

# The Town Crower

Volume 41, Number 3

The Monthly Newsletter for SIR Branch 103

March 2024



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 Paul Bender



**Big Sir Paul Bender**

WELL, HERE WE ARE ALREADY IN THE MONTH OF MARCH. I AM SURE EVERONE ELSE IS READY FOR SPRING AND SOME WARM AND DRY WEATHER.

I HAVE FOUND THAT ALL CLUBS ARE EXPERENCING A DROP IN MEMBERSHIP, NOT ONLY SIRS, BUT ELKS, LIONS CLUB AND ETC. COVID STARTED THE DECLINE, PEOPLE CHANGED THEIR HABITS AND INTERESTS.

I THINK WE SHOULD TAKE THE GROUP THAT WE HAVE AND HAVE SOME FUN. WE THINK THAT SOME ACTIVITES AT LUNCH WOULD HELP, SO IF YOU HAVE ANY SUGESTIONS, PLEASE LET US KNOW. IF YOUR FRIENDS SEE YOU ARE HAVING FUN, THEN MAYBE THEY WOULD LIKE TO PARTICIPATE AND JOIN.

HAPPY ST. PATTRICKS DAY!

HAPPY EASTER SUNDAY TO EVERYONE!

## Program to Encourage Active Rewarding Lives

The Area Agency on Aging had a representative speak at our February luncheon. They have created a program to assist older adults, 60 or older, residing in Stanislaus County experiencing symptoms of depression or loss. PEARLS, the Program to Encourage Active Rewarding Lives, have coaches who meet one-on-one with older adults in individual sessions spanning six to eight visits over the course of four to five months. The program begins with weekly meetings that gradually transition to monthly sessions. This program uses common skill-building to support people in steadily developing their independent problem-solving skills. For more information: call (209) 558-8698.

# SIR Branch 103 BEC February Minutes

By Secretary Don Rowe (First Draft)

**Attending:** Big Sir Paul Bender, Little Sir Juan Salinas, Treasurer Ted Bracht, Assistant Treasurer Brian Donahue, Directors: Dave Cooper, Kerry Newman, Dennis Imhoff, Coe Barnard, Roger Smith, Dick Nelson, Lance Underwood, Ray Tillery Assistant Secretary. Dick Nelson recorded the minutes.

**Absent:** Director Coe Barnard, Roger Smith, Golf Chairman

**Committee Representatives:** Thursday Golf- Bob Kredit, Health- Kerry Newman, Merchandise-Dennis Imhoff, Program-Tom Evans, Membership- Dave Cooper, Sunshine-Gary Del Nero

**Guests:** John Cardoza- Travel Coordinator, Don Reed- Thursday Golf

**Call to Order:** Big Sir Paul Bender called the meeting to order at 7:28 A.M. at Denny's. There were 10 members of the BEC present for a quorum.

**Reports:**

**Big Sir :**

**Little Sir:**

**Secretary's Report-** Motion to accept Jan 26 minutes. Motion to accept Passed unanimously

**Treasurer's Report-** Motion to accept Treasurer's Report 29 Feb. Passed unanimously.

**Membership:** Dave Cooper. We have 102 members with 20 members not paid. Efforts made to contact have met with little success. A letter will be sent out to those who have missed 6 or more luncheons . The list will be evaluated by BEC on an individual basis.

**Travel:** John Cardoza mentioned Reno trip in Jan canceled because of train derailment. Alaska cruise out of San Francisco scheduled 26 May. RV trip to Black Oak set for 28 April, and a cruise through the Panama Canal set Jan 16 ,2025.

**Program:** Tom Evans said March speaker will discuss school safety, April speaker will discuss dinosaurs , May speaker will be from Creekside.

**Couples Dine Out-** Tony Carino's Restaurant- Modesto March 20.

**Old Business-** Kerry Newman completed the annual audit. Motion to accept. Passed unanimously.

**New Business:**

**Adjournment:** 8:35

# ALL ABOUT ME

Branch 103 has 104 members. A member will be chosen to tell all about themselves. Dick Nelson will interview members each month. The member who Dick interviewed Brian Donahue.

I grew up in Campbell, the middle child with three brothers. My Dad played semi-pro baseball as a catcher with the San Francisco Seals in the Pacific Coast League for seven years. He never made it to the majors. His big dream was to see the San Francisco Giants in the World Series. He died a couple of months before they won their first one in 2010. With a wife and four hungry boys, he worked for IBM as a facilities manager. I went to Westmont High School. I was a catcher on the baseball team, a 180 pound linebacker and guard on the football team.

I met my wife in sixth grade and wanted to get married in high school. Our parents wanted us to go to college. However, after two years at West Valley Junior College, I knew college was not for me. I went to work for my father-in-law, who was a manufacturer's rep to independent hardware stores. With the consolidation of hardware stores by the bigger chains like Orchard and Home Depot, I could see the writing on the wall. I transitioned to selling to the Arts and Crafts people like Michael's and Beverly's throughout California, Nevada, Washington, Oregon. Eventually, I started to import many of the items I sold from China, Viet Nam, Thailand. Every 4th grade kid in California had a mission project. My company provided the trees, figures and much of the material in these projects.

We moved to Modesto in 1980. My parents in Campbell thought we had moved to the end of the earth. Our neighbors here considered us Bay Area Transplants. While traveling throughout the valley, I would often stay at a friend's house in Modesto. We thought Modesto was a much better place to raise a family than East San Jose.

My wife, Joan, and I have two daughters, one is a Marriage and Family Counselor, who works with Wounded Warriors and Project Sanctuary, as well as managing a facility for women heroin addicts. Our other daughter does school placement for military kids.

After driving 25,000–40,000 miles a year I still like to get in the car and travel. I enjoy San Francisco Giant's baseball, Forty-niner football, and golf.

Brian has been a member of Sirs for the last three years, and serves energetically as Assistant Treasurer, and member of the BEC.



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**

**Mon. Mar. 4-Creekside, 9:00, \$34 (cart opt. \$20) Host 103A**  
**Mon. Mar. 11-Swenson, 9:00, \$49 (cart incl) Host 103B**  
**Mon. Mar. 18-Dryden, 9:00, \$32 (cart opt. \$20) Host 144**  
**Mon. Mar. 25-Drycreek, 9:00, \$53 (cart incl) Host 103A**  
**Mon. Apr. 1-Elkhorn, 9:00, \$53 (cart incl) Host 103B**  
**Mon. Apr. 8-Creekside, 8:00, \$34 (cart opt. \$20) Host 144**  
**Mon. Apr. 15-Tracy CC, 8:00, \$59 (cart incl) Host 103A**  
**Mon. Apr. 22-Dryden, 8:00, \$32 (cart opt. \$20) Host 103B**  
**Mon. Apr. 29-Manteca, 8:00, \$49 (cart incl) Host 144**  
**Mon. May 6-Atwater, 8:00, \$54 (cart incl) Host 103A**  
**Mon. May 13-Creekside, 8:00, \$34 (cart opt. \$20) Host 103B**  
**Mon. May 20-Manteca, 8:00, \$49 (cart incl) Host 144**  
**Tue. May 28-Dryden, 8:00, \$32 (cart opt. \$20) Host 103A**  
**Mon. June 2-Elkhorn, 8:00, \$53 (cart incl) Host 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.



## Bowling

**League Bowls Tuesdays at 1 p.m.**

**McHenry Bowl, 3700 McHenry Ave., Modesto**

Team 10 won the second third of the league this week. Members of Team 10 are Marvin Van-Middendorp and Tom Mickelsen.

### High Scratch and Handicap Series and Games

#### Season High Scores

Handicap Series: Arnold Fidalgo 760, Handicap Game: Al Sterling 286, Scratch Series: David Brown 658, Scratch Game: Joe Miceli 266

Handicap Series: Debbie Chin 658, Handicap Game: Barbara Webb 242, Scratch Series: Dolores Bavaro 436, Scratch Game: Debbie Chin 186

#### Week 26 February 26

Handicap Series: Mike Bowers 703, Handicap Game: Mike Bowers 257, Scratch Series: Mike Bowers 703, Scratch Game: Mike Bowers 257

Handicap Series: Rebecca Burrichter 617, Handicap Game: Rebecca Burrichter 232, Scratch Series: Barbara Webb 404, Scratch Game: Barbara Webb 141



The Pickleball Activity is be scheduled the first and third Fridays of every month at the courts at Beyer 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.

## Branch 103 General Membership Luncheon

**March 27, 2024**

**10:30 am - 1:00 pm**

**Masonic Temple**

**800 Rose Ave. Modesto, CA**

**Luncheon Price \$25.00**

## Couples Dine Out

The March Couples Dine Out will be on March 20, 2024 at Johnny Carino's restaurant, 3401 Dale Road, Modesto at 5:00 PM. If you would like to attend, please call Kerry Newman at 209-579-7747 or [kerrynewman07@comcast.net](mailto:kerrynewman07@comcast.net)



## LADIES' DINE-OUT

The Ladies Dine Out will held at Papavols Bistro, 1320 #2, Standiford Ave, Modesto at 11:30 AM on March 28, 2024.



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 breakfast will be on March 9, 2024 and the lunch will be on March 23, 2024.



Chuck Bommarito	3/01/1932	92 Yrs. Old
Earl Sterling	3/01/1950	74 Yrs. Old
Bob McDonough	3/06/1950	74 Yrs. Old
Dave Prater	3/11/1947	77 Yrs. Old
James Laurenti	3/12/1945	79 Yrs. Old
Dave Cooper	3/19/1943	81 Yrs. Old
Mark Vashe	3/20/1948	76 Yrs. Old
Steve Gibson	3/23/1948	76 Yrs. Old
Wellington Yee	3/24/1958	66 Yrs. Old
Don Bak	3/25/1948	76 Yrs. Old
Charles Palmer	3/26/1937	87 Yrs. Old
Ed Guida	3/27/1954	70 Yrs. Old

## 2024 SIR BRANCH 103 OFFICERS

Big Sir—Paul Bender

Little Sir-Juan Salinas

Secretary-Don Rowe

Assist. Sec.-Ray Tillery

Treasurer-Ted Bracht

Assist. Treas.-Brian Donahue

Director-Dick Nelson

Director-Ray Tillery

Director-Dennis Imhoff

Director-Roger Smith

Director-Kerry Newman

Director-Dave Cooper



# Sunshine

By Gary Del Nero

Sunshine report: Report that Ed Guida has some medical issues. Our thoughts and prayers are with him. Don Locke is at home in rehab, and again, our thoughts and prayers are with him. Richard Provost funeral had about 15 of our members attend. He surely will be missed by all.

Respectfully Gary Del Nero Sunshine 103

## Health and Safety

By Kerry Newman

Getting vaccinated against COVID-19 has many benefits. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the COVID-19 vaccines available in the United States are safe and effective at protecting people from getting seriously ill, being hospitalized, and dying. Here are some of the benefits of getting vaccinated against COVID-19:

**Prevents serious illness:** COVID-19 vaccines are effective at preventing serious illness, hospitalization, and death<sup>1</sup>.

**A safer way to build protection:** Getting vaccinated is a safer and more reliable way to build protection than getting sick with COVID-19<sup>1</sup>.

**Offers added protection:** COVID-19 vaccines can offer added protection to people who had COVID-19, including protection against being hospitalized from a new infection<sup>1</sup>.

It's important to note that getting vaccinated not only protects you but also helps protect others around you. By getting vaccinated, you can help reduce the spread of COVID-19 and protect those who can't be vaccinated and those for whom the vaccine is less effective, such as children under 12 and people with certain medical conditions.



### 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)

# Travel

John Cardoza (209) 483-7722



ARRANGED BY ALAMO WORLD TRAVEL  
FOR SIRS AREA 18, BRANCH 143 & FRIENDS



## 11 NIGHT INSIDE PASSAGE CRUISE ABOARD THE CROWN PRINCESS

### SAILING ROUND-TRIP SAN FRANCISCO, MAY 26-JUNE 6, 2024

#### PORTS OF CALL

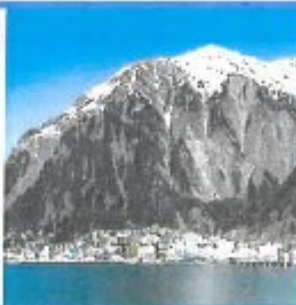
Ketchikan, Alaska, Juneau, Skagway, Endicott Arm and Dawes Glacier  
(Scenic Cruising Alaska) and Victoria, Canada

#### THE CROWN PRINCESS



ESCORTED BY JOHN CARDOZA (209) 483-7722 cell

**\*\*Add the Princess Plus Package for \$560 per person**  
Includes: Beverage package, WIFI, Crew appreciation, Premium  
desserts (2 per day), Fitness classes (2 per cruise) and unlimited Juice Bar\*\*



## **16 NIGHT PANAMA CANAL CRUISE ABOARD THE CORAL PRINCESS**

**SAILING FROM  
SAN FRANCISCO TO FT. LAUDERDALE  
JANUARY 20-FEBRUARY 5, 2025**

### **PORTS OF CALL**

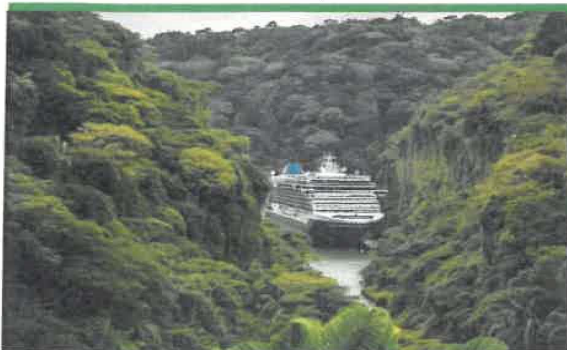
**Puerto Vallarta, Mexico/ Puerto Quetzal, Guatemala/ Puntarenas,  
Costa Rica/ Fuerto Amador, Panama/ Full Transit through the historic locks  
and Cartagena, Columbia**

### **THE CORAL PRINCESS**



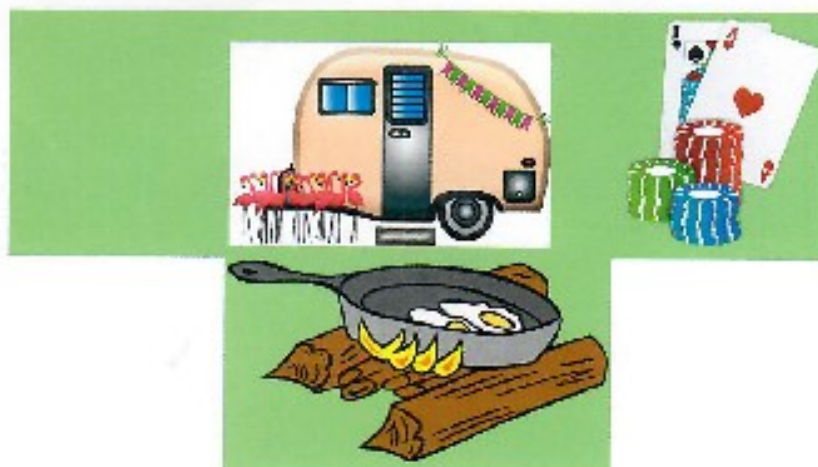
**\*\*Add the Princess Plus Package for \$960 per person  
Includes: Beverage package, WiFi, Crew appreciation, Premium  
desserts (2 per day), Fitness classes (2 per cruise) and unlimited Juice Bar, 2 Casual  
Dining meals per guest, Room service delivery\*\***

**ESCORTED BY JOHN CARDOZA (209) 483-7722 cell**



**Call John Cardoza for more information**





**2024**  
**BLACK OAKS CASINO RV PARK**  
**April 28 - MAY 3**

Sunday	4/28	ARRIVAL MEAL DECISIONS TO BE MADE FOR WEEK
Monday	4/29	ACTIVITIES: BOCCE BALL, CORN HOLE, CARD GAMES
Tuesday	4/30	
Wednesday	5/1	
Thursday	5/2	DINNER CASINO RESTAURANT
Friday	5/3	DRIVE HOME SAFELY

---

Sign Up Procedure

1. Call Black Oaks RV Park for reservation 1-877-747-8777
2. **IMPORTANT** Let them know you are with KEN KAJIOKA group
3. Call or text Ken Kajioka after registering. 209 602-8351  
Reservation will ask for a credit card # but will not be charged

**IMPORTANT: RESERVATIONS ARE FILLING UP FAST!**

## SIR STATE OFFICERS

State Pres. Dale Decker..... 209 573-0833  
State Vice Pres. Stu Williams..... 510 865-5000  
Area 18 Rep.

## SIR BRANCH 103 OFFICERS

Big Sir Paul Bender..... 209 324-1793  
Little Sir Juan Salinas..... 209 605-6762  
Secretary Don Rowe ..... 209 634-0100  
Asst. Secretary Ray Tillery ..... 209 499-0955  
Treasurer Ted Bracht..... 209 573-1690  
Asst. Treas. Brian Donahue..... 209 988-2748  
Dick Nelson ..... 209 701-8108  
Dennis Imhoff ..... 209 846-9529  
Ray Tillery ..... 209 499-0955  
Kerry Newman ..... 209 579-7747  
Dave Cooper ..... 209 578-3789

## COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Membership: Dave Cooper ..... 209 578-3789  
Assistant  
Program Chair: Tom Evans ..... 209 551-1836  
Assistant:  
Member Orient.: Dick Nelson ..... 209 701-8108  
Public Relations: Bob Kredit ..... 209 672-0326  
Bowling: Vern Masse ..... 209 544-1953  
Bowling: Jeff Chin ..... 209 602-3912  
Golf Chair: Roger Smith..... 209 614-8684  
Golf Co-Chair: Kerry Newman ..... 209 579-7747  
Golf Co-Chair: Gerald Hott ..... 209 602-2910  
Golf Handicap: Jerry Strain..... 209 574-9301  
Book Exchange: Earl Glenn ..... 209 537-7254  
Travel Area 18: John Cardoza..... 209 483-7722  
Merchandise Sales: Dennis Imhoff ..... 209 846-9529  
Lunch Menu: Richard Nelson..... 209 681-6989  
Computer Club: Jeffery Chin ..... 209 602-3912  
Activity Chair  
Sunshine Chair: Gary Del Nero..... 209-681-1100

## HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS

Bob Kredit

## SENIOR HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS

Lon Loudermilk and Don Reed

## 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

# March

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					Pickleball-Beyer Park, Modesto  1	2
3	4 SIR Golf-Creekside	5	6	7 Creekside Golf	8	9 CAF Breakfast-Modesto Airport Hangar- 1S
10	11 SIR Golf-Swenson	12	13	14 Creekside Golf	15 Pickleball-Beyer Park, Modesto	16
17	18 SIR Golf-Dryden	19	20 Couples Dine Out- Johnny Carino's res- taurant	21 Creekside Golf	22	23 CAF Lunch-Modesto Airport Hangar-1S
24	25 SIR Golf-Drycreek	26	27 General Membership Luncheon	28 Creekside Golf Ladies Luncheon	29 BEC Meeting	30
31						