

# The Town Crower

Volume 43, Number 5

The Monthly Newsletter for SIR Branch 103

May 2026



## 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

We need some help with the several activities at our luncheon. We need someone to volunteer to set up the roosters at each table and someone to take them down at the end of the lunch and put them in the storage closet. We also need someone to set up the Branch 103 banner and display post and put them away. And last, we need someone to stay for a few minutes and help with putting away the books.

Thank you to all of you for supporting our efforts for the Modesto Cruisers baseball game. It will provide us with an opportunity to put up our SIR display in order to attract new members.

I am also looking for ideas on how and where we can put up our SIR signs. Thank you to those of you that took some to put on your lawns. If you know of businesses that would allow us to put our signs up, please let me know.

I would like to thank Dennis Imhoff for managing the purchasing and distribution of our SIR merchandise. He volunteers many hours of his time managing this effort without seeking any recognition. When you have an opportunity please thank him in person for all he does for our branch.

We are a community nonprofit which depends on our members more than almost any other type of organization. Our members are the type of people who give it energy, legitimacy, and the ability to actually make change where we live. Our organization is the type that is more people-powered, more local, and more relationship-driven than other nonprofit models. Our branch members give us structure, legitimacy, and the ability to function. I state all of this because as members we all enjoy our activities, but we also need to offer our time to help with the activities around our lunch meetings.

*Big Sir Fernando Gonzalez Branch 103*

**Dues and Speaker information on next to last page**



**Big SIR Fernando Gonzalez**

# SIR Branch 103 (Region 2-Area 18) BEC Minutes April 22, 2026

Secretary Don Rowe

**Attending** Big SIR Fernando Gonzalez, Little Sir Ray Tillery, Secretary Don Rowe, Assistant Secretary Robert Tillery, Treasurer John Santillano, **Assistant Treasurer-vacant**. Directors: Dave Cooper, Juan Salinas, Bob Lewis, Dennis Imhoff, Jerry Strain and Ted Bracht.

**Committee Representatives Present:** Gary Del Nero (Sunshine) and Bob Kredit (Thursday Golf).

**Absent:** NA

**Guests:** None

**Call to Order:** Big SIR Fernando Gonzalez called the meeting to order at 9:33 A.M. at The Masonic Lodge, 11 Executive Board members were present for a quorum.

**Secretary:** Mar. 25th Minutes was offered for modification. Motion to accept: Rowe, 2<sup>nd</sup> Tillery- PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

**Big SIR:** NA

**Little SIR:** NA

**Treasurer:** Treasurer John Santillano reported that the beginning balance for March was \$6,506.77. Receipts: Raffle \$99.00, Member Luncheon Purchase- \$2,080.00, Dues \$820.00. Other donation \$70.00, Rooster Items- \$75.00. Total receipts-\$3,144.00. Checks written: Luncheon- \$2,136.23, printing -\$14.14. Advertisement/ return to State-\$129.76. Total expenses: \$2,809.13. petty cash-\$250.00, Total balance-\$7,620.64. Motion to accept: Santillano 2<sup>nd</sup> Rowe - PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

**Membership:** We have 65 members on our roles. 29 have not paid their dues. They will be contacted. Those not paying will be dropped.

**Luncheon:** good lunch! **\$5.00 FOR THOSE WHO DO NOT EAT LUNCH.**

**Correspondence:** NA

**Program:** NA

**Health and Safety** NA.

**SUNSHINE:** Gary Del Nero reported that Jeff Chin's Celebration of Life went well. We had about 25 members attending. Jerry Hott is home. Jay Norris's wife has passed. A card was sent. Bill Irbey Lost 70 pounds. He may have cancer. A card will be sent.

**Golf:** NA

**NEED TO GET AN ASSISTANT FOR PAUL.**

**Thursday Golf:** Bob Kredit reported that it is going nicely-40 – 55 players.

**Newsletter:** Bob Lewis said that the newsletter is going fine.

**Bowling:** Bob Lewis reported that bowling is ending next week.

**Merchandising:** NA

**Travel:** Trip to Hawaii is still available. John is working on a Washington D.C. trip for 2027.

**Activities: WE NEED TO HAVE SOMEONE TAKE ON THIS TASK!**

**Dine Out.** Juan Salinas is hosting at House of Potsticker May 20.

**DINING OUT CLUB:** Dinner sites will be published in the newsletter.

**Old Business:** 1. State Sir is working on developing a Photo policy, Big Sir Fernando suggested that we create a sign-in sheet where members can give permission to have their photos displayed in SIR publications.

2. Yard signs are available.

**New Business:** NA

**Other:** Anthony Butero said that he and others have sold tickets for the May 19 baseball game in Modesto. He still has tickets to sell.

**Adjournment:** 10:07A.M.

Respectfully submitted, Don Rowe

# 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.

- Mon. May 4-Creekside 8:00 \$63 (cart Opt.) Host 103B
- Mon. May 11- Atwater 8:00 \$60 (cart inc.) Host 103A
- Mon. May 18-Dryden 8:00 \$61 (cart opt.) Host 103C
- Tues.** May 26-Swenson 8:00 \$58 (cart inc.) Host 103B
- Mon. June 1-Creekside 8:00 \$45 (cart opt) Host 103A
- Mon. June 8-Tracy GC 8:00 \$63 (cart inc.) Host 103C
- Mon. June 15-Micke Grove 8:00 \$63(cart opt) Host 103B
- Mon. June 22-Dryden 8:00 \$61 (cart opt) Host 103A
- Mon. June 29- TBD 8:00 \$ (cart ) Host 103

[SIR Area 18 South 2026 Tournament Schedule REVISED.pdf](#)

# 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.

## Sunshine Report

By Gary Del Nero



### Sunshine Report for May.

Jeff Chins' celebration of life was wonderful. There were about 25 SIR, including their wives. Some great discussions about Jeff send him off in a positive way. May you rest in peace Jeff. Billy Irby is going through some challenging times with Cancer; our thoughts and prayers are with Bill . Fred Sherman, who at present is not a SIR member but had been a member of SIR 144 from a few years ago, may he also rest in peace.

Gary Del Nero: Phone 209 681-1100

Amos: 209 605-9638

Email: [garydelnero73@gmail.com](mailto:garydelnero73@gmail.com)

*Gary Del Nero*



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.

# May 2026 Bowling Report

## High Scratch and Handicap Series and Games

### Scratch Games

#### Week 31 March 31

**Series:** Joe Miceli 578

**Game:** Joe Miceli 232

**Series:** Barbara Webb 432

**Game:** Barbara Webb 179

### Handicap Games

Rick Wilcox 674

Jerry Strain 263

Terry Wilcox 612

Barbara Webb 235

#### Week 32 April 7

**Series:** Bob Abujen 571

**Game:** Bob Abujen 210

**Series:** Barbara Webb 458

**Game:** Barbara Webb 175

Joe Bradley 663

Joe Bradley 268

Debbie Chin 654

Terry Wilcox 248

#### Week 33 April 14

**Series:** Bob Abujen 581

**Game:** Joe Bradley 215

**Series:** Dolores Bavaro 408

**Game:** Dolores Bavaro 147

Rick Wilcox 669

Joe Bradley 249

Dolores Bavaro 600

Dolores Bavaro 249

#### Week 34 April 21

**Series:** Bob Lewis 660

**Game:** Joe Bradley 235

**Series:** Barbara Webb 410

**Game:** Barbara Webb 142

Bob Lewis 726

Joe Bradley 269

Dolores Bavaro 593

Dolores Bavaro 203

Playoffs: Team 3 (Steve Gibson, Don Stephens & Al Sterling) def. Team 8 (Gene Cox, John Santillano & Bob Abujen). Team 1 (Ernie Lewis, Steve Holly & Bob Lewis) def. Team 9 (Tom Mickelsen, Al Kosters & David Brown).

#### Week 35 April 28

**Finals:** Team 3 def. Team 1

**Congratulations to Steve Gibson, Don Stephens & Al Sterling!**

**Come out for our hometown tournament.**

**----- 2026 UPCOMING TOURNAMENTS-----**

**May 12-13** Country Club Lanes, Sacramento- Tod Davis 916-722-3575

**June 4-5** Apex at Red Hawk, Placerville- Ray DiBasilio 530-558-9727

**June 22-23** Earl Anthony's Dublin Bowl, Dublin- Brent Moffitt 925-548-3067

Branch 103 Bowling Chairman: Bob Lewis 209-523-7387 [bobalew69@msn.com](mailto:bobalew69@msn.com)

[Bowling Tournament Calendar 2026 pdf](#)

MAY 2026

# Dining Out Club Information

Since 2001—(Celebrating 25 years!)

\*\*\*\*\*  
If you enjoy Dining Out at different restaurants in our local area and are interested in joining one of our 3 social, fun loving, evening Dining Out Clubs, please contact Chairman Vince Sereno at (209) 524-9630.  
\*\*\*\*\*

## **2nd Tuesday Evening Club:**

**Tuesday May 12, 2026 L'Gusto Cucina Italiana (In Riverbank)**

Tuesday June 9, 2026 Fruit Yard Restaurant

**For Reservations: Contact Vince Sereno at 209-524-9630 or 209-552-1539**

## **3rd Wednesday Couples Dine Out:**

**House of Potsticker**

**For Reservations: Contact Juan Salinas at 209-605-6762 or email at [juangolfnut@yahoo.com](mailto:juangolfnut@yahoo.com).**

## **4th Tuesday Evening Club:**

**Tuesday May 26, 2026—George's Steakhouse**

Tuesday June 23 2026 -L'Gusto Cucina Italiana-

**For Reservations Contact Hall Eubank at: 209-649-4148**

## **4th Thursday Evening Club:**

**Thursday May 28, 2026 - L'Gusto Cucina Italiana**

Thursday June 25, 2026 -- EL Casador Mexican Restaurant

**For Reservations: Contact Vince Sereno at: 209-524-9630, or Cell at: 209-552-1539**

\*\*\*\*\*  
**Chuckles**

**No. 1: "The Pearly Gates"** A minister dies and is waiting in line at the "Pearly Gates." Ahead of him is a guy who is dressed in sunglasses, a loud shirt, leather jacket, and jeans. Saint Peter addresses this guy, "Who are you, so that I may know whether or not to admit you to the Kingdom of Heaven?" The guy replies. "I'm Joe Cohen, taxi-driver, of Noo Yawk City." Saint Peter consults his list. He smiles and says to the taxi-driver, "Take this silken robe and golden staff and enter the Kingdom of Heaven." The taxi-driver goes into Heaven with his robe and staff, and it is the minister's turn. He stands erect and booms out, "I am Joseph Snow, pastor of Saint Mary's for the last forty three years." Saint Peter consults his list. He says to the minister, "Take this cotton robe and wooden staff and enter the Kingdom of Heaven." "Just a minute," says the minister. "That man was a taxi-driver, and he gets a silken robe and golden staff. How can this be?" Saint Peter replies "Up here, we work by results. While you preached, people slept, while he drove, people prayed!"

**No. 2: "An old pastor lay dying"** As he lay there in the hospital, he sent a message for his Internal Revenue Service agent and his lawyer to come visit him in the hospital. When they arrived, they were ushered up to his room. As they entered the room, the pastor held out his hands and motioned for them to sit on either side of the bed. The pastor grasped their hands, sighed contently, smiled and stared at the ceiling. For a time, no one said anything. Both the IRS agent and lawyer were touched and flattered that the old man would ask them to be with him during his final moments. They were also puzzled because the pastor had never given any indication that he particularly liked either one of them. Finally, the lawyer asked, "Pastor, why did you ask the two of us to come here?" The old pastor mustered all his strength, and said weakly, "Jesus died between two thieves, and that's how I'd like to go!"

# Dining Out Club Pictures

Since 2001—(Celebrating 25 years!)

\*\*\*\*\*  
*If you enjoy Dining Out at different restaurants in our local area and are interested in joining one of our 3 social, fun loving, evening Dining Out Clubs, please contact Chairman Vince Sereno at (209) 524-9630.*  
\*\*\*\*\*



**4th Tuesday Dining Club**

## More Dining Club Pictures



***Second Tuesday Dining Club***



***Fourth Thursday Dining Club***

## Branch 103 Luncheon

Wednesday May 27, 2026

10:30 am - 1:00 pm

Masonic Temple

800 Rose Ave. Modesto, CA

Luncheon Price: \$25



## Couples' Dine Out

The Couples' Dine Out will be at House of Potsticker at 3318 Mc Henry Ave (5:00) on May 20, 2026. If you would like to attend, RSVP Juan Salinas at 209-605-6762 or email at [juangolfnut.yahoo.com](mailto:juangolfnut.yahoo.com). by May 15, 2026.



## LADIES DINE-OUT

The Ladies' Dine-Out will be taking some time out. Please read the upcoming newsletters to find out the next date.



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 for breakfast and \$13 for lunch. No reservations required. The meals are served at hangar 1-S at 700 Tioga Dr., Modesto. The breakfast will be on May 9, 2026. The lunch will be on May 23, 2026.

Last	First	Date	Age
Karlin	Dave	5/03/62	64
Underwood	Lance	5/27/54	72
Hardison	Brad	5/16/53	73
Tillery	Ray	5/31/52	74
Eubank	Hall	5/26/49	77
Cardoza	Bill	5/14/49	77
Fitzgerald	Donald	5/21/48	78
Santwier III	Amos	5/23/44	82
Goodman	Gary	5/21/44	82
Reedy	John D.	5/19/43	83
Thompson	Larry	5/2/43	83
Barnard	Coe	5/31/39	87
Webb	Murle	5/4/31	95



Ad For Anthony Butera



Anthony Butera  
Regional Vice-President at  
Primerica Financial Services





PRINCESSCRUISES  
scape completely

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

# 16 NIGHT HAWAIIAN ISLANDS CRUISE ABOARD THE RUBY PRINCESS

## SAILING ROUND TRIP SAN FRANCISCO OCTOBER 23-NOVEMBER 8, 2026

### PORTS OF CALL

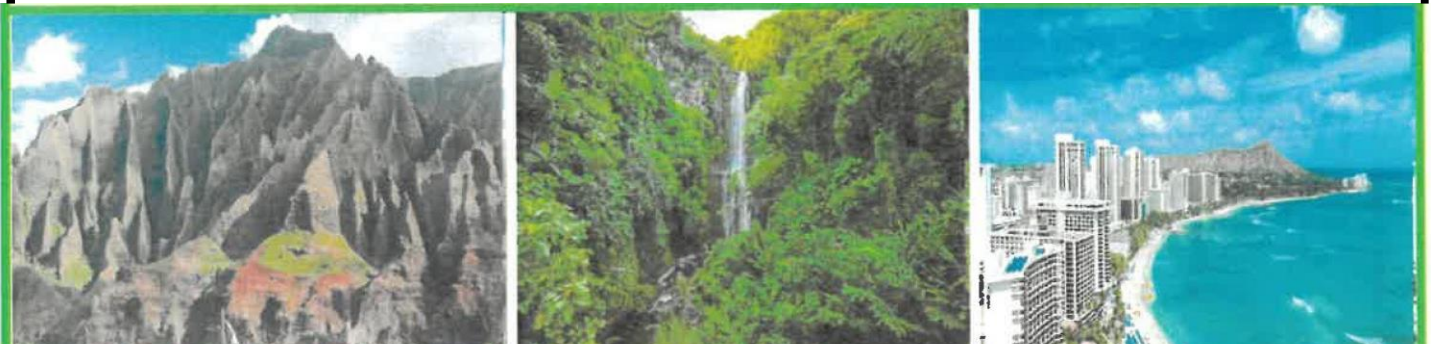
Hilo, Big Island/ Kahului, Maui/ Honolulu, Oahu  
Nawiliwili, Kauai and Ensenada, Mexico

### THE RUBY 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**



**There is a trip to Washington DC in late September or October for around \$5000**

## SIR STATE OFFICERS

State Pres. Fred Serena.....510-489-0964  
State Vice Pres. Nick Feimer.....650-341-3015  
Area 18 Rep. Anthony Butera.....209-985-3473

## SIR BRANCH 103 OFFICERS

Big Sir Fernando Gonzalez.....415-420-2440  
Little Sir Ray Tillery.....209-499-0955  
Secretary Don Rowe.....209-634-0100  
Asst. Secretary Robert Tillery.....209-918-1267  
Treasurer John Santillano.....209-544-1953  
Asst. Treasurer.....OPEN

## DIRECTORS

Ted Bracht.....209-573-1690  
Dave Cooper.....209-578-3789  
Dennis Imhoff.....209-846-9529  
Bob Lewis.....626-252-5484  
Juan Salinas.....209-605-6762  
Jerry Strain.....209-551-8220

## COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Membership: Dave Cooper ..... 209 578-3789  
Assistant:  
Program Chair: Tom Evans.....209 551-1836  
Assistant:  
Member Orient.: Brian Donahue ..... 209 988-2748  
Public Relations: Bob Kredit..... 209 672-0326  
Bowling: Vern Masse ..... 209 544-1953  
Bowling: Bob Lewis..... 626 252-5484  
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..... 209 551-8220  
Book Exchange: Earl Glenn ..... 209 537-7254  
Travel Area18: John Cardoza ..... 209 483-7722  
Merchandise Sales: Dennis Imhoff.... 209 846-9529  
Lunch Menu: Juan Salinas ..... 209 605-6762  
Computer Club: Jeffery Chin..... 209 602-3912  
Activity Chair: Lance Underwood.....209 681-6989  
Sunshine Chair: Gary Del Nero ..... 209-681-1100  
Dining Out Chair: Vince Sereno .....209-524-9630



Health & Safety: Kerry Newman...209 579-7747  
Chaplain: Dick Nelson.....209 701-8108  
Asst. Chaplain: Charlie Leffingwell. 209 543-2107  
Meal Tickets: Don Rowe, Roy Bruk  
Raffle: Roy Bruk, Jim Bickner  
Table Setup: Don Rowe .....209 634-0100  
Table Setup: Jim Bickner .....209 522-4345  
Lead Singer:  
Backup Singer: Gary Goodman .....209 578-0848  
Audit Committee: Kerry Newman, Coe Barnard  
Nominating Committee:  
Ladies Dine Out: Barbara Webb....209 526-6511

## HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS:

Sam Graham, Bob Kredit and Gary Williams

STATE HONORARY LIFE MEMBER: Jerry Strain

## SENIOR HONORARY LIFE MEMBER:

Don Reed

## NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Bob Lewis .... [bobalew69@msn.com](mailto:bobalew69@msn.com).....209-523-7387

### 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.

# MAY

The speaker for May is one of our members:

Tom McNett a retired emergency physician who has spent time in Africa and has a film he made about a tribal medicine man performing surgeries. He also has actual tools that the man used for his surgeries.

***Dues are past due. Please bring a payment of \$30 (or \$5 if you paid \$25 already) to the luncheon or make out a check made to "SIR Branch 103" and mail it to: "SIR" at 2509 Portofino Dr. Modesto, CA 95356***

### *What is SIR?*

SIR (Sons in Retirement) is a non-profit, public benefit corporation formed for men. Our Mission is to improve the lives of our members through fun activities and events while making Friends for Life! SIR is a term we use to collectively refer to our parent 501(c)(4) corporation, Sons In Retirement, Incorporated, established in 1959 (referred to as the State Organization) and 100+ purposefully independent 501(c)(4) corporations referred to as Branches. In 2018 we will be 60 years old. Our 120 plus branches include over 14,500 members. The branches cover Northern California from Bakersfield to the Oregon border and Lake Tahoe to the Pacific Ocean. Our member expectations are few. Have the free time, be a friendly, sociable guy, participate in our luncheons and activities and introduce others to SIR so they can join in the fun. Membership is open to men regardless of age, race, color or religion. We are an all volunteer organization, so our members need to help out when called upon. SIR supports no outside causes or interests. We prohibit discussions of politics and religion, soliciting or selling anything to any member. Each Branch has monthly luncheon meetings where Sirs renew old friendships and establish new ones. Speakers are invited to speak on topical subjects of general interest. Most Branches have summer and winter luncheons and a BBQ where wives, partners and guests are invited. Of special interest are Branch activities like golf, bowling, travel, bocce, bridge, poker, walking, hiking, computers, dining out, wine tasting and investing. Our list of activities and events is almost endless and many are coed. If there is an activity you are passionate about and your selected branch doesn't have it, we will help you start it and involve others. Come join us and be part of the fun – and, better yet, Make Friends for Life!

# May

2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Pickleball- Beyer Park, Modesto	2
3	4 SIR Golf- Creekside	5	6	7 Creekside Golf	8	9 CAF Breakfast- Modesto Airport Hangar 15
10	11 SIR Golf- Atwater	12 Dining Out L'Gusto Cucina Italiano	13	14 Creekside Golf	15 Pickleball- Beyer Park, Modesto	16
17	18 SIR Golf- Dryden	19	20 Dine out House of Potsticker	21 Creekside Golf	22	23 CAF Lunch- Modesto Airport Hangar 15
24	25 <b>Memorial Day</b>	26 SIR Golf- Swenson <del>xxxxxxxxxxxx</del> Dining Out George's Steakhouse	27 General Membership Luncheon 10:30	28 Creekside Golf <del>XXXXXXXXXXXX</del> Dining Out L'Gusto Cucina Italiano	29	30 All Dining Clubs meet at 5:00 (arrive by 4:45)  Dine Out meets at 5:00
31						