

The Town Crower

Volume 40, Number 5

The Monthly Newsletter for SIR Branch 103

May 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

April was a good month for golf fans. The Masters treated spectators to a spectacular display of early spring in Georgia with azaleas in full bloom. Even the best golfers in the world struggled in adverse weather conditions. Baseball season opened up with little encouraging news from the Giants per usual while the Kings and Warriors treated fans to some really great up tempo full court basketball. Sometimes we like to switch from spectator to active participant. We hit a drive, sink a putt and think, "That was good."

A comment was passed on by one of our older members who is chomping at the bit to get out of a convalescent facility after a bout with pneumonia and play golf again. "If I can't play golf, they might as well ship me off." We get a little restless when our plans are delayed.

My garden beds are ready, have been ready. They have been turned over several times more than usual. This year we are growing plants from seedlings in a small greenhouse. They will be ready to plant by Thanksgiving which is a bit later than my July 4th harvest date. Look's like I'll be visiting Morris Nursery again for my plants.

You play golf with guys, you learn things and see things. Over at Swenson, a fellow hit a low screaming drive on the 10th hole and nailed a squirrel cavorting on the fairway. It was really dead when we walked by. The week before I was putting on the ninth green at Creekside when two geese flew right behind me. The prop wash caused me to miss a two foot putt. Things happen. You just have to laugh.

You learn interesting things about the people you play with when you ask questions. I played golf with Richard Kindle and found out that he grew up in Hughson, played football, went to Fresno State, flew second seat in F-4's, did not go to Viet Nam but commanded a maintenance squadron at Miramar. He brokered almonds and walnuts all over the world. The golf wasn't so hot, but the conversation was really interesting.

SIR Branch 103 BEC April Minutes

By Secretary Don Rowe (First Draft)

ATTENDANCE: Big SIR Dick Nelson, Secretary Don Rowe, Assistant Secretary Coe Barnard, Treasurer, Ted Bracht, Assistant Treasurer, Brian Donahue Directors: Dennis Imhoff, Dave Cooper, Kerry Newman, Jeff Chin, and Gary Del Nero.

Absent: Little Sir Lance Underwood, Director Barry Brutica

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

Guests: Richard Provost

Call to Order: Big SIR Dick Nelson, called the meeting to order at 7:27 A.M. at Denny's. There were 10 Executive Board members present for a quorum.

Reports:

Secretary: Mar.24 Minutes was offered for modification. Motion to accept: Rowe, 2nd Bracht-PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Treasurer: Ted Bracht's Apr. 28 report showed the Beginning balance-\$4,789.88. Receipts: luncheon proceeds less contribution portion- \$1,393.00, dues plus contributions for lunch-\$120.00, Raffle-\$54.00, Total receipts- \$1,720.00. Checks written- Margarito's Catering-\$1,513.49, Dennis Imhoff, merchandise, \$146.03. Total deductions-\$1,659.57. Ending balance is \$4,857.36. -Motion to accept: Bracht 2nd Rowe-PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Big SIR: 1. Big Sir Dick talked to Margarito about monthly count for lunches. 2. He did an orientation for two new members. 3. Dick also obtained SIR brochures and handouts for prospective members.

Little SIR: Lance Underwood has serious eye problems and may not be able to fulfill his duties as Little Sir. We need to recruit a replacement for Little Sir, who then becoming Big Sir next year.

Membership: Dave Cooper reported that we now have 115 members.

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

Correspondence: Big Sir received a correspondence from State Big SIR about allowing ladies to become SIR members.

Program: Tom reported that in May we have Jason Coulie - Baseball. Lloyd Plouz will speak about California history in June. In July we have Alexandria Castillo-Weisengerber will speak about Dementia and Alzheimer's disease.

Sunshine: Gary sent a card to Lance Underwood. Jim Laurenti's wife is having health issues.

Health and Safety: Kerry reported that due to the excess rain, mosquitoes are a real problem. Check any standing water around you and remove it.

Thursday Golf: NA

Newsletter: Jeff said it is going nicely.

Bowling: Bowling has one more week.

Merchandising: Dennis reported that he is selling some items. Cups have gone up in price-\$7 to \$8.

Data Processing: Richard has resigned. We need to get someone to take his place.

Travel: NA

Computer: NA

Activities: Jeff Chin's list of May activities:

May 1-SIR Golf-Atwater May 2-SIR Bowling-McHenry Bowl May 3-SIR Best Burger in Modesto@11:00 am The Habit Burger Grill May 4-Creekside Golf May 5-Pickleball@9:00 am Graceda Park Courts May 8-SIR Golf-Elkhorn May 11-Creekside Golf May 13-CAF Breakfast@7:30 am-11:30 am May 15-SIR Golf-Creekside May 17-Castle Air Museum Tour May 18-Creekside Golf May 18-Couple's Dine Out@5:30 pm Texas Roadhouse 3037 Sisk Road, Modesto May 19-Pickleball May 22-SIR Golf-Manteca May 24-SIR General Membership Luncheon@10:30 May 25-Creekside Golf May 25 Ladies Luncheon @11:30 am The Secret Garden May 26-SIR Branch 103 BEC Meeting @7:30 am May 27-CAF Luncheon@11:30 am-1:30 pm May 30-SIR Golf-Dryden.

New Business: 1. Acting on the request to have the BEC vote on two questions: Allow women to become members of Branch 103- yes, 0, no, 10 UNANIMOUS 2. Allow other Branches to allow women members yes 6, no, 5. PASSED. 3. Motion-Authorize May activities-Chin, 2nd Donahue- PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Old Business: The nominating committee should have a slate of Officers and Directors May 31.

Other: NA

ADJOURNMENT: 8:36 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. 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
 Mon. Jul 3-Dryden, 8:00, \$32 (cart opt. \$15) Host 103
 Mon. Jul 10-Castle Oaks, \$54 (cart incl.) Host 144
 Mon. Jul 17-Creekside, 8:00, \$34 (cart opt. \$15) Host 103B
 Mon. Jul 24-Swenson, 8:00, Ride \$46 (cart incl.) Walk \$29 Host 103
 Mon. Jul 31-Tracy CC, 8:00, \$52 (cart incl.) Host 144



The Pickleball Activity will be scheduled the first and third Fridays of every month 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 10 for winning the Championship of the league.

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. **Individual High Average:** Men-B. Abujen-205, Women-B. Webb-144



2023 League Championship Team

Barbara Webb, Clark Pearson, Dolores Bavaro



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.

ALL ABOUT ME

Branch 103 has 115 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 Mark Lim.

I have known Mark Lim for several years. He is soft spoken and serious. We have often laughed about his experiments with new golf equipment. He plays golf with Terry and Oscar Cherry, and Claude McMillen, which is an evenly matched group with two Democrats and two Republicans. Political discussion often overshadows golf with heated debate and barbs equally distributed.

Mark grew up in Myanmar, formerly known as Burma which had been a British colony and was invaded by the Japanese in World War II which was featured in the movie, "Bridge over the River Kwai." Mark's Dad fled China during the Chinese Civil war in 1948 and came to Myanmar. "We lived a comfortable life. My father was ambitious and wanted to be rich . I had five brothers and sisters. In Burma I had a small business making flip flops. I had no goals."

When he was 32 he came to the US to Philadelphia. He married a Burmese doctor, who did a residency in Philadelphia, and a fellowship in Charlottesville, Virginia. Mark attempted to start a Chinese takeout restaurant which failed. He was a black jack dealer at a Trump casino in Atlantic City for 15 years. "It was boring, all I did was count cards."

Mark and family came to Modesto in 2006. He has a teenage daughter and his wife is the lead rheumatologist for Kaiser in Modesto. He joined Sirs around 2008. He enjoys traveling with his wife and is planning a trip to Italy and Spain in June.

Branch 103 General Membership Luncheon

May 24, 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 May 18, 2023 at Texa Roadhouse restaurant, 3037 Sisk Road, Modesto at 5:30 pm. If you would like to go please call Jeff Chin at (209) 602-3912 or email at jefferygar-yc@msn.com.



LADIES' DINE-OUT

The Ladies Dine Out will be at The Secret Garden, 2401 E. Orangeburg Ave., Modesto on Thursday, May

25, 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 May 13, 2023 and the lunch will be on May 27, 2023.



John Saverthal	5/01/1944	79 yrs.old
Murle Webb	5/04/1931	92 yrs.old
Dom Genova	5/07/1935	88 yrs.old
Jim Long	5/15/1947	79 yrs.old
John Reedy	5/19/1943	80 yrs.old
Gary Goodman	5/21/1944	79 yrs.old
Don Fitzgerald	5/21/1948	75 yrs.old
Lance Underwood	5/27/1954	69 yrs.old
Coe Barnard	5/31/1939	84 yrs.old
Jerry North	5/31/1944	79 yrs.old
Ray Tillery	5/31/1952	71 yrs.old

Best Burger in Modesto

The Best Burger in Modesto was held at The Habit Grill on May 3, 2023. We enjoyed the food and the surroundings. The average score of the restaurant was 34. 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.

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.



Bill Stires

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 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 brochure.



Sunshine

By Gary Del Nero

A card was sent to Lance Underwood, Little Sir. He has been having procedures done on his eyes. Our thoughts and prayers are with him. Thoughts and prayers are also with Jim Lauretti. His wife has been in and out of the hospital recently. We are thinking of Jerry Strain. His son, 60 years old, had a stroke. He is in recovery, with some complications. Although Jerry Strain is a member of Branch 144, his presence is there all week bowling and golfing with us.



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.

Branch 103 Website

www.sirinc2.org/branch103

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.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



May 2023

No.	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31		1	2	3	4	5	6
		SIR Golf- Atwater	SIR Bowling	Best Burger in Modesto	Creekside Golf	Pickleball- Graceda Park	
	No.	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	52						
32	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
		SIR Golf- Elkhorn			Creekside Golf		CAF Breakfast
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
33	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
		SIR Golf- Creekside			Creekside Golf	Pickleball- Graceda Park	
	2	9	10	11	12	13	14
							15
34	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
		SIR Golf- Modesto		Membership Luncheon	Creekside Golf	BEC Meeting	CAF Luncheon
	3	16	17	18	19	20	21
							22
35	28	29	30	31			
	4	SIR Golf- Dry- den	24	25	26	27	28
	5	30	31				