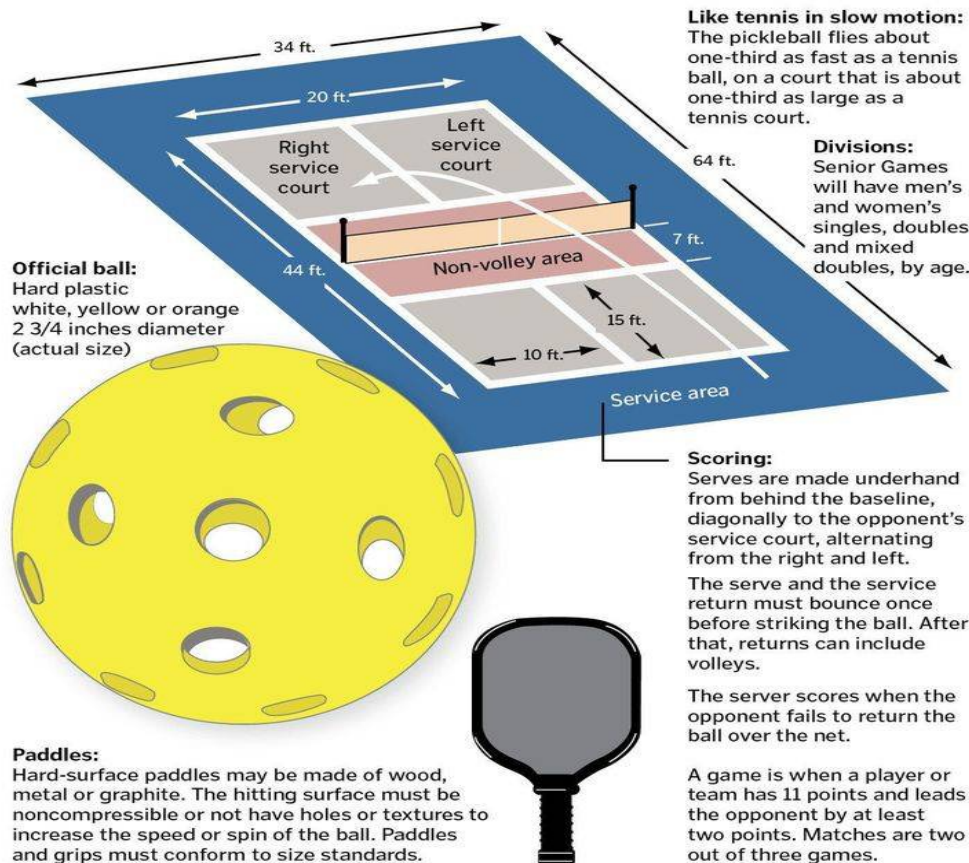
Creekside Golf is an activity that was created by Bob Kredit and Don Reed. This is now a SIR sponsored event. This is a weekly event held at Creekside Golf Course on Thursday mornings. Tee times are first come, first serve, and requests must be made by email or message to Bob Kredit at 6:00 pm the prior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

## Branch 103 Website

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

# Rules of the game: Pickleball

Pickleball is a racquet sport that combines elements of tennis, table tennis and badminton. It is played on a court that measures the same as a doubles badminton court and uses a ball similar to, but smaller and harder than, a wiffle ball. The game can be played indoors or outdoors. The National Senior Games pickleball courts are inside the Cleveland Convention Center daily through Thursday.

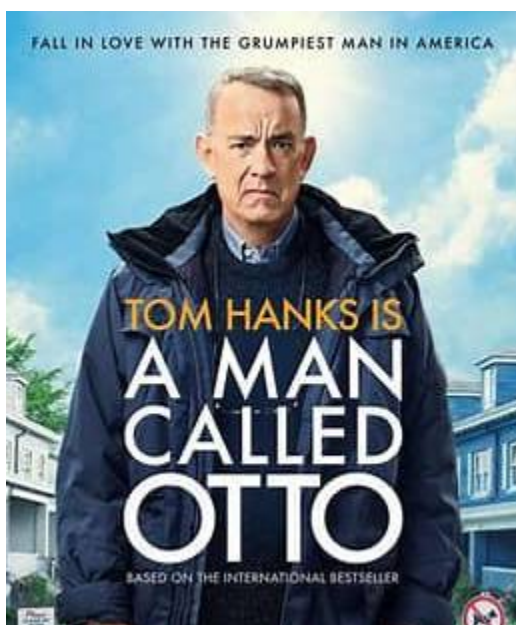


SOURCES: International Federation of Pickleball; 2013 National Senior Games

KEN MARSHALL | THE PLAIN DEALER

## March Pickleball

Branch 103 will have its first pickleball activity on March 17, 2023 at 9:00 am on the pickleball courts at Graceda Park, 401 Needham St., Modesto. There will be paddles and plastic balls provided, and branch members who are experienced players. These members will assist others who haven't played pickleball before. As long as the weather cooperates and gives us dry courts, we will learn to play pickleball. Please join us for some fun.



Otto is a grump who's given up on life following the loss of his wife and wants to end it all. When a young family moves in nearby, he meets his match in quick-witted Marisol, leading to a friendship that will turn his world around. It is a movie that has a little of all of us in it. Demographics are right on the point with our group. This movie stars Tom Hanks as a grouchy man that is at the crossroads of life, just losing his wife and out of a job. Very funny at times, and will leave you with a tear at the end. A 97 on the tomato meter. Movie review by Gary Del Nero. This movie is now playing at AMC Theaters in Manteca.



Both Bob Sykes and Earl Glenn's wives had surgery recently. Hopefully, all went well. Very quiet lately, a very good sign. Let me know if anyone is having problems. Gary Del Nero



## Branch 103 General Membership Luncheon

**March 22, 2023**  
**10:30 am - 1:00 pm**  
**Masonic Temple**

**800 Rose Ave. Modesto, CA**  
**Luncheon Price \$23.00**



## Couples Dine Out

The January Dine Out is on March 16, 2023 at Four Season Buffet Restaurant, 1778 Prescott Road, Modesto at 5:00 pm. If you would like to go please call Jeff Chin at 209-602-3912 or email at [jef-ferygaryc@msn.com](mailto:jef-ferygaryc@msn.com).

## LADIES' DINE-OUT



The Ladies Dine Out will be at Olive Garden Restaurant, 2200 Plaza Parkway, Modesto on Thursday, March 23, 2023 at 11:30 am. No reservations are required, please join us.



The Commemorative Air Force Central California Valley Squadron holds fund-raising meals twice a month. A Second Saturday Pancake Breakfast and a Fourth Saturday Lunch. The breakfast time is 7:30 am to 11:00 am. The lunch time is 11:30 am to 1:00 pm. The cost is \$10 per person. No reservations required. The meals are served at the hangar 1-S at 700 Tioga Dr., Modesto. The pancake breakfast will be on February 11, 2023 and the lunch will be on February 25, 2023.

Chuck Bommarito	3/01/1932	#12
Al Sterling	3/01/1950	#77
Bob Donough	3/06/1950	#202
Dave Prater	3/11/1947	#128
James Laurenti	3/12/1945	#119
Roy Bruk	3/13/1941	#166
Dave Cooper	3/19/1943	#156
Mark Vasche	3/20/1948	#62
Tom Gianopoulos	3/21/1940	#203
Robert McCabe	3/23/1940	#16
Steve Gibson	3/23/1948	#61
Wellington Yee	3/24/1958	#8
Don Bak	3/25/1948	#47
Charles Palmer	3/26/1937	#167
Ed Guida	3/27/1954	#81

## Best Burger in Modesto



The Best Burger in Modesto was held at In-N-Out Restaurant on March 8, 2023. We enjoyed the food and the surroundings. My

lunch is pictured. It was two double doubles with fries animal style. The average score of the restaurant was 31. Each month the average score will be posted.



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](mailto: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..... 209 988-2748  
Jeff Chin..... 209 602-3912  
Gary Del Nero ..... 209 681-1100  
Dennis Imhoff ..... 209 846-9529  
Barry Butrica ..... 209 988-1396  
Kerry Newman ..... 209 579-7747  
Dave Cooper ..... 209 578-3789



## COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Membership Dave Cooper ..... 209 578-3789	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. Dick Nelson ..... 209 701-8108	Meal Tickets Don Rowe, Roy Bruk
Public Relations Bob Kredit ..... 209 672-0326	Raffle .....Roy Bruk, Jim Bickner
Bowling Vern Masse ..... 209 544-1953	Table Setup Don Rowe .....209 634-0100
Bowling Jeff Chin ..... 209 602-3912	Table Setup Jim Bickner .....209 522-4345
Golf Chair Roger Smith..... 209 614-8684	Lead Singer Ed Davis .....209 522-4080
Golf Co-Chair Kerry Newman .....209 579-7747	Backup Singer Gary Goodman .....209 578-0848
Golf Co-Chair Gerald Hott .....209 602-2910	Audit Committee: Kerry Newman, Coe Barnard
Golf Handicap Jerry Strain..... 209 574-9301	Nominating Committee: Jeff Chin, Bob Kredit,
Book Exchange Earl Glenn ..... 209 537-7254	Joe Stackhouse, Barry Butrica
Travel Area 18 Bill Stires ..... 209 988-5445,	Ladies Dine Out Barbara Webb.....209 526-6511
Assistant John Cardoza ..... 209 483-7722	
Merchandise Sales Dennis Imhoff ..... 209 846-9529	
Lunch Menu Lance Underwood..... 209 681-6989	
Computer Club Jeffery Chin ..... 209 602-3912	
Activity Chair Jeffery Chin..... 209 602-3912	

## HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS

Bill Caldwell, Lon Loudermilk, Don Reed and Bob Kredit

## NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Jeffery Chin .... jefferygaryc@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

INCORPORATED



# March 2023

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