

# The Town Crower

Volume 40, Number 6

The Monthly Newsletter for SIR Branch 103

June 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**

We have had the opportunity to be fathers as well as sons. Father's Day is undersold, the Moms get all the glory. Most of our fathers have died. However, we can take a moment and celebrate their gifts to us while recognizing their flaws.

Hats off to heroes. Many of our Dads came home after World War II or Korea, rolled up their sleeves and went to work, asking for little, just glad to be alive.

So let's raise a Bud to our Dad. Let's thank him for his hard work, dedication to his family, and the hard things he taught us by his example. Let's raise a glass and celebrate the guys who married our daughters, and take time to thank them for their efforts and their work in raising kids, making homes, and training up the next generation.

Now we are the fathers and grandfathers in a unique position to make a strategic contribution to our grandkids. Let's celebrate that we have time to be grandfathers to our children's children, put an arm around the next generation and offer a listening ear, and a word of encouragement. We are cheer leaders, confidants, care givers and chauffeurs. We are a safe place and a kindly face. We have time to be attentive and that's probably the best we have to offer. We have a bit of savvy, time tested through some success and a multitude of failures. We are not wedded to our phones, though delighted when our kids call. We will look up when someone talks, nor care a bit about our lack of presence on social media.

Have a great Father's Day, truly an event worth celebrating.

**HAPPY FATHER'S DAY**

# SIR Branch 103 BEC May Minutes

By Secretary Don Rowe (First Draft)

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

**Absent:** Assistant Treasurer, Brian Donahue, Director Barry Brutica and Gary Del Nero

**Committee Representatives** present: Tom Evans, (programs), Jeff Chin, (newsletter and Computer Club), Bob Kredit (Thursday Golf)

**Guests:** NA

**Call to Order:** Big SIR Dick Nelson, called the meeting to order at 7:31 A.M. at Denny's Restaurant. There were 8 Executive Board members present for a quorum.

**Reports:**

**Secretary:** Apr. 28 Minutes was offered for modification. Motion to accept: Rowe, 2<sup>nd</sup> Chin- PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

**Treasurer:** Ted Bracht's May 2 report showed the Beginning balance-\$4,857.36. Receipts: luncheon proceeds less contribution portion-\$1,380.00, no dues, Raffle-\$76.00, Total receipts-\$1,456.00. Checks written- Margarito's Catering-\$1,488.68, Dennis Imhoff, merchandise-\$150.00. Total deductions-\$1,859.68. Ending balance is \$4,453.68. -Motion to accept: Bracht 2<sup>nd</sup> Rowe-PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

**Big SIR:** Big Sir Dick Nelson reviewed the correspondence from State SIR.

**Little SIR:** Lance Underwood has resigned.

**Membership:** Dave Cooper reported that we now have 114 members. We lost Bill Caldwell. Motion: Accept Brian Café as a new member-Rowe, 2<sup>nd</sup> Newman PASSED UNANIMOUSLY. Motion: Drop the following members for not paying dues or having to care for a spouse: Donny Coonce, Ed Davis, Rick De-Ocampo, Dennis Hermreck, Michael McClellan, John Saverthal, James Wirowek, and Tim Anglim.

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

**Correspondence:** NA

**Program:** Tom reported that in May, we had Jason Coulie, former professional baseball player and coach at MJC. Lloyd Plouz will speak about California history in June. In July, we have Alexandria Castillo-Weisengerber speaking on the signs of Alzheimer's Disease.

**Sunshine:** NA

**Health and Safety** Kerry reported that the Covid new vaccine, helping with new strains of Covid, are available. State SIR has rescinded the Covid masking for indoor events. Motion: Branch 103 will remove the policy of mandatory masking in indoor event-Rowe 2<sup>nd</sup> Barnard- PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

**Thursday Golf:** Going nicely, 51 players yesterday!

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

**Bowling:** SIR League will take summer off. New league will begin September 5, 2023.

**Merchandising:** Dennis reported that he is selling new items. He received new cups costing \$598.43. Motion: Reimburse Dennis \$548.43 for the cups-Rowe, 2<sup>nd</sup> Barnard PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

**Web Master:** Brian Donahue will take over the web master duties.

**Travel:** NA

**Computer:** NA

**Activities:** Jeff Chin's list of May activities will be on the calendar.

**New Business:** NA

**Old Business:** The nominating committee has a list of nominees. At the June and July luncheon, nominees will be taken from the floor. Further discussion was tabled to next month's BEC meeting.

**Other:** 1. The BEC had a discussion about having a speaker from Epoch News. 2. Jeff requested that we authorize him to resign as Area 18 Representative and have Richard Provost replace him. Motion: Accept the resignation of Jeff Chin as Area 18 Representative and accept Richard Provost to the position-Bracht, 2<sup>nd</sup> Rowe- PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

**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. 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  
Mon. Aug. 7-Manteca, 8:00, \$47 (cart incl.) Host 103B  
Mon. Aug. 14-Dryden, 8:00, \$32 (cart opt. \$15) Host 103  
Mon. Aug. 21-Atwater, 8:00, \$49 (cart incl.) Host 143  
Mon. Aug. 28-Creekside, 8:00, \$34 (cart opt. \$15) 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.



## 2023 State Team Golf Championship

Your team is invited to sign up for the 2023 State Team Championship. This year there will be no qualifying for this event, it will be an event open to all teams wishing to compete. All requirements for team participation in the event remain as in past years. **Your team must have a A, B, C and D golfer.** As in the past, a player can play up in accordance with the State Golf Policy manual. There are also a "couple of other changes" to this year's event. First, while the Championship is one tournament event to determine the best SIR golf team it will be spread over two days. A team will have a choice to which day they would like to play. Second, we will not have a Shot Gun start, instead using Tee-Times. This will also allow your team to select a time suitable to their travel needs. Finally, because of no qualifying for this event and also a late start to the golf season because of poor weather we had we will be using a golfer's June 1st instead of the May 1st index to determine team make up. Cost is \$300 per team. Registration forms found at [www.sirgolf.org](http://www.sirgolf.org).

## 2023 Reno Golf Tournament

Get ready to tee off at this Branch 116 and SIR State sponsored Golf Tournament event, taking place from September 5th through September 8th at the stunning TOIYABE and WOLF RUN golf courses. And when you're ready to relax, enjoy comfortable and luxurious accommodations at the SILVER LEGACY Resort and Casino hotel. Don't miss out on this perfect combination of golf and leisure! Entry deadline is July 1, 2023. Registration forms for golf and accommodations found at [www.sirgolf.org](http://www.sirgolf.org).

## 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 Kerry Newman.

On 16 May 2023, Kerry Newman was interviewed at his Modesto residence regarding background and employment. Subject was soft spoken and had amazing and precise recall of names and dates . Newman grew up in Baker City, Oregon, 300 miles east of Portland, 100 miles from Boise on four different ranches which his father leased at different times. We had no electricity or indoor plumbing. My Dad died when I was fourteen. My senior year, I was running the ranch, feeding 250 head of cattle and 300 sheep before school. I fed at 8 am and got to school at noon, until the principal told me I had to be at school for the whole day if I wanted to play basketball. My senior year, we played 6 man football. I played quarterback, safety, and drop-kicked the extra point. My senior class was the largest in the history of North Powder with 26 graduates in 1956. Although I was a couple of months underage, I enlisted in the National Guard. I thought getting to shoot guns and get paid was a good deal. I got paid in two dollar bills.

I had a basketball scholarship and played at Pacific University for a year. My sophomore year, we had a new coach with whom I disagreed. I went out for the wrestling team, and wrestled for two and a half years. I lost to a guy from Oregon State 4-3, who had been a Pan American Champion at 137 pound class. I also wrestled an NCAA champ from Portland State in the 130 pound class and beat him. After getting his degree in physical education and biology, Newman developed a P.E. Program at Gales Creek.

Several years later, he went to Guam and developed an interscholastic sports program among four high schools and took the first American team to the Pacific Island Games, winning a bronze medal in basketball.

In a strange career twist, he was recruited by the Office of Naval Intelligence and began doing background investigations for men coming into the Navy. He was assigned to the 13th Naval District in Seattle. He was involved with numerous cases of national renown. In 1971, anticipating a reduction in force, Newman applied to the F.B.I. Forty five days later, he received a letter from J. Edgar Hoover admitting him to the F.B.I. training academy in Washington D.C. A sidenote, Newman was asked if he ever met Mr. Hoover. "No ,we always tried to avoid him. We took the other elevator whenever he was around."

After a stint in the Salt Lake City Field Office investigating interstate trucking thefts, he came to San Francisco and spent a couple of years as a training officer at Fort Ord with stints at Quantico as an expert firearms instructor, as well as being involved with the SWAT, Defensive Tactics, and Tactical Air Command Programs, which he taught to various domestic police departments in California.

From 1980-1990, he worked out of Oakland. He and his partner recovered a truck load of Gallo wine, called Bill Caldwell, head of security for Gallo, and told him to come get his truck.

Upon retirement, Newman and some friends from Guam began buying a series of quick change oil franchises, starting in Fort Collins, Colorado, eventually owning locations in Bakersfield, Atwater, Ceres, and Modesto .

On a personal note, Newman married his current wife, Marie in 1980. They have two children and one stepson, as well as seven grandchildren. Memorabilia from Newman's storied career are sprinkled throughout the house. One glass topped table is a show case of belt buckles won at various skeet and trap championships. He won championships at the World Police and Fire Games. In 1998, he won the skeet doubles prize at the California State Police Games and has been a regular participant in the Huntsman World Senior Games in trap and golf. He has several photos on the wall of his study: Arnold Palmer, Clarence Kelly, a former F.B.I. Director, and Edwin Meese, Attorney General under Ronald Reagan.

Kerry moved to Modesto in 1995, and joined SIR in 2006. " I have been the Assistant Golf Chair almost the whole time." Newman's other interests include gardening, cross word puzzles, and reading James Patterson thrillers.



## Branch 103 General Membership Luncheon

**June 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 June 15, 2023 at La Parrilla Restaurant, 3401 Oakdale Rd., 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](mailto:jefferygar-yc@msn.com).



## LADIES' DINE-OUT

The Ladies Dine Out will be at BJ's Restaurant, 3401 Dale Rd., Modesto on Thursday, June 22, 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.



Don Stevenson	6/02/1950	73 yrs.old
Gary Coonce	6/11/1965	58 yrs.old
Martin Oertwig	6/15/1946	77 yrs.old
Claude Ham	6/19/1940	83 yrs.old
Ken Lindsay	6/22/1960	63 yrs.old
Dick Nelson	6/23/1947	76 yrs.old
Vic Whaley	6/29/1953	70 yrs.old

## Best Burger in Modesto

The Best Burger in Modesto will be held at Bob's Giant Burger, 1801 H St., Modesto on June 7, 2023. The lunch is open to anyone who wants to have lunch. No reservations required, just show up and have a burger with us.

## Blackhawk Museum

There will be a tour of the Blackhawk Museum on June 16, 2023. This will be open to all members and their spouses. The cost of the tour will be \$10.00 per person. We will meet at the Museum at 10:00 am. Please call Jeff Chin at (209)602-3912 or text [jefferygar-yc@msn.com](mailto:jefferygar-yc@msn.com) if you would like to attend. The closing date will be June 9, 2023.

The Blackhawk Museum, located in Danville, CA, is a premier cultural destination in the Bay Area. The museum features six dynamic exhibits, including the Classic Car Collection, Art of Africa, Pat's Compacts, Into China, World of Nature, and Spirit of the Old West. Each exhibit offers visitors a unique opportunity to engage with a rich tapestry of cultures, history, and art. The address is 3700 Blackhawk Plaza Circle, Danville, 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](mailto:bstires46@gmail.com) to receive brochure.**



## **Sunshine**

By Gary Del Nero

We pray for the best on John Lemos as cancer surrounds him that there a magic cure in the future. We also wish the best for Lance Underwood hoping his eyes heal soon. We mourn the loss of a former Branch 103 Big Sir and an Honorary Life Member, Bill Caldwell.



### **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](http://www.sirinc2.org/branch103)**

# SIR Branch 103 Activities

Our Castle Air Museum tour was greatly enhanced by a SIR member from Branch 143, Tom Pannier. He was in the Air Force and flew most of the planes that are housed at the site. His insight and experience gave us more information about the planes.



The Couples Dine Out in May was held at Texas Roadhouse Restaurant. Here are Don and Bette Locke enjoying their meal. It was a noisy place, but the food was delicious.



Kerry and Marie Newman and Ruth Barnard joined us at the Texas Roadhouse Restaurant.





## SIR STATE OFFICERS

State Pres. Dave Gonzales ..... 916-587-3538  
State Vice Pres. Dale Decker.....209 533-0455  
Area 18 Rep. Richard Provost .....209 222-1910

## 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 Gary Goodman .....209 578-0848
Golf Co-Chair Kerry Newman .....209 579-7747	Audit Committee: Kerry Newman, Coe Barnard
Golf Co-Chair Gerald Hott .....209 602-2910	Nominating Committee: Jeff Chin, Bob Kredit,
Golf Handicap Jerry Strain..... 209 574-9301	Joe Stackhouse, Barry Butrica
Book Exchange Earl Glenn ..... 209 537-7254	Ladies Dine Out Barbara Webb.....209 526-6511
Travel Area 18 Bill Stires ..... 209 988-5445,	Webmaster Brian Donahue.....209 988-2748
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

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





# June 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Creekside Golf	2 Pickleball	3
4	5 SIR Golf-Elkhorn	6	7 Best Burger in Modesto-Bob's Giant Burger	8 Creekside Golf	9	10 CAF Breakfast
11	12 SIR Golf-Creekside	13	14	15 Couples Dine Out-La Parrilla Restaurant	16 Pickleball Blackhawk Museum Tour	17
18	19 SIR Golf-Manteca	20	21	22 Creekside Golf Ladies Luncheon-BJ's Restaurant	23	24 CAF Luncheon
25	26 SIR Golf-Dry Creek	27	28 General Membership Luncheon-Masonic Temple	29 Creekside Golf	30 Branch 103 BEC Meeting Denny's Restaurant	