



A Non-Profit Organization for Men Devoted to the Promotion of Independence and Dignity in Retirement

BIG SIR JACKIE LOVATO



To my fellow Sirs, I hope you had a Blessed Thanksgiving Holiday. As we enter December, I want to wish each and every one of you a very Merry Christmas. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank you for the privilege to serve as your Big Sir this past year. It has truly been an honor. I want to thank you for your patience and understanding during this pandemic, it's been a very challenging time. Let's continue to support our Branch Executive Committee (BEC) members, their loyalty and hard work keeps our branch functioning. As I hand over the gavel to our incoming Big Sir, Scott Barcus, I want to thank him for his leadership, professionalism and friendship as Little Sir, job well done. I want to welcome Daniel Lindstrom in as our incoming Little Sir. I'm looking forward to our branch luncheons and activities resuming in the near future. Until then, be safe and God Bless.



LITTLE SIR SCOTT BARCUS



Our 2020 SIRS Branch 169 activities began with our January guest speaker unable to attend. So fellow SIRS member Bernie Hollenbeck quickly filled the void and shared from his days as a flight instructor and crash site investigator. We did not realize at the time that this would establish a pattern for the remainder of our year. In February our guest speaker was called for jury duty, so I filled the void with some African missionary experiences. In March, Gina Behrens from Fresno State was our speaker. She focused her talk on new laws impacting student athletes at the university level. At the time, we did not realize we would not have another luncheon until October. Our November and December luncheons were cancelled, and we now wait to see when we will be able to resume meeting in 2021. A special thanks to all those members who working to keep our organization viable until all of this is a memory. As I mention memories, it seems important to conclude by wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and may we have a happier New Year.



“Mountain Strong” has become a significant focus during the aftermath of the Creek Fire.

Members in our Mountain Community have rallied support in an effort to help those who have been negatively impacted (losing a home and all its contents, no pasture or range grass for livestock, finding temporary housing, National Forest closed as are businesses, and the list continues). A group of us decided we would see if we could provide some help. So, for the past six Saturdays, our “Group” has been meeting at 8 AM for a wood cut. Our numbers vary from week to week, but we generally have 8-12 arrive at the selected location and we “get to work.” We cut the wood to a preferred or desirable length and with the aid of a motorized splitter we generally have 2 to 3 pickup loads ready for delivery by 12 PM. Our deliveries are pine and oak and we have tried to provide a half pine-half oak where possible. In the enclosed pictures you will recognize a few of the participants and quickly realize...“Heh, I play golf with that guy almost every week.” Yes, and if you are ever looking for a way to spend your Saturday morning, come and participate. The work is challenging, but we manage to have a good time as well.



After reading Scott’s article, I felt this was an opportunity for our branch to step up and assist in this effort. I hope you all remember our last donation drive. We had our luncheon at Pardini’s on March 11 and then the state of California as well as our state SIR organization shut everything down on March 16. Before the month ended, we were presenting a check for \$1,500 to Jim Pardini for his staff that had treated us so well over many years. It was an incredible feat and everyone felt good about it. Even though it is against our club policy to ask for donations we thought it was an important gesture. Many members approached me saying they would even make a monthly donation! I thought we could do a similar drive for a selected family that was a victim of the fire. So if you would like to make a suffering family’s Christmas just a little better, consider donating via our branch. We will choose one family and present our group’s donation on Dec. 20th. I’m asking you to send your contribution to SIR 169 in care of Ted Fox, 7284 N. Sierra Vista Fresno, Ca 93720. We will not use money from our treasury, only money collected for this cause will be presented. Remember the feeling we all had in March? If we give the same amount as last time, a family that lost everything will not lose hope!



SIR 169 Executive Board and Committee Chairmen

Jack Lovato Scott Barcus



Big Sir Little Sir

You?

Duane Evans

Jim Forden

Luis Rodriguez

Lee Nichols

Ted Fox

Bob Large

Ed Dorn

Jim Hiney

Bernie
Hollenbeck



Treasurer

Asst Treasurer

Secretary

Asst Secretary

Director

Director

Director

Activities

Membership

Sunshine



CALLERS



Mike Torigian - 439-2300 Dave Hoffman - 3745622 Gary Gregory - 674-5820

Bob Lung - 252-1483 Ted Fox - 298-3179 Bob Large - 227-7136 Anthony Noia - 492-1848

Ray Smith - 294-7696 John Kascht - 674-5123 Jim Peterson - 897-5595

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS THIS MONTH

Mike Barabe
Tom Connors
Roderick Robinson
Mike Torigian
John Tracy



WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Mike / Cathy Barabe
Fred / Linda Bates
Ron / Carol Miller
Alford / Connie Mollo
Ronald / Kathy Nyberg



Our branch website: sir169.org

The state organization's website: sirinc.org (everything you'd want to know and more!)

SIR HAPPENINGS is the organization's newsletter that's on the website.

You can also get to any other branch's website from there.

State President: Ed Benson - ebensonwa@aol.com

Regional Director: Rick Kindle - rick@kindleandassoc.com

Area Governor: Lee Moy - leehealthstudio@gmail.com



Your NCGA dues for 2021 are \$39.00. You can pay on line via our web page or respond to the NCGA email that was sent in early October or you can send me a check (\$39.00) made out to Sir 169 Golf.

My address is:

10418 N. Sinclair Circle

Fresno, CA., 93730



Complete results can be found on the golf web page:

<https://sirqcarearea29br169.memberplanet.com>

In Memory

On 12-3-20 our friend and longtime member, Ed Wildgans passed away. His wife informed me that due to COVID restrictions, his service is limited to 15 and will be family only. Ed served several roles in our branch including golf chairman. He was a regular attendee until Diabetes took his leg. He tried attending on a scooter but it became too much for his wife and he was forced to spend the last few years in a rehabilitation home. I talked to him at couples night and also while he was in a rehab facility. I believe he was a really good athlete as well as a fireman in the Bay Area. What a nice man!

