

The Town Crower

Volume 40, Number 4

The Monthly Newsletter for SIR Branch 103

April 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



The last monsoon has passed. The earth is dry, though the creeks and rivers are swollen with fresh snow melt tumbling out of the Sierras. We know when the storms are coming. Yet surprises come, the power goes out in a violent wind storm, a tornado passes near by, floods drown Dry Creek golf Course. Cars are stranded on Highway 99 off Dillard Road. The Consumnes and Mokelumne River flood routinely providing a scenic haven for snow geese and sand hill cranes. When will the rains cease and spring come? We do look forward to a respite from weather and seasons which are confining. We have short springs in the Valley. Soon the daylight will change to a dazzling white and summer heat comes and people start complaining, "It's so hot outside." So how did you weather the winter this year? Ironical to think after two years of Covid induced isolation that we would complain about the weather.

Big Sir Dick Nelson We have had a lot of weather induced cancellations for golf since December. However, we have had days at Creekside, when you take a breath and think, "Man this is great just being out here." You are laughing and talking, nothing like the pompous enforced silence of the PGA Tour. We are having fun and indirectly fighting both aging and dementia hard with a certain grace and humility. These days are good. I tell my wife stories of some of the amazing people I have met just playing golf or having lunch. Sirs is a social organization and serves an invaluable function in providing activities for retired men. Isolation is a killer. We are looking at some brochures which trumpet what Sirs is. One has the sly tag line, "Get hubby out of the house." Many wives are secretly overjoyed at this prospect. With all the marketing expertise in our chapter I am sure we will be able to figure how to market our branch more effectively, increase membership, and insure the survival of our organization.

Upcoming activities outlined in upcoming news letter. Something to look forward to maybe a car show in May. Anybody has a classic, car or truck, bring it. Interesting cars, Corvettes, Jaguars, Subarus. Proud of your car. Wash it, wax it and point out features and benefits.

Pickleball started at Graceda Park. This was fun, good exercise and only moderate injuries. This will be a twice a month activity. Philip Reed will head this up.

SIR Branch 103 BEC Minutes

By Assistant Secretary Coe Barnard (First Draft)

ATTENDANCE: Big Sir Dick Nelson, Little Sir Lance Underwood, Assistant Secretary Coe Barnard, Treasurer Ted Bracht, Assistant Treasurer Brian Donahue. Directors: Dennis Imhoff, Dave Cooper, Kerry Newman, and Area SIR representative Jeff Chin.

ABSENT: Secretary Don Rowe and Director Barry Brutica.

GUESTS: Richard Provost and Don Reed .

CALL to ORDER: Big SIR Dick Nelson called the meeting to order at 7:30 am at Denny's restaurant. There were 9 Executive Board members present for a quorum.

REPORTS:

Secretary: February 24, 2023 minutes were offered for modification. Motion to accept: Barnard, second- Newman. Passed unanimously.

Treasurer: Ted Bracht revised report (dated March 22) showed the beginning balance of \$4,815.46. Receipts: luncheon proceeds less contribution portion \$1,293.00 dues, \$123.00, raffle \$47.00—total receipts \$1463.00. Checks written—Margarito's Catering \$1,488.60. Total deductions: \$1488.60. Ending balance is \$4,789.88. Motion to accept: Bracht, 2nd- Imhoff. Passed unanimously.

Membership: Dave Cooper reported that we have 109 members and 4 potential new members (to be voted on at next month's meeting).

Program: Tom Evans announced the upcoming SIR programs— April: Dave Studly- Freemasons, May: Jasen Coulie -Baseball, June: Lloyd Prouz- California History, July: Alexandria Castillo Weisgerber- Ten Warning Signs of Alzheimer's Disease.

Little Sir: Luncheon price increased to \$23.00- (started in March).

Sunshine: Gary had no new reports.

Health & Safety: Kerry Newman reported that on May 11, wearing of masks will be eliminated if allowed by private MD. Also reported that in the US, 1.1 million have died from Covid and that 95% have been fully vaccinated in the US.

Thursday Golf: All going well, except for the weather!

Activities: April 5, 2023-Best Burger in Modesto @ Fast Eddie's M.O.A.B. 1220 Tully Road, Modesto @ 11:30 am April 7 & April 21, 2023- Pickleball @ Graceda Park Courts @ 401 Needham St. 9:00 am April 20, 2023 Couples Dine Out @ Olive Garden 2200 Plaza Parkway, Modesto @ 5:00 pm April 26, 2023- General Membership Luncheon @ Masonic Temple, 800 Rose Ave @ 10:30 am April 27, 2023- Ladies Luncheon @ Smokey's Neighborhood Grill @ 501 Bangs Ave, Modesto @ 11:30 am.

Merchandising: Dennis mentioned that he is getting low on coffee mugs. He was authorized to purchase 72 replacement mugs.

NEW BUSINESS: Jeff is working with state SIR to develop new brochures for handouts to prospective members.

ADJOURNMENT: 8:35 A.M.

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. 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, 8:00, \$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
Mon. Jun 5-Elkhorn, 8:00, \$48 (cart incl.) Host 103
Mon. Jun 12-Creekside, 8:00, \$34 (cart opt. \$15) Host 143
Mon. Jun 19-Manteca, 8:00, \$47 (cart incl.) Host 144
Mon. Jun 26-Dry Creek, 8:00, \$52 (cart incl.) Host 103



The scheduled Pickleball Activity was rained out on April 7, 2023. The next Pickleball Activity will be on April 21, 2023 at the courts at Graceda Park at 9:00 am. Please come out and give it a

try. There will be experienced players to help introduce you to the game. All the equipment will be provided. All members and their spouses are invited.

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 31 of League:

First Place-Team 1 (J. Hott, A. Sterling, J. Long, S. Gibson) **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-248, Women Scratch Series: D. Bavaro-439, Women Handicap Series: P. Abujen-685. **Last Week's Top Scores:** Men Scratch Game: J. Miceli-255, Men Scratch Series: B. Abujen-562, Men Handicap Game: J. Miceli-270, Men Handicap Series: J. Long-667, Women Scratch Game: P. Abujen-188, Women Scratch Series: P. Abujen-487, Women Handicap Game: P. Abujen-254, Women Handicap Series: P. Abujen-685, **Individual High Average:** Men-B. Abujen-205, Women-B. Webb-144



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

Branch 103 General Membership Luncheon

April 26, 2023
10:30 am - 1:00 pm
Masonic Temple

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



Couples Dine Out

The Couples Dine Out is on April 20, 2023 at Olive Garden restaurant, 2200 Plaza Parkway Modesto at 5:00 pm. If you would like to go please call Coe Barnard at 209-602-0661 or email at coe@sbcglobal.net.

Jerry Reese	4/03/1937	#194
Bill Caldwell	4/03/1938	#171
Johnny Taylor	4/03/1939	#13
Bob Kredit	4/03/1943	#10
Lon Loudermilk	4/11/1929	#24
Terry Cherry	4/15/1958	#78
Jim Standard	4/25/1947	#181

LADIES' DINE-OUT



The Ladies Dine Out will be at Smokey's Neighborhood Grill, 501 Bangs Ave., Modesto on Thursday, April 27, 2023 at 11:30 am. No reservations are required, please join us.

Best Burger in Modesto

The Best Burger in Modesto was held at Fast Eddie's MOAB Restaurant on April 5, 2023. We enjoyed the food and the surroundings. The average score of the restaurant was 29. Each month the average score will be posted. The lunch is open to anyone who wants to have lunch. No reservations required, just show up and have a burger with us.

The Com-Air Force 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 April 8,

memorative Central Cal-Valley

holds fund-raising meals twice

Castle Air Museum

There will be a tour of the Castle Air Museum on May 17, 2023. This will be open to all members and their spouses. The cost of the tour will be \$7.50 per person. We will meet at the Museum at 9:00 am. Please call Jeff Chin at (209)602-3912 or text jefferygar-yc@msn.com if you would like to attend. The closing date will be May 10, 2023.

Castle Air Museum is one of the largest aviation museums on the West Coast with over seventy restored vintage military aircraft. The address is: 5050 Santa Fe Drive, Atwater, CA.

Bring a book, take one!



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..... 209 988-2748
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 Goodman209 578-0848
Member Orient. Dick Nelson 209 701-8108	Meal Tickets Don Rowe, Roy Bruk
Public Relations Bob Kredit 209 672-0326	RaffleRoy Bruk, Jim Bickner
Bowling Vern Masse 209 544-1953	Table Setup Don Rowe209 634-0100
Bowling Jeff Chin 209 602-3912	Table Setup Jim Bickner209 522-4345
Golf Chair Roger Smith..... 209 614-8684	Lead Singer Ed Davis209 522-4080
Golf Co-Chair Kerry Newman209 579-7747	Backup Singer Gary Goodman209 578-0848
Golf Co-Chair Gerald Hott209 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.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



April 2023

No.	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
52							1
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	SIR Golf– Dry Creek	SIR Golfing– McHenry Bowl	Best Burger– MOAB	Creekside Golf	Pickleball– Graceda Park	CAF Breakfast	
2	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
	SIR Golf– Creekside	SIR Bowling– McHenry Bowl		Creekside Golf			
3	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
	SIR Golf– Atwater	SIR Bowling– McHenry Bowl		Creekside Golf	Pickleball– Graceda Park	CAF Lunch	
4	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
	SIR Golf– Dryden	SIR Bowling– McHenry Bowl	SIR Luncheon– Masonic Temple	Creekside Golf Ladies Lunch	SIR Branch 103 BEC Meeting		
5	30						