



SIERRA SIR ECHO

The Monthly Newsletter of the Sierra Branch # 175
Sons of Retirement

November 2013

<http://175.sirinc2.org>

Fresno Branch 175



Big Sir **Charlie Pepper**



It's November and this is the month we give thanks for the many blessings we have and to thank our veterans for the sacrifices they have made on our behalf. In addition, November will be a "proud to be a Sir" month and members are encouraged to sport Sirs attire, pins and hats to earn addition tickets for a free lunch. If you are a vet you will be awarded two extra free tickets for your

service and it would be fun to see you sporting your military headgear and/or paraphernalia as well. We are preparing for a banner year in 2014 we will kick off by swearing in our new slate our officers for next year at this luncheon and Sir Dean Clark will officiate. We also plan to have our new Branch 175 Membership Roster at our January luncheon so if you have a new address, new telephone number or any other change, drop those off at membership table as you check in. Don't forget, our Thanksgiving luncheon will be on November 21, 2013 (3rd Thursday) See you there and bring a guest! On Thanksgiving Day, all families over America sit down to dinner at the same time..it's called "halftime".

I would like to relate to you the lessons and information from the Sons In Retirement training session I attended Oct 15 in Vallejo. The purpose was to provide the Little Sir with procedures and information toward becoming a Big Sir. There were about 200 + members, both State and local branches. The agenda was quite full, the training committee were very professional.



Little Sir **Howard Jones**

The State officers were also very professional, makes you feel good belonging to a fine organization as Son's in Retirement.

Some of the new business they discussed was raising the membership dues from \$1.00 to \$ 1.25 annual. In attempting to hold down costs they reduced the mileage reimbursement for the officers from\$.50 per mile to \$.35. The State BEC has for the first time authorized the branches to levy a nominal annual assessment. They also indicated a term limit for directors of three years.

All the State officers were in attendance, there is a definite chain of command from the State Board of Directors, The President on down to the Regional Directors to the Area Governors to the Branches Board Executive Committee. These people are more than willing to answer question and help each branch with whatever they need.

Their main goal is to help the branches set up a membership goal and to monitor the progress. Behind the scene in the branches we have monthly reports to the State Membership listing our attendance and active members etc.

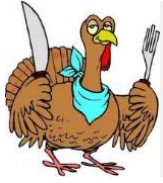
Within the State there are ten regions of which we are # 8; we are in Area 29 with four branches.

I met with the Little Sir's soon to be Big Sir's of the other three branches. Branch 159 James Noriega, Branch 169 Bob Large and Branch 179 Dick Nordstrom PhD. All fine accomplished gentlemen. Noriega and Nordstrom were in Education; Bob Large was a marketing guy with Gallo.

We had an hour long session discussing the web site.www.sir's.org. Very easy to get on and find anything pertaining to the organization. Up to date and very easy

Think I will close by saying it was a very educational session and gratifying so many retired Men are involved and dedicated to making Sir's such a fine organization.

Any questions I will be glad to answer.



**Menu:
Traditional Turkey Lunch
Happy Thanksgiving**

**Lunch: Thursday Nov 21st
At Pardini's Restaurant**

**Be a Friend, Bring a
Friend**

**Board Meeting: 11:00am
Lunch : 11:45**



Our November Guest Speaker will be:



Joan Thornton from Grand Circle Tours.
And will do a presentation of our European River Cruise in 2014.
This promises to be a very informative show and remember that we will still be entitled to the BIG discount till the end of this month!

October Guest Speaker Was:

Janet Young, Ed.D. has served as Superintendent of Clovis Unified since July 2011. For Dr. Young, assuming the role of Superintendent caps a 34-year career in Clovis Unified that began when she joined the district as a first grade teacher in 1979. Her experiences in Clovis Unified have provided her extensive knowledge of both the instructional and business divisions of the district and include teacher, learning director, principal, director of communications and progressively responsible roles in the human resources leadership of CUSD's close to 5,000 employees.



Receiving a Certificate of Appreciation from Little SIR Howard Jones



**MEMBERSHIP
by Sir Ron McClain**

Happy Thanksgiving. We have a lot to be thankful for, living in a land that is free and the chance to be prosperous.

Our membership has dropped to 119. Sir Claude Parker passed away and we have a couple of Sirs in

nursing homes and cannot attend. The good news is we have a new person to induct at our next luncheon. He is Charlie Fosnaugh brought in by Sir Tom Lean, and he is not a golfer. Surprise.

November is proud to be a Sir lunch, so wear all your clothing and jewelry that has the rooster on it. We will draw for a free lunch, and it could be you.

The year is almost over and we will have a new slate of officers.

Thanks to Big Sir Charlie Pepper for a job well done. Thanks to Sir Tom Tomas for taking over my position.

I have some health issues and have to step aside. See you for lunch and bring a new guy.

Ron

NCGA DUES are due now for 2014. They are \$36.00 if paid by December 19th for renewals & \$46.00 for new members or existing members after that date. Make your check out to SIR 175 & mail them to Bob Bakman 1975 E. Desert Island Drive, Fresno, Ca. 93730 or bring them to the SIR Thanksgiving Luncheon on Nov. 21st & give them to Stan Nappe or Andre Provost.

Nov.19th SIR 169 Madera Muni, Miller 456-1918
 Nov. 21st SIR 159 Madera Muni, Streit 323-7486
 Nov.26th SIR 179 Sherwood, Smith 341-5954
 Nov.27 SIR 159 Sherwood, Streit 323-7486
 Dec.3rd SIR 169 Valley Oaks, Ken Brown 456-5576
 Dec.5th SIR 159 Fig Garden, 432-8601
 Dec.10th SIR 179 Riverside, Preheim 638-4647
 Dec.11th SIR 159 Madera CC, 432-8601



GOLF by Sir Stan Nappe



Oct 15th SIR 169 played at Pheasant Run a 4 Man Shamble Orange Ball + 1 format. Bob Dickson's team won 3rd & Stan Nappe's team won 4th.
 Oct. 17th SIR 159 played a Shamble at Airways. Bob Dickson's team won 1st.
 Oct. 22th SIR 179 played a 4 Man Scramble at Madera Muni. 1st place Paul Dehn's team. 2nd place Rich Grigsby's team. 3rd place Tom Lean, Jerry Long, Gene Parker & Fred Ketcham with Fred also winning CTP on #11.
 Oct.29th SIR 169 played a Scramble at Sierra Meadows. Stan Nappe's team won 2nd. Fred Ketcham's team won 3rd. Bob Dickson's team won 4th with Bob winning CTP on hole #6 & # 8. Tom Lean won CTP on hole # 11.



**BRIDGE
by Sir Bob Cleveland**



Bridge Report

Couples Bridge will be played this month on the 13th at the home of Don and Helga Livingstone.
 In December we will have lunch at the Landmark Restaurant on the 11th and play bridge after.
 Arrangements: Bud and Grace Pope.
 Bob Cleveland

**Celebrating Birthdays this Month
Call and wish them a
Happy Birthday**

Eugene	Parker	7-Nov
Richard	Scheidt	9-Nov
Louis	Volpp	16-Nov
Rex	Tolladay	11-Nov
Jack	Palsgaard	10-Nov
John D.	Dennis	21-Nov
Charles	Franklin	3-Nov
Edwin	Lutz	7-Nov
Mo	Rana	19-Nov



*From
Sir Richard Scheidt*

**Sunshine
By Sir Keith Herzog**

The following members or family of members have been reported to be ill or hospitalized.
 (contact Keith if you know of others 439-0896):

Lee Erickson - had a variety of heart tests in the hospital.
 John Durant was in the hospital this week to get a pacemaker installed. He is now at home resting.



by Sir Don Milliken

Our SIR Book Club saw a changing of the guard with Sir Don Milliken taking over as facilitator from Sir Paul Dehn. Six avid readers, Louis Volpp, George Zerlang, Wayne Locker, Merle Knapp, Paul Dehn, and Don Milliken joined the discussion at Pardini's. Louis recommended two books on the Middle East- "Revolution 2.0: The Power of the People is Greater than the People in Power" by Wael Ghomin and "After the Arab Spring: How Islamists Hijacked the Middle East Revolts" by John R. Bradley, both books deal with the revolutions known as Arab Spring and Fore tell the outcome in Syria if the lessons presented are not learned well.



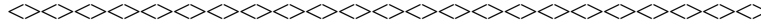
SIR LIBRARY
by Sir Dennis Murane

Librarian: The library is shrinking in volume, by the number of individual books. But I feel the remaining volumes will be utilized more by the members. Most of the removed books had not been read in over a year or more and some ever. These

paper backs will be donated to some hospitals aka the VA and or rest homes, etc.

This process has been slow because I have not wanted to remove any books I felt the members might someday enjoy. Of the sixteen trays currently in the paper back library it has now dropped to fourteen. That represents the removal of about 100 books.

I again ask for your forgiveness. My computer system is hopeless and I am currently in the process of replacing the system. For this reason I have not updated the list on the web site. I will have a complete list for members at the meeting. If everything goes as planned my new system should be up and running soon.

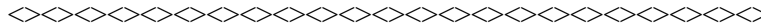



Our big travel story for this month will be Grand Circle Travels presentation of our European River Cruise in 2014.




TRAVEL
by Sir Richard Beers

This promises to be a very informative show and remember that we will still be entitled to the BIG discount till the end of this month! UPDATE on our tour of the Fresno ANGs 144th FTR WGS new F 15 aircraft: Because of OBAMA'S shutdown of military installations recently, our Fresno Base has not been completely restored. However, the NCO in charge of tours for civilians informed me that as soon as they are up and running at 100% we will be scheduled. Questions- call Richard





Bowling
By Merle Knapp




New Time: 1:00pm, Fridays
Location: Sierra Lanes, Blackstone Ave.
Who: Open To All Fours Branches
Results for September Branch 175 (only)

Oct 4th	High Game	Bill Ripley	215
	High Series	Tom Harland	621
Oct 11th	High Game	Bill Ripley	208
	High Series	Tom Harland	499
Oct 18th	High Game	Merle Knapp	230
	High Series	Merle Knapp	606

September Special Winners

Ron McClain
Merle Knapp
Paul Dean
Bud Pope
Ron Pistacchio



MODEL RAILROADING
and
WOODWORKING
Sir George Pisching

The SWIG (woodworking) is continuing with the wooden vehicles Christmas project. The parts are cut. Shellacking them is next, but still waiting on the delivery of the wheels and axles. In September, we plan to assemble and in October to paint. We are offering them to our membership first, then to needy children organizations. Talk to me about this.

Free Lunch won by Charlie Fosnough
Guest of Tom Lean

SIR Branch # 175
2966 W Canterbury Court
Fresno, CA 93711



SIR BRANCH # 175

2013 OFFICERS

Big SIR Charlie Pepper 433-0646
Little SIR Howard Jones 299-5410
Treasurer Robert Bakman 434-1975
Asst. Treas. Andy Provost 439-3295
Secretary Paul Dehn 292-2225
Asst. Sectry Merle Knapp 439-3658

DIRECTORS

Fred Ketcham 2013 225-4041
Russ Mott 2013 441-1115
George Pisching 2014 275-0199
DC Contreras 2014 222-9540
Rich Grigsby 2015 439-8540
Gary Beacom 2015 434-4007

ACTIVITIES

Book Club Don Milliken 577-0733
Bowling Merle Knapp 439-3658
Bridge Bob Cleveland 435-5773
Golf Stan Nappe 435-6703
Travel Richard Beers 431-3728

BARN-YARD ACTIVITIES

Attendance Ron McClain 292-1919
Bulletin-ECHO Jerry Long 287-4023
Chaplain Russ Mott 441-1115
Database Ed Richard Scheidt 435-2536
Hardware Jerry Stoltenberg 289-9287
Historian Merle Knapp 439-3658
Librarian Dennis Murane 840-1517
Membership Ron McClain 292-1919
Model Railroading:
George Pisching 275-0199
Special Events Fred Ketcham 225-4041
Sunshine Keith Herzog 439-0896
Telephone Gerry Young 447-1136
Woodworking:
George Pishching 275-0199

SONS IN RETIREMENT

2013 STATE OFFICERS

President
Richard 'Rich' Dettmer 530-755-4118
Vice President
Maynard 'Rod' Rodland 916-371-1978
Secretary
Richard F. DeVoe 925-932-5546
Treasurer
Michael Berry 707-837-1792
Director, Region 8
Ed Dorn 559-433-0670
Governor, Area 29
Douglas Hansen 559-222-0497

Non-Responsibility Declaration

All travel events and other activities sponsored by Sons in Retirement, Incorporated, or its Branches are for the convenience and pleasure of the members and their guests who desire to participate. Sons in Retirement, Incorporated, and its Branches, do not assume any responsibility for the well being or safety of the participants or passengers, or their property or any damages whatsoever, in any manner pertaining to said travel activities. Where the travel literature is prepared by a travel agency, the following words shall be added to the above wording: "Any other 'disclosures' or non-responsibility provisions contained herein shall not in any way incur any liability attaching to Sons in Retirement, Incorporated, or any Branch thereof."

***"Sir Happenings" is the State
Bulletin: www.sirinc.org***

**Visit our Fresno SIR
Branch 175 website at:
<http://175.sirinc2.org/>**