

Sierra SIR Echo



SEPTEMBER 2009

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Branch 175

Vol. 15, Issue 9

BIG SIR NOSTALGIA

by Bill Almeida

(unedited)

Well, Summer vacation is over! Time to start thinking of school. Did you earn “enuf” to buy a pair of Gallenkkamp Shoes; or maybe, a pair of Levis and a pair of cords? Remember the speed limit in school zones....it cost around \$270 per violation.

Lunch at Edison , which usually was a “Frenchie” (1/4 piece of French bread stuffed with baloney, lettuce and mayo) for 5 cents, a Pepsi for 5 cents and maybe an ice cream cone for a nickel.

You couldn't buy a shoestring today for that! Been in a 7/11 store lately? Kids with big bill buying junk food.

Remember your first car? Mine was a '36 Ford Coupe. I bought it in late 1947. I lowered the back, put skirts on it, painted it a light green and it served me well for 4 years. I don't remember the cost of gas then, but I think it was around 10 cents. I usually put in about 50 cents worth, which was almost 5 gallons. I never filled up.

I don't remember having a summer vacation, I always had a job! At 10 years old, I sold the Fresno Bee “early edition” (noon to 4:30 PM) at 5 cents....I kept 1/2 or 2 1/2 cents. I usually sold around 30 papers (70 cents profit to me). Man that was big money. At 14, I became a bus boy at Hotel Fresno, from 4 PM to 10 PMs for \$25 per week (5 days) and all I could eat. Next, I was a clerk at Safeway on Cherry and California (across from the Ice House) at 70 cents per hour (my first union job). Later, I went to work for Fortier Trucking in December 1948. Ultimately I started Mammoth in May 1969. In 1975, I started Mammoth of Alaska in 1975 with the help of the Klein Boys and Darlye Lamonica. Well, that gets you close to today. *Bill*

LUNCH
THURSDAY
SEPTEMBER 24, 2009
11:45 AM

MESSAGE from our Little Sir WAYNE LOCHER

Our exciting August speaker was **Mr. Pat Smith**, Transportation Manager, Harris Ranch Beef Company. He didn't dwell on trucks but told us of the history and showed us a power point presentation of all phases of the Harris Ranches. Most enjoyable was the picture perfect shot of cattle in tall, green grass east of the snow capped High Sierra Mountains, with a large stream and cowboys in the background. Pat is knowledgeable in all phases of Harris Beef Production from birth to the end user of products. He also told of the race horses and many acres of field tree crops grown by Harris Ranches. He, as all of our speakers, carried on an extremely knowledgeable and friendly conversation while eating lunch.

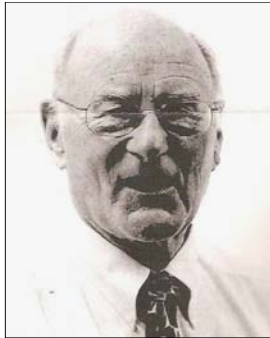
I am looking forward to this month's speaker, who will be **Dr. David Hadden**, Fresno County Coroner. Dr. Hadden will tell us many interesting things about his office that will hold our attention. Our October speaker will be **Mr. Jeff Eben**, CEO Fresno City and County Convention Bureau. Jeff has successfully overcome physical handicaps to be where he is today. We look forward to his exciting presentation.

Be sure to mark your calendars early to remind you that our December Christmas meeting will be December 17th. Also, be sure to tell your wives that they are invited to join us, then. We will be visiting a different continent. How about an out of town school teacher to tell us all about her safari this summer!

Recruitment of new members is an ongoing process. Keep a supply of recruitment cards And SIR brochures with you at all times.



SEPTEMBER LUNCH SPEAKER



**Public Administrator-
Coroner/Public Guardian
County of Fresno**

DAVID HADDEN, M.D.

Pathologist, Politician, Coroner **Dr. David Hadden** will be our guest speaker at our Thursday, September 24 lunch at Pardini's Restaurant.

Following is a much abbreviated Curriculum Vitae of Dr. Hadden:

Fresno State College, Criminology Major, 1954-55
Stanford University, B.A., Psychology, 1957
University of Maryland, M.D., 1967
Air Intelligence Officer—USNR, Lieutenant
Flight Surgeon—USAF National Guard, Lt. Colonel

Instructor Fresno State 1983-2002
Fresno County Health Officer, 1997 to 2003
Fresno County Coroner 1979 to 2003 and January
2007 to present
Various position as: Laboratory Director and Chief
of Staff (Hospitals)

I'm sure you will not want to miss this outstanding and informative public speaker.



**MEMBERSHIP
Sir Dean Clark**



It is a great month because we have three (count them: one, two, three) new roosters for the barnyard. We have an investigator, **Sir Dennis Murane**, guest of **Sir Jim Scroggin**; a cabinet maker, **Sir Cap Capriotti**, guest of **Sir Bill Almeida**; and **Sir Paul Chiames**, a past Psychological Coordinator for Fresno Unified School District, guest of **Sir Bill Almeida**. And to top it off **Russ Mott**, a frame maker, who is a friend of **Sir Bud Rayburn** is interested. And if that isn't all, we had a guest from another SIR chapter who will probably switch over to us! See—it really is easy to have new members. All you have to do is present the opportunity.

As a past cattle baron—that's right, I mean ME—I especially enjoyed the Harris Ranch presentation. From the response, I know everyone else did, too. I did have to wonder, though, where did all the mountains and green meadows come from (in the power point presentation)? I was sure glad someone asked!

As I sign off, I just want to say, "It's you not the person next to you that makes this chapter what it is, so why not invite a friend?"

Cock-a-doodle-do!

P.S. Just to see who reads my article, you should all know that this is **PROUD TO BE A SIR MONTH** so wear those emblems for a chance on a **FREE** lunch.



WINNERS AT THE AUGUST LUNCH

(above, Free Lunch)
Sir Frank Breuning



(picture below)
Sir Grant Radford



(above) **Russ Mott**
Guest of **Sir Bud Rayburn**
(left) **Sir Bill Weber**



(picture above)
Sir Sid Mark



BOOK CLUB
"The Bookworms"
Sir Tim Finley

Let me ask you a question. What type of books do you like to read? History, biography, and fiction are very popular books. Perhaps you're more into hobby publications. Many men read about sports, hunting, fishing, golf, woodworking, and gardening or perhaps even photography. Whatever you prefer, I say "Good for you" and keep it up. Reading is good for your brain and your reading skills as well as your mental health and self-confidence.

I am one of the youngest SIR seniors in the Book Club and I feel they just may have discovered the fountain of youth! We may not be in the best physical condition, however, these guys are alert, sharp, and young at heart. The moral of this story is: Read a few of the books listed below and stay young at heart. Then go out into the garden, the workshop, or the golf links and get the cardiovascular thing going.

Books reviewed at the August 27th Meeting

The Jesuit and the Skull by Amir D. Aczel, Riverhead Books, NY, 2007, 4 1/2 Stars

Reluctant Warrior by Michael C. Hodgins, Ballantine Books, Oct. 1996, 5 Stars

Benjamin Franklin by Waster Isaacson, Simon & Schuster 2004, 4 1/2 Stars

Theodore Rex by Edmund Morris, Random House, 555 pages, 2002, 4 Stars

City of Thieves by David Benioff, The Penguin Group, 4 1/2 Stars

A Question of Blood An Inspector Rebus Novel, by Ian Rankin, Little Brown and Co. Jan. 2005, 4 1/2 Stars

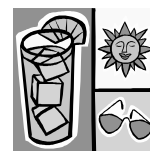
See ya for a great cup of coffee and a fun time of discussion at the next Book Club meeting in the Café Java, next to Pardini's at 9:30, Thursday, September 24.

OUR AUGUST GUEST SPEAKER
was PAT SMITH

Mr. Patrick Smith
Corporate Transportation
Manager, Harris Ranch



Mr. Pat Smith treated the SIR at the Branch 175 lunch on August 27 with a truly interesting verbal and power point presentation on the Harris Ranch operations in California.



Editor's Corner

Where are we going to get our future leaders in Branch 175? We have about 150 members. Over 40 people were contacted recently regarding the Little Sir position.....nobody rose up! Why not? What now?

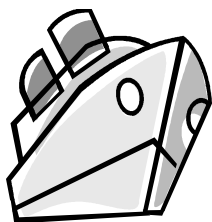
Could it be that yet one among us hasn't been contacted or hasn't otherwise come forward? Please speak up. Come on folks, being Little Sir isn't all that difficult or time consuming.....just ask me, I've done it (and so have all the other Big SIR listed on the back of your Membership Roster).

What's the big deal? After all, there is a Program Committee that assists the **Little** in getting our speakers—and that's THE JOB! The January and February 2011 speakers are already in place.

Will someone please "rise up" and call me at
287-4023



TRAVEL
Sir Richard Beers



Hey Fellow SIR.....We have two new travel events coming in 2010!!

1st.....Caribbean cruise in March 2010

2nd.....A combination cruise and land tour of Northern Italian Lakes, Greek Isles, and the Dalmation Coast.

Flyers for both events will be available at our September meeting. Any questions call me (Richard) at 431-3728.

OCTOBER SPEAKER
JEFF EBEN



Jeff Eben is an award-winning educator, leader, author and speaker. Paralyzed at the age of sixteen in a water-skiing accident, he built his life and career from a wheelchair.

Jeff's topic at our lunch meeting on October will be "Branding.....Fresno's new image."

Mark your calendar's today for Thursday, October 22



BOWLING
Sir Merle Knapp

League Bowling resumed September 11. Results in next month's (October) Newsletter.

Final Individual Achievements for 2008-2009 (Branch 175, only):

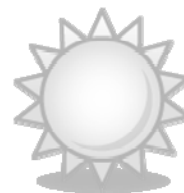
High Series Handicap
688 **Bill Ripley**
655 **Merle Knapp**
650 **Tom Harlan**

Average
167 **Merle Knapp**
162 **Bill Ripley**
159 **Tom Harlan**

High Game Scratch
233 **Merle Knapp**
232 **Bill Ripley**
223 **Tom Harlan**

High Series Scratch
595 **Bill Ripley**
579 **Merle Knapp**
569 **Tom Harlan**

High Game Handicap
261 **Bill Ripley**
259 **Merle Knapp**
248 **Tom Harlan**



BRIDGE
Sir Bob Cleveland

Couples Bridge was hosted by **Sir Don and Helga Livingstone** at **Cleveland's**, September 9

Men first place: **Sir Bud Rayburn** 3970 points
Second place: **Russ Mott** 2820points
Third place: **Sir Don Livingstone** 2710 points

Women first place: **Bobbie Zimmerman**4360 points
Second place: **Doris Rayburn** 4150 points
Third place: **Tess Mott** 2100 points

Next month, to be hosted by **Sir Bud and Grace Pope** on October 14.



GOLF
Sir Ron McClain



SUNSHINE
Sir Don Luft

Fellow SIR who were hospitalized or ill at some time during the past month:

WE ARE THE CHAMPIONS, AGAIN



This must be our lucky year! We (Branch 175) combined with Branch 179 to compete in the 4 Branch Tournament with Branch 159 and Branch 169. We combined our teams so the teams would be larger, so more players could compete in the Team event. It worked. This year, the teams had 28 golfers on each team, last year it was only 14.

The final scores have been tallied and the results are:

Branch 169	net score 1446
Branch 159	net score 1443
Branches 175/179	net score 1423

(in golf, the low score wins, so Branches 175/179 won the Team Trophy)

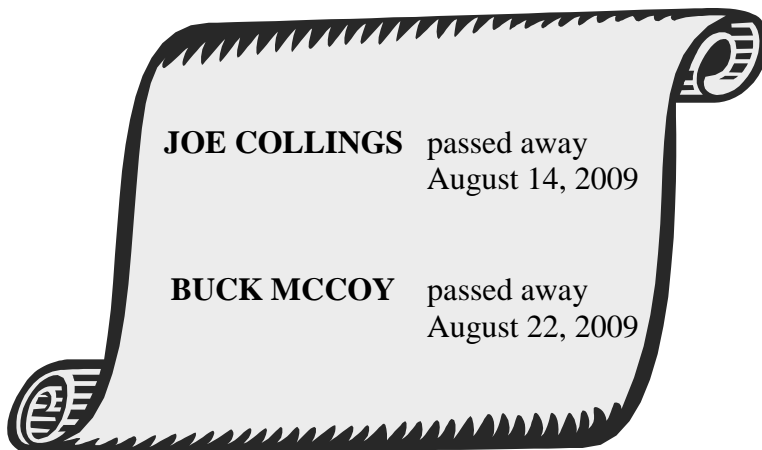
Our Branch was represented well by the following **SIR: Sir Fred Ketcham** won 3rd flight trophy. Also notables were **Sirs Gene Parker, Stan Nappe, Pat Patterson, Gary Beacom, Jerry Long, Bob Dickson, Jim Scroggin, Charlie Pepper, Rich Grigsby, and Ron McClain.**

It was a great day of interaction with the other Branches. They all put on golf outings and welcome other Branches to play with them.

Put Thursday, October 8 on your calendar. We are going to have a Branch 175 Club Championship to be held at Riverside G.C. at 8 AM with a shotgun start. The only cost will be the \$27 greens fee. The Club will furnish a \$7 ticket for the snack bar and all the prize monies. **Sir Gene Parker** has donated a crystal trophy to be awarded to the lowest net score as the Club Champ. Sign up at the meeting or give me a call. Deadline is October 1st.

- | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Jack Brase | Don Luft |
| Ed Nicholson | Ray Born |
| Richard Scheidt | Clarence Weslowski |
| Richard Wagner | Walt Varellas |
| Fred (Hoot) Fowler | George Weber |

IN MEMORIAL



SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Sir Richard Scheidt



- Dick Carmody**
George Dado
Brad Ferguson
Norman Hanson
Pat Patterson
Cap Capriotti

- Bill Crumpacker-**
Lee Erickson
Hoot Fowler
Willard Johnson
Andy Provost

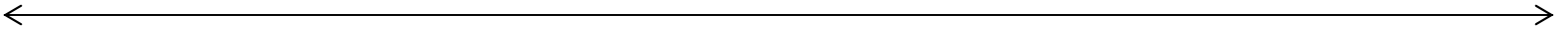
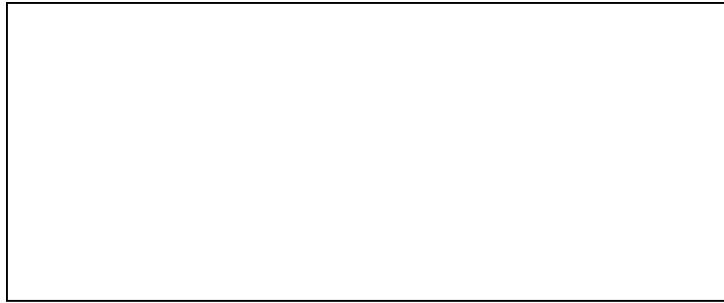
Winner of the August Birthday "free lunch" was **Sir Jerry Long** (picture on right)





SIR Branch #175

Jerry Long, Editor
9260 N. Green Meadows Lane
Fresno, CA 93720



SIR BRANCH # 175
2009 OFFICERS

Big SIR	William Almeida	226-4485
Little SIR	Wayne Locher	434-1991
Treasurer	Andre Provost	439-3295
Asst. Teas	Harry Karle	439-4235
Secretary	Merle Knapp	439-3658
Asst. Scty	Don Livingstone	713- 1655

2008 DIRECTORS

Grant Radford	2009	436-1947
Les Saywell	2009	434-4580
Robert Cleveland	2010	435-5773
Jerry Long	2010	287-4023
Tim Finley	2011	299-5210
Richard Grigsby	2011	439-8540

ACTIVITIES

Book Club	Tim Finley	299-5210
Bowling	Merle Knapp	439-3658
Bridge	Bob Cleveland	435-5773
Golf	Ron McClain	292-1919
Travel	Richard Beers	431-3728

BARN-YARD ACTIVITIES

Attendance	Dean Clark	439-8455
Bulletin Editor	Jerry Long	287-4023
Chaplain		
Database Ed	Richard Scheidt	435-2536
Hardware		
Historian	Merle Knapp	439-3658
Librarian	J.L. Morrison	226-4673
Membership	Dean Clark	439-8455
Photographer	Tim Finley	299-5210
Program	Wayne Locher	434-1991
	Ray Born	438-5804
	Howard Jones	299-5410
	Gerry Young	447-1136
Special Events	Ray Born	438-5804
Sunshine	Don Luft	323-7989
Telephone	Ray Born	438-5804

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