



Incorporated

**A Non-Profit Organization of Retired Men
Devoted to the Promotion of Independence
And Dignity of Retirement.**

The Rooster's Crow

The HOOKER OAK BRANCH #84
meets the FIRST THURSDAY of
each month at
MANZANITA PLACE,
(inside the Elks Lodge building)
1705 Manzanita Avenue,
CHICO, CA, 11:30 AM

**SONS IN RETIREMENT,
HOOKER OAK BRANCH #84**

Volume 46, Number 8

August 2024

The Branch Executive Committee
meets at 10:15 AM on the same day
at the same place.



SIR Happenings



Cycling Club

Did you know that there are literally endless bike rides of all distances and sceneries in our beautiful town? Bidwell Park, bike paths throughout the city, river rides, almond blossom rides; too many to mention. Place and distances will be determined by the group. We ride fast enough to get there and slow enough to enjoy the ride. All types of bicycles and riders are welcome.

For More Information Contact:

Tim Kressin - 951-743-1297

Ken Doglio - 530-933-3921

GOLFERS

Branch 84 and Branch 110 tee off together for several tournaments at courses throughout the area. Now that the weather is cooperative, you can dust off your clubs, hit the range for a few practice swings, and join the fun.

For information on upcoming golf outings, please contact Paul Broissoit.

530 514 3486

FORE!



BOWLING CLUB

The Bowling Club meets every Tuesday night for drop-in open bowling, from 6:00 PM to 8:30 PM, at the Bolero Bowling Center in Chico.



SIR Branch 84—Current List of Special Interest Clubs

Bowling Club - Bob Gaines 530-514-5066

Fishing Club - Ron Ward 530- 354-5147

Golf Club - Paul Brossoit 530 514-3186

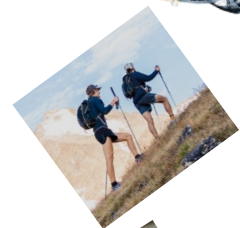
Hiking Club - Rich Utter (Branch 110) 925-922-7020

Movie Club - Greg Sanger 530-518-7924

Writing & Book Club - Chip Meriam 530-228-1544

Special Activities Club - Alex Van Patten 530-566-2151

Cycling Club - Tim Kressin 951-743-1297



Final Battle of the Bay Bridge Series
Last Chance to see the Oakland A's hosting SF Giants



SIR Day at the Ball Park
August 18, 2024
Oakland Coliseum-Sunday-1pm

Mail a \$70 check made out to Lee Moy
Include a return addressed and stamped envelope to:

Lee Moy, 127 N. Helm Ave., Clovis, CA 93612

Tickets will be mailed to you, so please include the
aforementioned envelope plus your contact info:
phone number & email address.

Deadline: 8/8/2024

Lee Moy
State SIR Sports

OFFICERS

BIG SIR,	Chip Meriam-----	228-1544
LITTLE SIR,	Tim Kressin-----	951-743-1297
SECRETARY,	Mike Hamlin-----	526-4408
ASST. SECRETARY,	Lowell Terrell-----	895-1737
TREASURER,	Paul Brossoit-----	530-514-3486
TREASURER ASST.,	Ray Quinto-----	343-6752

DIRECTORS

Jerry Brandt-----	636-4392
Don Foster-----	566-1218
Jim Hertl-----	897-0402
Richard Kannenberg-----	208-869-5786
Myles Pustejovsky-----	342-4751
Allen Wood-----	343-2771
Mark Ward (Alternate)-----	680-8518

AREA REPRESENTATIVE

Lee Lamp-----	921-1375
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COMMITTEES

ATTENDANCE,	Don Foster-----	566-1218
ATTENDANCE ASST.,	VACANT	
AUDITOR,	Benny Sommer-----	895-0840
BOWLING,	Bob Gaines-----	514-5066
CHAPLAIN,	Richard Kannenberg-----	208-869-5786
CHAPLAIN ASST.,	Bob Roberts-----	219-2566
DINNER CLUB,	Jerry Brandt-----	636-4392
FISHING,	Ron Ward-----	354-5147
FISHING ASST.,	Harold Frazier-----	809-1623
GOLF,	Paul Brossoit-----	530-514-3486
HIKING,	Jim Hertl-----	897-0402
HOUSE MANAGER,	Jim Hertl-----	897-0402
MEMBERSHIP,	Greg Sanger-----	345-2344
MEMBERSHIP ASST.,	Ken Doglio-----	933-3921
MOVIE CLUB,	Greg Sanger-----	345-2344
NOMINATING COMM.,	Greg Sanger-----	345-2344
R. CROW EDITOR,	Chip Meriam-----	228-1545
R. CROW ASST.,	Lowell Terrell-----	895-1737
SONG DIRECTOR,	Jerry Brandt-----	636-4392
SUNSHINE,	Jim Hertl-----	897-0402
TRAVEL,	Lowell Terrell-----	895-1737
TRAVEL,	Don Foster-----	566-1218
WRITING & BOOK CLUB,	Chip Meriam-----	225-1544



FROM THE BIG SIR

Chip Meriam

Greetings, fellows.

Your Branch Executive Committee has been busy with a response to recent proposals by the State SIR Board. In summary, these are their proposals:

1. Change the Mission Statement and Logo.
2. Change the name of the Organization.
3. Relabel Branches as "Chapters."
4. Eliminate the word "Retirement."
5. Change the names of the Big and Little SIR to President and Vice-President.
6. Change the By-Laws to include gender neutrality.
7. Reorganize as a non-profit under the provisions of Internal Revenue Code §501(c)(3).

Our response, in part, was:

"We were not made aware of these "heavy handed" initiatives until they had already reached the initial stages of implementation. We had no say in this huge change to our organization. We strongly suggest that these changes be put to a vote by all members, and proceed only if a majority assent can be achieved.

'In our opinion, these are nothing more than "window dressing" that do nothing to maintain the notion of a unique organization of older men that come to together to enjoy fun and fellowship without burdensome rules or obligations.

'Additionally, there is a proposal to hire an Executive Director, a Marketing firm, and an Information Technology firm. These proposals are expensive and offer little benefit to the members other than additional bureaucracy, dues, and costs.'

Branch 110 co-signed our response. We are now waiting for further action by the State SIR Board.

It must be noted that some of the proposed changes have already begun. Specifically, the perceived need to change the name and the logo.

Please see the last page of this newsletter. You are free (and encouraged) to participate in the name and logo contest, despite the position our Branch Executive Committee has taken.

Naturally, we will keep you apprised of further developments as they occur.

**FALL PICNIC
AT THE RANCH**
Hooker Oak Branch #84
Thursday, September 19, 2024 - 5:00 pm
Walters Ranch - Stanford Lane - Durham
Entertainment by Ivy Flats
Dinner by La Familia
Beer, Wine & Soft Drinks
Raffle Prizes
\$30.00 per plate
**Honoring the Memory of
Jerry Walters**

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Dan Heal, Ed Main, Ray Navarro,
Frank Reimann, Lowell Terrell

August 1, 2024 - 11:30 AM

Manzanita Place (Chico Elks)

SIR Dennis Bruggman



Dennis has been a student of Judo for over 35 years. He was the head instructor for the Nibukikan Judo Club 15 years before retiring. Now he travels as a guest instructor for other clubs and seminars in Northern California.

Dennis holds a Yodan (4th degree Black Belt) in Judo and a Shodan (1st degree Black Belt) in Danzan Ryu Jujitsu. He is a Certified Instructor and Coach along with a Certified Regional Referee for the United States Judo Federation (USJF). Over the course of his career, he has trained and produced State and National Champions along with international competitors.

This month marks the beginning of the 2024 Summer Olympics, so Dennis chose to share his passion with us and, hopefully, make us a bit more literate when it comes to watching the martial arts events.

Rideshare Service

Myles Pustejovsky has kindly volunteered to set up and coordinate drivers to chauffeur members who do not drive any longer or do not have rides to our luncheons. His plan is to divide the area up into districts and ask for volunteers in each district to pick up and drop off members before and after each luncheon. If you are interested in volunteering to pick up fellow members on the way to and from our luncheons, or would like to take advantage of this new club service, please contact Myles.



Myles Pustejovsky

530-342-4751

mandadurham@att.net

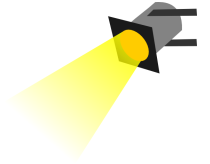
Thank you for this



Luncheon Fare

Unknown at Press Time

IF YOU CANNOT ATTEND THE AUGUST 1 MEETING, PLEASE NOTIFY DON FOSTER BY JULY 29. 530 566 1218



NEW MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

By Chip Meriam



Skot Stribolt

Recently, I had the pleasure of sharing breakfast with Skot Stribolt. Having previously been introduced to Sons In Retirement by Bob Knox, past Big SIR, Skot joined SIR Branch 84 in May of 2023 following Bob’s passing.

Skot was born and raised in San Francisco. He attended all public schools, including San Francisco State, where he pursued an art degree, specializing in photography. He also had a brief stint at Sonoma State, where he was a member of the golf team. While playing for Sonoma State, he came north to a tournament hosted by Chico State. This was Skot’s first introduction to the City of Chico and, indeed, Bidwell Golf Course.

Following his college days, Skot travelled to Denmark to work as a photographer accompanying his father, who was writer for a Danish newspaper. During this time, Skot discovered his grandfather, Oscar Stribolt, had been a renowned screen actor and director during the silent film era.



Oscar Stribolt

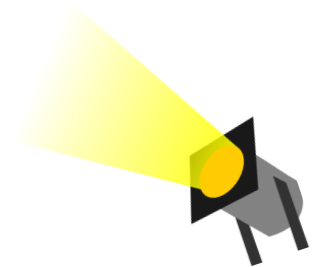
In 1968, well before the fall of the Soviet Union, Skot travelled to Eastern Europe—Poland in particular. While there, he witnessed, first hand, life under communist oppression. In Skot’s words, “I would have never known just how bad it [communism] could be.” Noting that “We are lucky to be American,” Skot vowed to become an active participant in our electoral system.

Upon returning to America, Skot served as a dispatcher for the DeSoto taxi cab company for seventeen years before retiring and moving north to make Chico his new home.

During his entire life, Skot has been living with severe back pain. Even as a child, he needed to wear a back brace. Upon moving to Chico, Skot discovered there was no local “chapter” of the American Chronic Pain Association, so he established one in Chico.

These days, Skot says he plays golf whenever he can, but every so often he has to “lay low” and let his back settle down. Meanwhile, Skot says, “I’m just another human being. I’m lucky to be here.”

Well, Skot, we’re lucky to have you here!



WISDOM

I have become painfully aware of the aging process of late. The activities of life that I once pursued without considering there might be physical limitations were never considered. Now, all of a sudden, I am aware of that potential limitation and also the mental stamina for some things may be wavering somewhat. One of the things I was privileged to enjoy before a consideration for limitations was a trip to The Netherlands in 1995. What a delightful experience that was and some wonderful memories resulted.

Our church's world wide organization had a convention in Utrecht which was attended by some 60,000. My wife had arranged for us to volunteer at the event. That whole experience is for another time. But.....

We took the opportunity to spend the week before exploring The Netherlands, aka Holland along with my sister and spouse. We chose to do our exploring on a RV boat. Very similar to a small RV, sleeping four, with a restroom, kitchen, dining and sitting area. It had a little 27 horsepower diesel engine that propelled us along. It was a delightful week. We had bicycles along so we could stop and explore at will, do our grocery shopping, etc. You could stop at a bakery and buy however much of any given loaf of bread on the shelf.

At night time we just anchored along the bank where ever it was convenient. There were many locks and draw bridges to navigate—sometimes a challenge, but always interesting. Our canal course was a circle from Utrecht out and back again, probably never more than 25 miles away. The official language is Dutch, but most of the people we conversed with spoke English. Here is a bit of data about the country:

26% of the country is below sea level.

The world's second largest exporter, by value, in the world of agriculture products. Second only to the USA

Rotterdam is the busiest port in Europe

Schiphol Airport is the 4th busies airport in Europe and is built on a swampy marsh field.

Population estimated at 18,000,000

Amsterdam has 60 miles of canals and there are over 3,900 miles of canals in the whole country.

All in all it was a delightful experience.....quite in contrast to my up bringing on the semi—aired northern great plains.

July 16, 2024 Richard Kannenberg





After serious discussions at several State Board meetings, a day-long Board retreat, and a Branch Officers' Town Hall Meeting via Zoom on June 26, your Board has concluded that we must take **ACTION** to preserve the future of our organization. We have started by adopting the new slogans “**Enhance Your Lifestyle**” while “**Making**

Friends for Life.” The Town Hall attendees agreed that we should consider a new name (which excludes the word 'retirement') and a new logo that will be more attractive to younger potential members. But there is so much more to do!

[CLICK HERE](#) for more information from the Town Hall

As a result, your State Board is pleased and excited to announce a contest to develop a fresh new name and logo for SIR.

To be eligible for the \$500 prize in either of the two categories (name, logo) SIR members simply need to email an entry to me, Jim Gragg, by August 8, 2024 with the subject line reading, “Name and Logo Contest”.

We have a graphic support group ready to refine the prize-winning submission, so just send me a simple sketch of an idea or, if possible, a high-definition JPEG or PNG!

At the August Board meeting, the State Board will evaluate all entries based on creativity, relevance to the SIR mission, and visual appeal. **The winners will be announced at the SIRinc Annual meeting on August 27.**

Spread the word around your branch, **ALL Sirs are eligible to win.**

Get to work and send us your submissions ASAP!

Thank you,

Jim Gragg

jegragg65@gmail.com

Director, Branch Support