



# SIERRA SIR ECHO

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

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

July 2014 issue

## Big Sir Note for July 24 luncheon



There are a few issues that bother me as my term as Big Sir. One is the inability to recruit new members to keep up with the outflow of members due to illness, loss of a loved one or inability to attend the meeting due to health and mobility problems. Second is the reluctance of the members to step up to replace the Sirs that are seeking replacements due to health problems or whatever reason they might have. As you know we need a helper for Tom Thomas for the membership duties, We need a helper for Dennis Murane to maintain the library he has diligently set up for our use. WE may also need an ECHO editor after his regime. We need a nominating committee as well to nominate a new slate of BEC members for the members with expiring terms. Lets work on that.

A word about volunteering. Sir's depends upon volunteers to conduct nearly every aspect of its affairs. Volunteers do the work Without volunteers we are dead in the water. Volunteers enjoy themselves more than non-participants, they make more friends, they get to know the inner working of our organization. Just good to know you are help our organization to survive.

In the State level they need a new Dist Governor to replace Mannie Contino Dist 8. Contact me if interested and I will get you in touch with the powers to be.

Remember July 24 Sir Wayne Locker's Brother Col. Roger Locker will speak on his experience after being shot down over North Viet Nam and spending 23 days in the jungle evading the North Vietnamese. Will be a very interesting story, He now lives in Kansas with his wife and tours the country telling his story to interesting parties.



Bring a friend

Get involved and enjoy the ride, Big Sir Howard Jones

### **Ask not what your Country can do for you; ask what you can do for your fellow SIR**

We all enjoy our SIR Branch, the activities, the camaraderie, the speakers, the food. But there is more. You can help make our organization more enjoyable and add to that which you draw from the Branch by filling a position and helping to distribute the work load from a few to many. If you have an interest in serving in a capacity in Branch 175 please contact Big Sir Howard Jones at [artwork559@sbcglobal.net]

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:

**SMaRT**- SMaRT – SIR Modeling and Railroad Team – **SWIG**  
- SWIG – SIR Woodworking Interest Group – On Vacation



**Little Sir  
George Pisching**

**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:  
(Pork or Chicken)**

**Lunch: 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of  
the month at Pardini's  
Restaurant**

**Be a Friend, Bring a  
Friend**

**Board Meeting: 11:30  
Lunch: 12:30am**



**Last Month's Guest Was:**

Mr. Jody Lee

Bureau of Automotive Repair, Program Representative I,  
Field Operations and Enforcement

Mr. Jody Lee is a Program Representative of the Bureau of Automotive Repair. He handles consumer complaints and conducts undercover operations in regard to Law Enforcement.

He is an ASE certified Master Technician

He has 29 years in the automotive industry. His jobs involved diagnosing & repairing passenger and light duty trucks.

He was a Licensed Smog Technician for 27 years. And for 14 Years, he was a Certified Training Instructor for the Smog Check Program before joining the Bureau.

Mr. Willy Thygesen

Mr. Willy Thygesen is also a Program Representative of the Bureau of Automotive Repair.

He has almost 11 years now working for the Bureau (BAR).

Mr. Thygesen is a ASE certified Master Technician.

He has 22 years working in the Automotive Repair Industry.

He was a Licensed Smog Technician for 28 years. And he was the Owner/Operator/Manager of an Automotive Repair Facility for 12 years before joining the Bureau.



**July's Special Guest and Speaker**

"#175 Members mark your calendars for special speaker on July 24<sup>th</sup>. I have tried to get him to speak to us since 2006 when I joined Sir #175. He is my brother, Roger C. Locher, 15 years younger than me. A retired U.S. Air Force Colonel and he will be accompanied by his wife also a retired U.S. Air Force Lt. Colonel. His topic centers on May 10, 1972 the day the F-4 Phantom jet was shot down about 30 miles north of Hanoi, Viet Nam. He ejected from the F-4 and ended up in a tree on the side of a mountain. He then evaded Viet Nam military forces and the civilian population for 23 days. He was rescued by a Jolly Green Giant helicopter from a U.S. Base in northern Thailand."



Feel free to contact me by phone 434-1991 or by E-mail concerning this request.

Thank you.

Wayne E. Locher



## Membership By Tom Thomas

Things seem to be picking up on the recruiting front. It's great to see all the guests and potential new members showing up and enjoying the fellowship we have to offer. Last luncheon, we had three new first time guests. Sir Gary Beacom was the sponsor for both Ted Bone and Ren Grossman. Ted retired from the Santa Clara County Probation Department and plays lots of golf and is in to old cars. Ren was the CFO for a Drug and Alcohol Center

and is also an avid golfer. Sir Jerry Miller was host to Mike Herman who was a truck driver for the LA Times. Mike likes woodworking and model railroading. Seems like these fellows would fit right in with our Branch.....make a point to say hello at the July luncheon.

July is "Proud to be a Sir" month so make sure you break out all your Sir paraphernalia.....you get a ticket for a free lunch for each rooster logo you wear.

In addition, if you wear your military headgear we will give you an extra ticket in honor our guest speaker, Colonel Roger C. Locher.



**GOLF by Sir Stan Nappe**

### **GOLF, SIR #175: July, 2014**

June 10<sup>th</sup> SIR 179 played at Madera C.C. a Scramble. 1<sup>st</sup> place was won by Wayne Schwartz, Gale Smith & Cliff Hawkins. 3<sup>rd</sup> place was won by Jim Cooper, Fred Ketcham, Ed Nagai & Jerry La Rue.

June 24<sup>th</sup> SIR 179 played a scramble at Madera Muni. 2<sup>nd</sup> place was won by Tom Lean, Lee Nichols & Dennis Soliday. Jerry Long won CTP on # 11.

June 26<sup>th</sup> SIR 159 played a 4 Man 2 BB at Riverside. 5<sup>th</sup> place was won by Jim Cooper, Joe Russo, Sal Morales, & Ron Wilson.

July 3<sup>rd</sup> SIR 169 played a scramble at Belmont C.C. 3<sup>rd</sup> place was won by Jerry Long, Pete White, George Rodriguez & Jim Bourbon.

July 10<sup>th</sup> SIR 179 played a 2 Mam BB at Belmont C.C. Fred Ketcham & Jack Yagura won 5<sup>th</sup>.

**SIR 175 2014 Club Championship this year will be held in conjunction with the SIR AREA 29 - 4 BRANCH CHAMPIONSHIP on Wed. Sept. 3<sup>RD</sup>. location to be determined. The format will be individual golf. ALL 175 GOLFERS IN THE 4 BRANCH CHAMPIONSHIP WILL ATOMICALLY BE IN THE 175 TOURNAMENT.**



**SIR LIBRARY  
by Sir Dennis Murane**

### **Librarian:**

A reminder, I am looking for a replacement for my position. Our Chapter has a wonderful library and we need to keep it going. With my medical problems I am unable to continue in my current function. I need someone to step up and take over the position come 1-1-15.

I can teach the new Librarian all the necessary functions to carry out his duties in a very short period of time. Anyone interested can contact me at 559-355-4853. Dennis Murane



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

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

President Rodland's front page article reviews the Growth and Membership Committee's plans for increasing membership. Derek Southern, SIR Training Committee Chairman announces the new Big Sir and Governor Training scheme and schedule. Three separate venues all closer to you and with smaller groups. Check the Travel Page for some exciting trips. [http://sirinc.org/new\\_site/travel.html](http://sirinc.org/new_site/travel.html)

Lots of great pictures and Branch news. I hope you enjoy reading our latest edition.

Don MacGregor; Editor, SIR Happenings



Sir's Diners  
Marshall Goodwin, Maitre D



# "SIR DINERS"

by Maitre D  
Sir Marshall Goodwin

Sirs Diners report for **July**  
This month sixteen of us met at the High Sierra Grill for very good and reasonably priced meal.

Next month, August 13th we will be meeting at Compagnia's at Champlain and Perrin at 5:30 for libations and 6 pm for dinner.

Sign up at the meeting or call me at 439-5494.

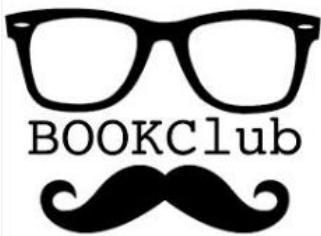
## Celebrating Birthdays this Month Call and wish them a Happy Birthday



From  
Sir Richard Scheidt



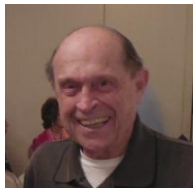
First	Last	DOB
John	Broeske	7/7/1946
Michael	Cardenas	7/14/1933
Mike	Castle	7/11/1943
John	Durant	7/2/1927
Ed	Nicholson	7/21/1929
John	Snyder	7/2/1929
Richard	Thompson	7/31/1953



The Book Club did not meet in June, and for various reasons, we will not meet in July. Paul Dehn will resume the chairmanship of the Book Club on an interim basis in August.

Paul did want to share a few books by Hugh Howey. This author has opened my eyes to the thrill of science fiction. Last year I reported on "Wool". The storyline starts with a ruined caustic atmosphere in the near future. The government has secretly built a series of enormous underground structures (several hundred floors deep called "silos" that are designed to be self sustaining for multiple generations). "Wool" is a fast paced story of survival and human nature vs. strict authority. The ideal silo is one where the inhabitants do not question government authority and those few who do are dealt with sternly. Ultimately the offender could be banished completely.

Recently, Hugh introduced a couple of follow up novels called "Shift" and "Dust" that continue the "silo" saga. I just completed "Shift" and I learned some needed background as to why and who actually put the silo programs together. As the storyline progresses The reader learns that there are many silos under the control of "silo one". Not all silos are harmonious environments and some have completely self destructed. One storyline focuses on a lone survivor in Silo 17 who manages to survive 30 years after riots wiped out everyone else. This sub-story of a man and his cat ("Solo" and Shadow") could easily have stood alone as its own book. I'm excitedly starting the final book "Dust" to see how this all wraps up.



Travel  
By Sir Richard Beers

### TRAVEL:

Richard's Travel News,  
We have a few local trips planned  
for when it C O O L S off!

Cheers..... Richard



BRIDGE  
by Sir Bob Cleveland



### Bridge Report for July

We played couples bridge today at the Clevelands.  
Winners: Russ Mott 6290 Helga Livingstone 6780  
Don Livingstone 4780 Tess Mott 5550

In August we will play on the 13th at the home of  
Don & Helga Livingstone.

## Last Month's Winners



Charlie Pepper  
Gene Harvey  
Louie Giorgetti  
Don Williamson

Birthday Lunch Don Livingston

Free Lunch ticket was won by Mike Castle

## Bowling By Merle Knapp



### ATTENTION BOWLERS:

The SIRS Bowling League is currently on summer recess.

Now is an excellent time to join us for summer non-league practice, meet the guys, and check out if you still enjoy bowling.

The SIRS League bowling will resume in September. Check your August SIR ECHO for details.

### Interesting Facts

Two-thirds of the people on earth have never seen snow.

The average American drinks about 600 sodas a year.

You are 1% shorter in the evening than in the morning.

The United States, Burma, and Liberia are the only countries in the world that have not officially adopted the metric system as the standard of measurement.

Since 1945, all British tanks come with tea making equipment.

**ATTENDANCE RULES:** (State Rule 100) A member of Branch 49 will be notified in writing pending termination of membership if he does not attend at least 6 luncheons during a calendar year, January—December. The Ladies Day luncheon is not required attendance. Therefore, it does not count as one of the six required luncheons during the year. If you report to the calling committee that you expect to attend, but later you find you must cancel, call your telephone contact or the Telephone Committee Chairman.

**NON-RESPONSIBILITY:** All tours, trips and other activities arranged by **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 any responsibility for the well being or safety of the participants of passengers or their property, in any matters pertaining to said tours, trips or other activities.

**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**

**2013 STATE OFFICERS**

President  
Maynard Rodland 916-371-1978  
Vice President  
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

**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](http://www.sirinc.org)**

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