



**A non-profit organization for
retired men devoted to the
promotion of independence and
dignity of retirement**

The Grapevine

SIR Branch #145 Monthly Meeting – Tuesday –November 12, 2013– Moose Lodge -11:30 AM

SPEAKER FOR NOVEMBER

Our November speaker is the Publisher of the Lodi News Sentinel. He is **Marty Weybret**, bon vivant, multitalented leader of our local herald who has a new program which he is going to unveil to our branch. You would do well to bring a friend to hear the exciting news which will affect all in the community as he and his organization wage a super campaign to preserve our home newspaper. This one should not be missed!

Big SIR Sez:

Fall has arrived and this brings an end to much of my gardening. The garlic for next year is doing well. I will be harvesting remaining tomatoes and putting them on cardboard on the garage concrete. In years past we have had fresh tomatoes into February. We will have squash for months as I have stored 30 of the summer squash on the upper deck of my office. I will have 12+/- of the large brown squash that I make soup with adding loads of other veggies. I will certainly never go hungry.

November marks the last regular meeting for the year. It is also the last meeting of my 2 terms as Big Sir. I want to thank you all for the privilege of leading our branch. Our Branch Executive Committee (BEC) has been of invaluable help in guiding our club during

this time. I could not perform as Big Sir without their extensive knowledge and dedication. Much goes on behind the scenes like accounting, banking, bill paying, completing reports for SIR Inc., producing the Grapevine, attendance tracking, membership application and processing, induction, publicity, travel itineraries, greeting and telling jokes, golf, etc. Look at the list of committees and responsibilities on the last page of the Grapevine.

I generally prepare the agenda for our direction based on what I think with added input from the BEC. We have tried a number of things, some successful and some not. We have tried to follow the directions and goals from SIR Inc., with similar results. I believe we are improving our branch with new features, like the Roster (well received), web site (developed and looking good), an e-mail service to the members to deliver the Grapevine, urgent messages of the moment above and beyond the wait for the monthly delivery of the Grapevine and offering rides to members (operational but not much utilized). We formed a fishing committee which is still being honed. Dinner with Al has had a fair showing. We inaugurated an introductory card system to offer to prospective new members. The latest and valid ones do not offer a free lunch. I have streamlined and sped up the regular meeting agenda. I might have omitted some other steps we have taken these past 2 years.

(continued)

Big Sir Sez (continued)

Dinner with AI @ Stockton Yacht Club will be held November 27, Wednesday evening @ 6:00 pm. I may extend this into 2014 if a number of people would like to be my guest. Please sign the signup sheet. I plan to invite all of the SIR widows. If you know of any, please call let me know so I can extend an invitation to Dinner with AI. (This next time I will make sure the gate is open.)

Arthur Brogli, Yodeler and Entertainer Extraordinaire was my guest during our last meeting to play the squeeze box accordion and yodel for us. What a great time we had! I have asked Arthur to join us for our Christmas banquet to sing and yodel for us starting before lunch at 11:00 am. What a thrill to see many of you singing along at the last general meeting. I promise not to polka this time. Arthur has promised to brush up on Christmas carols so all can sing along. I hope that future Big Sirs will continue this tradition in the future.

For all of you who have not heard, our BEC voted in October to no longer give free meals to prospective members. I instructed Neal Welsh to send out an immediate blurb by e-mail explaining the logic behind this decision. He did exactly as I directed. I had talked with Paul Reiner who explained how the free dinners started and now we see an end to that era. This policy does not affect the 3 free meal drawings for members, if they are present, nor our extending free meals to program speakers.

Our membership goal this year was 35. Through November we have 2 reinstated members and we inducted 30 newbies. On the other hand our membership decreased by approximately 10 as we removed longtime inactive SIR members who had not been attending our meetings. Our recruitment is good but just keeping pace with losses is a difficult challenge. Please keep up your efforts to invite prospective member guests. Use the Welcome Cards.

Departed members are Sir Don Mauch who died prior to our last meeting, Sir Leon Ryder who moved to Arizona last year and Sir Joseph Schatz who attended our last meeting and died shortly after on October 21. Cards can be sent to widows Garnet Mauch at 19247 North Perryman Street, Lodi, CA, Marlene Ryder at 255 S. Ellsworth Rd. #654 Mesa, AZ 85209, and to Angie Schatz at 907 Lake Home Drive respectively. A chapel service was held at the Lodi Funeral Home on October 30 for Joseph Schatz and his committal was private.

SIR Inc. set a goal of meeting attendance of 70 percent of members. Our highest this year has been 66 percent with 128 members. Seventy percent is 134. Call your friends and ask them to join you. We generally have 15 tables at lunch so one more per table would make the goal. I know many of you always sit together so you could easily come up with names of friends to contact. Our new member badges have a smiley face on them for 2 months, so introduce yourself and make a new friend.

Do not forget to get or reserve your tickets for the Christmas Banquet at Woodbridge Country Club on December 12, 2013. See Chuck Bennett at the November meeting or e-mail him at dl_bennett@hotmail.com for tickets or call Al Furr @ 479-3124. We only had 20 tickets sold at the last meeting. Tickets are \$22.00. We make only \$1.00 per ticket minus the cost of printing the them. This will be the best buy ever for a Christmas Celebration, banquet, music with no tax nor tip (WOW!). I plan to call all branch widows to attend the Christmas Luncheon. If you know of any widows please call me or invite them yourself.

One last time, thank you for putting up with me and helping make my tour as Big Sir a real pleasure. Please welcome Chuck Bennett as Big Sir for 2014 and Jack Johnson as Little Sir.

Al Furr
Big Sir

NOVEMBER Golf News

Last tournament of the year will be Medal play on Nov. 15th at Micke Grove. You may walk or ride. Get signed up by Nov. 6th. Call me if you can not get to Swenson or Micke Grove



Try to remember to renew your NCGA dues. Why not bring a check to the Nov. luncheon. Make out to Sirs Golf. It is \$38.

Thanks to all you golfers who have played in My tournaments over the past 19 years. The Lord has given me good health is the reason I have done it for so long. Bill Rutherford will be taking over on Jan 1st.

Howard Ferguson, Golf Chairman



Vist our Branch website at

www.sir145.org

There are connecting buttons on our site to put you in contact with the State website or visit <http://sirinc.org/>

OCTOBER Financial Report

Net Loss for October (\$324.58)
Balance \$3018.40

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Nicolas Felten
Malcolm Goodell
John Mendez
David Stennick
Reo Nathan
Frank Peck
Al Nathe
Bob Johnson
Horst Klee
Jack Flockhart
John Baker
Dick Towers
Orville Buchmiller
Anthony Lopes
William Elsholz
Al Furr
Wayne Westbrook
Del Burns
Keith Geist
Jack Johnson
Charles Fair
Richard Baines
Jerry Hugo
Brad Dickey

SONS IN RETIREMENT, INC., AREA NO. 14
TRAVEL CORNER



NOVEMBER 2013

BRANCH 145 Jerry Wisenor –808 Tehama
Dr. Lodi, CA 95242 (209-334-5181)

April 1 to April 8, 2014 Springtime in
Savannah and Charleston Trip leaves from
your house and is a guaranteed departure.
Double occupancy per person \$2995 Contact
Jerry Wisenor-- Branch 145-209-334-5181

Put together your own group of SIRS for one
or two day trips through setness.com or
stortours.com.



A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION FOR RETIRED MEN
LODI BRANCH #145
P.O. Box 514
Woodbridge, CA 95258

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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|------------------------------------|-----------|--|--|--|
| 2013 OFFICERS | | | | |
| BIG SIR | | | | |
| Al Furr | 368-6490 | | | |
| LITTLE SIR | | | | |
| Charles Bennett | UL | | | |
| SECRETARY | | | | |
| Phil Schrock | 333-1355 | | | |
| ASST. SECRETARY | | | | |
| Frank Peck | 368-3075 | | | |
| TREASURER | | | | |
| Bob Gorbet | 333-0425 | | | |
| ASST. TREASURER | | | | |
| Jerry Wsenor | 334-5181 | | | |
| 2013 Directors | | | | |
| George Cameron | 952-7208 | | | |
| Richard Baines | 727-3908 | | | |
| Neal W. Welsh | 327-2068 | | | |
| open | | | | |
| John Korphage | 369-4001 | | | |
| Area #14 Governor | | | | |
| John Mendonca | 477-0743 | | | |
| 2013 Committees - *Chairman | | | | |
| ANECDOTIST | | | | |
| Cliff Nitschke | 968-6646 | | | |
| ATTENDANCE | | | | |
| Chester George | 368-8212 | | | |
| AUDITOR | | | | |
| John Gail* | 334-3418 | | | |
| Tony Canton | 334-9590 | | | |
| BULLETIN EDITOR | | | | |
| Temple Gallagher | 986-8367 | | | |
| CHAPLAIN | | | | |
| Howard Ferguson | 368-4829 | | | |
| EMAIL COMPILER | | | | |
| Neal W. Welsh | 327-2068 | | | |
| GREETERS | | | | |
| Conrad Kessell | 367-1998 | | | |
| Neal W. Welsh | 327-2068 | | | |
| RECOGNITION | | | | |
| Dave Stennick | 368-0437 | | | |
| GOLF | | | | |
| Howard Ferguson* | 368-4829 | | | |
| John Baker | 334-2779 | | | |
| HISTORIAN | | | | |
| Jeff Lee | 477-4389 | | | |
| MEMBERSHP RECORDS | | | | |
| Chester George | 368-8212 | | | |
| NOMINATING | | | | |
| Chester George | | | | |
| Richard Baines | 329-1323 | | | |
| Neal Welsh | 327-2068 | | | |
| PICNIC | | | | |
| Neal Welsh | 327-2068 | | | |
| Al Furr | | | | |
| PROGRAM | | | | |
| Al Furr | 368-6490 | | | |
| SONG LEADER | | | | |
| Paul Reiner | 366-1811 | | | |
| Sargent at Arms | | | | |
| Jack Johnson | 369-0727 | | | |
| Photographer | | | | |
| Leon Adamson | 334-5128 | | | |
| TRAVEL & TOURS | | | | |
| Jerry Wisenor* | 334-5181 | | | |
| Publicity Chairman | | | | |
| Neal Welsh | 327-2068 | | | |
| Past Big Sir | | | | |
| Ruben Moser | 1988-1989 | | | |
| Al Baerwald | 1990 | | | |
| Bill Owen | 1991 | | | |
| Al Cooper | 1992 | | | |
| Earl Klapstein | 1993 | | | |
| Dave Stennick | 1994 | | | |
| Gus Armendariz | 1995 | | | |
| Jerry Kirsten | 1996 | | | |
| Bob McCaffrey | 1997 | | | |
| Tom Bandelin | 1998 | | | |
| Frank Garcia | 1999 | | | |
| Bob Handel | 2000 | | | |
| John Korphage (18) | 2000-2001 | | | |
| Jack Jackson | 2001 | | | |
| Bill Dauer | 2002 | | | |
| Ron Westerterp | 2003 | | | |
| Dave Hinchman | 2004-2005 | | | |
| Paul Reiner | 2006 | | | |
| Neal W. Welsh | 2007 | | | |
| John Mendonca | 2008 | | | |
| Bill Shankles | 2009 | | | |
| George Cameron | 2010 | | | |
| Richard Baines | 2011-12 | | | |