



SIERRA SIR ECHO

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

<http://175.sirinc2.org> Fresno Branch 175

April 2014 issue Big Sir Note for April



**Big SIR
Howard Jones**



By now everybody should have their calendar marked for Ladies day April 24th. A good opportunity for our favorite ladies to learn that on our luncheon days we gather to visit about old time, listen to an informative speaker and just have fun. The reason for joining Son's in Retirement.

Remember there is room in all the activities for new participants. Give them a try.

Fred Ketchum and his wife Ann as usual have put together a very nice setting for our Ladies Day Luncheon. Be sure and tell your caller what each of you prefer for the entree. Our speaker for the day will be Mrs Mary Castro, wife of the president of CSU Fresno. Both He and Her are valley natives, raised around Hanford Calif. Her speaking commitment was arranged by Little Sir George Pisching who won't be able to attend due to a prior commitment.

Anybody interested in filling the openings for Membership Chairman and Librarian please contact myself or one of the BEC members for instruction and tasks to perform. In order for our Branch to run smoothly we need volunteers to step up to the plate and get involved. Would be great for more people to attend Sir Marshall Goodwin's dinner night out. A fun night to visit and enjoy a fine dinner. He has a sign up sheet at the luncheons for people that want to attend. Always good payoff give the cook a night off.

See you April 24th 2014 Pardini's on Shaw and Vanesss

The quickest way to double your money is to fold it and put it back into your pocket. One of the many quotes from Will Rogers:



**Little Sir
George Pisching**

George is still recovering from his surgery and will not make the meeting

SMaRT- The Model Railroading Spring Conventions circuit is beginning with the PCR Convention in San Luis Obispo on April 30 to May 4. The NMRA National Convention is in Cleveland, Ohio, July 13-19.

SWIG - no activity - on personal time.



BRING A GUEST

Help keep the membership up!

Our most important job is to continue to grow our membership. Bring a friend or neighbor or former business associate that is now retired to the next meeting.

You will do him a favor by introducing him to SIR (and you will earn a free lunch when he joins!)



**Menu:
(Chicken or Fish)**

**Lunch: 4th Thursday of
the month at Pardini's
Restaurant**

**Be a Friend, Bring a
Friend**

**Board Meeting: None
Lunch: 11:45am**



This Month's Guest is:



Mary Castro's role as "president's wife" presents a plate overflowing with responsibilities. But it also unleashed a cup overflowing with joy.

From the moment she learned that her husband would become the eighth president of California State University, Fresno, Mrs. Castro says she has been "thrilled beyond belief." This appointment is the fulfillment of a dream they shared.

"We wanted for a long time to come back home to the Valley," she says. "There just wasn't a fit that was right. When Joe got the call [offering him the Fresno State position], it was all joy. It was something we had hoped for, dreamed about, made sacrifices for as we moved to different areas to get experience."

As she settles into her new role and the family's new residence at University House, Mrs. Castro brings energy and enthusiasm for what she calls the "exciting adventure" ahead.

Last Month's Guest Was:



Fire Chief Kerri L. Donis began her career as a firefighter for the Fresno Fire Department in 1996, where she served in a variety of positions, including firefighter, engineer, captain, staff captain, and as the co-number-two deputy fire chief for 10 years. Kerri held the interim Fire Chief position for seven months prior to being appointed permanently in January 2014.

**Membership
By Tom Thomas**

The good news is that we had two guests at our March luncheon....the bad news is that we only had two. We need to get serious and bear down on recruiting. Recruiting is everybody's job!

Sir Wayne Houser hosted Edward Tow who is a retired pharmacist from Rite Aid and is interested in reading, sports and music. Looks like a great fit for

our book club and hope to see him at our April gathering. Sir Ron McClain sponsored Jim Cooper for a second visit and we expect him to join our barnyard at the next luncheon. Let's make an effort to make them both feel welcome.

Sir Richard Jennings was the winner of a free lunch at our March "Proud to be a Sir" luncheon. Congrats to Sir Richard. Your next chance to win will be at our May luncheon so start "gearing" up now.

See you all on April 24th...bring you wives and/or girlfriends and a potential new rooster to boot.

GOLF, SIR #175 April, 2014

SIR 169 Played at Tulare, Individual Golf on 3/11. Stan Nappe won CTP on # 7.

SIR 159 Played at Ridge Creek a Scramble on 3/20. Jim Cooper's team won 4th and Bob Dickson's team won 6th.

SIR 179 Played a Scramble at Pheasant Run on 3/25. 1st place Jim Cooper, Ron McClain, Wayne Schwartz. 2nd place Bob Dickson & Fred Ketcham. 3rd place Tom Lean, Rich Grigsby, Jerry Long & Stan Nappe.



GOLF by Sir Stan Nappe




SIR 159 played a Scramble at Valley Oaks on 3/27. Bob Dickson's team won 1st.
 SIR 169 played a 4 Man 2 Best Ball at Valley Oaks on 4/1. Bob Dickson won CTP on # 5.
 SIR 179 played a 4 Man 2 Best Ball at Sherwood on 4/8. Jim Cooper & Rich Grigsby's team won 1st. Mike Castle, Stan Nappe & Charlie Pepper's team won 2nd. Tom Lean's team won 3rd.

GOLF QUOTES: I don't exaggerate- I just remember big. Chi Chi Rodriguez.

The golf swing is like sex, you can't be thinking of the mechanics while you're doing it. Dave Hill.

It took me 17 years to get 3000 hits in baseball. I did it in one afternoon on the golf course. Hank Aaron

Golfer: "I'd move heaven & earth to break 100 on this course." Caddy: "Try heaven, you've already moved most of the earth."

<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: center;">  <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>BRIDGE by Sir Bob Cleveland</p>  </div> </div> <p style="text-align: center; color: red; font-weight: bold; margin-top: 10px;">Bridge Report</p> <p>Hi!</p> <p>Bridge Report: We played couples bridge on April 9 at the home of Russ & Tess Mott.</p> <p>Winners: Bob Cleveland 5660 pts Tess Mott 6410 pts Bud Pope 3140 Ginny Cleveland 4130</p> <p>In May we will play on the 14th at the home of Bud & Grace Pope.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Bob Cleveland</p>	<div style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; color: blue; margin-bottom: 20px;"> <p>Celebrating Birthdays this Month Call and wish them a Happy Birthday</p> </div> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 33%;">Robert</td> <td style="width: 33%;">Baker</td> <td style="width: 33%;">04/04</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Timothy</td> <td>Finley</td> <td>04/11</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Frederick</td> <td>Ketcham</td> <td>04/08</td> </tr> <tr> <td>George</td> <td>Moore</td> <td>04/26</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Charles</td> <td>Preston</td> <td>04/12</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ronald</td> <td>Sittner</td> <td>04/19</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Willis</td> <td>Wilk</td> <td>04/08</td> </tr> <tr> <td>George</td> <td>Zerlang</td> <td>04/23</td> </tr> </table> <div style="text-align: right; margin-top: 20px;">  <p style="text-align: center; font-size: small; color: gray;">From Sir Richard Scheidt</p> </div>	Robert	Baker	04/04	Timothy	Finley	04/11	Frederick	Ketcham	04/08	George	Moore	04/26	Charles	Preston	04/12	Ronald	Sittner	04/19	Willis	Wilk	04/08	George	Zerlang	04/23
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by Sir Don Milliken

Book Club Meeting March 27th

The illness bug and other impediments led to a smallish book club turnout in March. That's the bad news. The good news is that some awesome books were introduced.

Paul was fruit loops over "The Martian" by Andy Weir. This is not your usual science fiction by a long shot. In a nut shell the storyline goes like this. In the near future a band of NASA astronauts lands on the Martian surface for a planned month long exploration. On day six an unexpected sand storm moves in with winds in excess of 175 mph. One of the astronauts is presumed dead because he was impaled by flying debris. The rest of the team is forced to quickly retreat to the launch vehicle and evacuate the mission. They begin a 10 month ride back to Earth minus their fallen comrade.

Just one problem. The astronaut (Mark Watney) is still very much alive. Thus begins a hair raising fight for survival. Mark has no communication with Earth, and only limited quantities of food, water, and oxygen. A sharp eyed NASA satellite operator soon discovers the fact of the abandoned astronaut and puts into play a daring rescue attempt.

Tim Finley reported on "Truman Fires Macarthur" by David McCullough. This book shed light on the President Truman's efforts to rein in the wildly popular General Macarthur who threatens to go rogue in his quest to enter Red China in pursuit of the retreating Chinese Army.

Wayne Locher continued the love fest with John Grisham novels. He loved "The Associate" and "The Summons". Wayne also loved the classic "To Kill a Mockingbird" by Harper Lee. He liked seeing how the movie differed with the book.

All SIRS are invited, The book club meets at 10 a.m. on meeting days inside Pardini's coffee shop.



SIR LIBRARY
by Sir Dennis Murane

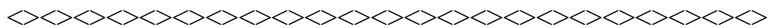
Librarian: The month has flown by and we seem to have missed winter. The upcoming meeting will be Ladies Day, therefore I will not bring the library to the luncheon.

The library continues to grow at a steady pace. I am constantly looking for paperback books dealing with mystery writers, modern crime fiction, science

fiction, westerns and biographies.

I am trying to limit the inventory of paperback books to approximately sixteen trays. This amount is a manageable amount to transport and display. For this reason I will continually remove those books that are not read to make room for new books.

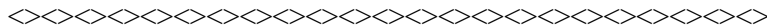
Anyone that is interested in becoming the new librarian can contact me. I will gladly show them the process of inventorying the incoming new books, recognizing the returning old books and setting up the new inventory lists.



TRAVEL: Nothing new to report in travel this month....just prepare for the coming heat and lowering gas prices ! HA !



TRAVEL
by Sir Richard Beers



The latest edition of SIR Happenings is posted on the SIR website:

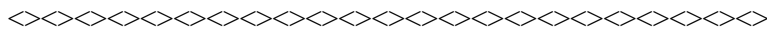
<http://sirinc.org/sirhappenings/>

President Rodland's first front page article reviews his plans for this year.

The SIR website has borrowed the travel page from "SIR Happenings" and you may click here to see the new link.

http://sirinc.org/new_site/travel.html

I hope you enjoy reading our latest edition. Don MacGregor; Editor, SIR Happenings



Sunshine Committee
Keith Herzog

I received word today that a past SIR member passed away on March 30. I did not get any details. His name is: Don Lewis

Sir's Diners
Marshall Goodwin, Maitre D



"SIR DINERS"

by Maitre D
Sir Marshall Goodwin

Ten couples met at the Macaroni Grill on Wednesday, April 9th for an evening of conviviality and great Italian food.

Next month we will have a potluck on May 14th at 5:30 at the Goodwin home, 1427 W. Moraga Road in Fresno.

Please sign up for a main dish, salad, vegetable or dessert at the meeting or call me at 439-5494. Wine will be available. If you want something stronger, bring your own bottle.



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)

March Bowling Results:

High Game **High Series**

March 7th	Bill Ripley 213	Bill Ripley 528
March 14th	Bill Ripley 243	Tom Harlan 629
March 21st	Merle Knapp 207 Bill Ripley 206	Merle Knapp 587
March 28th	Tom Harlan 219	Tom Harlan 587

All are handicap scores

Ladies Day

Don't forget April is Ladies Day. So bring your wife, girlfriend or, significant other and enjoy our speaker chosen just for you. Sirs has chosen a wonderful gift package of which I'm sworn not to reveal, however I can say it was often presented to monarchs and other leaders as a highly valued gift.

Fred Ketcham

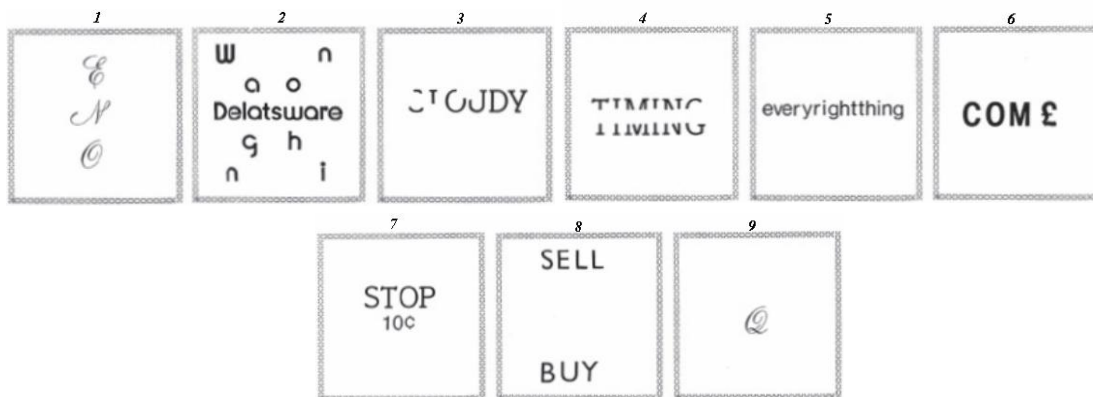
Winners from March, 2014 SIR luncheon:

Marshall Goodwin – Birthday lunch
Richard Jennings – Proud to be a SIR

John Hardaway
Gerald Stoltenberg
Keith Herzog
Tony Ducas
Eric Hermanson
Wayne Locher

Fun Stuff

"This is a word puzzle where words are made into a picture that stands for an expression or saying" The first person to provide correct solution will receive a prize at the next regular meeting. Send your answers by email to Doroteo 'DC' Contreras at doroteocontreras@comcast.net. (Must be in by 04-23)



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



SIR BRANCH # 175

2014 OFFICERS

Big SIR Howard Jones 299-5410
Little SIR George Pisching 275-0199
Treasurer Robert Bakman 434-1975
Asst. Treas. Andy Provost 439-3295
Secretary Paul Dehn 292-2225
Asst. Sectry Merle Knapp 439-3658

DIRECTORS

DC Contreras 2014 222-9540
Rich Grigsby 2015 439-8540
Gerald Stoltenberg 2015 439-8540
George Pope 2016 434-2136
Fred Ketchem 2016 255-4041

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 Tom Thomas 284-8744
Bulletin-ECHO DC Contreras 222-9540
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 Tom Thomas 284-8744
Model Railroading:
George Pisching 275-0199
Special Events Fred Ketcham 225-4041
Sunshine Keith Herzog 439-0896
Telephone Gerry Young 447-1136
Woodworking:
George Pisching 275-0199

SONS IN RETIREMENT

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Bobbie Hairston
Secretary
Richard F. DeVoe 925-932-5546
Treasurer
Michael Berry 707-837-1792
Director, Region 8
Jerry L Strain 209-551-8220
Governor, Area 29
Manny Contino 559-322-8698

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

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