

THE MAIL POUCH

Concept and Creation by Frank Franzago



The Pony Express Branch #69
March — 2018 Edition



Alan Weinel, Editor



TONY'S TALK

Hello fellow SIRs members and welcome to the third month of the year. The following are some things that take place in March: In college basketball, there's March Madness; March 11th, Day Light saving time begins; March 17 is St. Patrick's Day; and Spring finally comes on the 20th!

I was quite happy to see that we inducted 4 new members into our branch in February. Welcome to Keith Lake, Kevin Riggs, Jim Happs, and Marty Miller. We hope that you thoroughly enjoy yourselves being a part of SIRs. As your Big Sir, I invite you to please take full advantage of what Branch 69 has to offer. If you have any questions, I know for a fact that any member is willing to help.

Even though we had 4 new members in the month of February, we lost 5 members. Three members moved on to do other things with their lives. Two members, I'm sad to say, Ricco Nannini and Ed Gonsalves, passed away. They were both in good standing with Branch 69, and they will be missed.

Hopefully our losses are finished for a while and with 2 applicants (possibly more) to be inducted this coming month, our membership will remain healthy and growing.

Thanks to our Past Big Sir for 2017, Jerry Schroeder, who created a flyer that identifies our SIRs Branch as the Golfing Branch and lets golfers know to come and play with us. This flyer will be posted at various golf courses. I'm sure we will get new members from this advertisement.

I mentioned at our February luncheon that we had an opportunity to get a group together from our Branch, to go see a River Cats game this summer. We needed someone to take charge of heading up this event. Frank Levings has volunteered! Frank met with Daniel Mason (Account Executive/Group Events) from the River Cats, who gave him a tour of the River Cats Stadium. This possible outing will be addressed at the BEC meeting and at the General SIRs meeting on the 8th of March.

See you at the March luncheon,

Tony Vigil, Big Sir

QUINN'S QUIPS

Remember, no one can make you feel inferior without your consent.



Pamela Mondello, from Sierra Regency, was our guest speaker at the February Luncheon. I thought she did a good job talking about her independent living facility and what it offers as an alternative for seniors. It's that middle ground that many seniors don't know about—an option between having their own home and needing assisted care in their later years. When you get to the point that it becomes difficult to maintain your home, but you still want the independence to make your own decisions (along with living an active life), this becomes a good option. One has to consider what the monthly expense covers and the safety of living in a community.

Can you believe it? The Nominating Committee of Dan Calcagno and Jerry Schroeder are already expected to start securing nominations for the branch officer positions for 2019. Since I expect that I would be the Big Sir next year, I'm hopeful to find a new Little Sir for 2019. If you're interested in helping out the branch, and helping me out, please let Dan or Jerry know. What I do promise to do is document all of the expectations and responsibilities of the Little Sir. I can tell you that I estimate about 3 hours per week so far to perform these tasks. Not really *that* much time to devote to help out our branch and the great group of members we have. I hope you will consider becoming next years Little Sir.

They're out there, those blood sucking vampires that want to take our life saving we have worked so hard to get. They don't care if they make you homeless and take your last dollar. I know, we're all too smart to get scammed, but understand this: Taking our hard earned money is their career. And these low-life's are getting more creative all the time. Come hear our speaker, Brian Rasmussen tell us what these criminals are up to and how we can stop them in their tracks. Good information for ourselves and our loved ones.

Hope to see you all in March.

Pat Quinn, Little Sir

March's lunch menu is on Page 2.



BOWLING NEWS



We're almost halfway through the second half of the bowling season, and one team has made a strong move to the head of the pack. Split Happens (Captain Steve Eason, Tony Vigil, Sam LeRouge and Floyd Scott) have opened up a five-point lead over the other teams. The battle behind them is close, with five teams within two points of each other, but that big gap separating the, from first place looks imposing. *[Editor: Then there is "Where's Bernie". DEAD LAST. That's Where!]*



Good bowling? Darren Simonds nailed a 256 scratch game and a 662 series. Ted Patterson was close with a 254 game and had an outstanding 693 series. Steve Eason had a 683 scratch series, too. Ritchie Carlson had a 284 handicap game and 768 series.

Interested in joining our bowling fun? We're always looking for substitutes almost every week. Give me a call or email if you might want to share the fun.

Tom Page, League Secretary 488-6465

March Birthdays

Jose Fernandez	8	83
Ron Scoma	5	80
Hefren Curiel	11	
Jimmy Buckley	14	
Fred Smith	25	



March Anniversaries

Fred & Polly Schack	8	
José & Carol Fernandez	11	62
Jim Vener & Cheryl Creson	17	
Allen & Rhonda Riker	23	
Kevin & Beth Riggs	26	
Vernon & Shyrlee Freeman	31	62

RECRUITING & PUBLICITY

Our branch added four new members at the February luncheon. This news was tempered by the loss of five existing members for various reasons. We can look at this as a reminder that recruiting is a critical part of our branch's continued success. We had several guests at the February luncheon, so we're on the right track there.



I continue to be in touch with Morton Golf and my counterpart at Branch 102 in Carmichael over our booth for Golf Expo next year. I'm working on ordering the new golf schedule panel for our booth—it's always a good recruiting moment to show interested guys our strong schedule in two golf groups.

Recently, a relatively new branch member (a year and a half) commented to me how grateful he is to his sponsor for introducing him to our branch. He's active in bowling and golf and related that he has met so many really good guys through these activities. **These are my sentiments exactly!** I know how much my membership in Branch 69 has enriched my life—all the friends and great experiences that have come to me. This is why we recruit: we have a great branch and we can share the wealth with many new members.

I'm looking forward to seeing all of you at the March luncheon—don't forget to invite a guest or two.

Tom Page Recruiting & Publicity Director

2018 ROSTER REPAIRS

FLOYD SCOTT : New address is 7421 Beach Pine Way, Sacramento, CA 95829. Everything else stays the same.

DON AGOSTINELLI, KEN BREZA AND CARL CLOUD.—Resigned. Please delete.

RICCO NANNINI & ED GONSALVES Passed away.

Please add the new members listed on Page 3

Alan Weinell / Roster Chairman

MARCH 2018 LUNCHEON MENU

Thursday March 8, 2018

Corned Beef & Cabbage, Red Potatoes, Root Vegetable Medley, Rolls & Chocolate Cake!

Vegetarian / Vegan options available. Ask your Caller.

2018 ATTENDANCE REPORT

Our February attendance was 67.5%. YTD it is 72.0% The SIR minimum goal is 70%.

Paul Sickert, Attendance Chairman

WELCOME

SIR MARTY MILLER

2080 Sylvan Way, #1611
Lodi 95242
(503) 351-11012 martym41@aol.com
Sponsor: Tony Vigil



Marty was born in Washington, DC, and grew up in Sarasota, Florida. After high school, he attended college in Tennessee and worked summers in South Dakota for one of the three major companies supplying wagering equipment to the horse racing, dog racing and jai-alai industries. Marty moved to California when he was 22 in 1963 and worked with horse and dog racing tracks in the Western US. He moved to Oregon in 1992 and finished his career there. Over his 50+ years in this business, Marty worked for all three of the major wagering equipment companies.

After his retirement in 2011, he initially went back to Florida but ultimately moved to Sacramento to be near his children and grandchildren--Marty has two children and four grandchildren. He enjoys family activities, working out at the gym and golf. He used to bowl, too, so he will give to joining our bowling activities next season.

Birthday: October 15, 1941

SIR JIM HAPPS

6015 Almond Ave
Orangevale 95662
(916) 799-3521 jimhapps@gmail.com
Sponsor: Allen Riker



Jim was born in Los Angeles and lived there through 6th grade when his family moved to Sacramento. Jim went to El Camino High School and American River College. After he completed school, Jim went to work for his father, who owned several gas stations in the Sacramento area. This led to work for eleven years as parts manager in the local Fiat dealer. Ultimately, Jim signed on with SMUD and became a power systems analyst until his retirement in 2012.

Jim and his wife Edie have one daughter and three grandchildren. He enjoys family activities and lots of traveling and some RVing, plus classic and specialty cars; he owns a 2008 Shelby GT500 Super Snake. Jim is also an experienced bowler and has already signed up to sub in our bowling league.

Birthday: February 21, 1952

Anniversary: Edie, June 12, 1976

SIR KEVIN RIGGS

3921 Oakhurst Circle
Fair Oaks 95843
(916) 342-1850 kevin-riggs@comcast.net
Sponsor: Jerry Schroeder



Kevin was born in Los Angeles and grew up in Pasadena. After high school, he went to UC Santa Cruz and graduated in 1981, earning a BS degree in sociology. After his college experience, Kevin went to work for an electronics distributor company, followed by 17 years at Genuine Parts Company aka Napa auto parts distribution. He completed his working career with 17 more years at the Pool Corporation, the world's largest distributor of outdoor lifestyle products. He retired just recently, at the end of December, 2017.

Kevin and his wife Beth have one son. They enjoy traveling, cooking, wine tasting, gardening and swimming. Kevin has recently taken up golf; he is off on the right foot by taking lessons with a good instructor. He is looking forward to playing with our golf groups sometime in the future.

Birthday: June 25, 1957

Anniversary: Beth, March 26, 1983

SIR KEITH LAKE

8323 Northam Dr.
Antelope 95843
(916) 225-4323 keithnlake@gmail.com
Sponsor: Ed Linn



Keith was born in Montreal, Quebec, Canada. He lived there until age 10 or so, when his family moved to the warmer climate in Fresno and Clovis. After high school, Keith worked at various jobs for a while before attending Fresno City College for two years. He returned to work in the construction industry and eventually became a construction inspector, which he did for 30+ years. He moved to Sacramento in 1975 and retired a couple years ago.

Keith plays golf and is looking forward to playing with our branch. He and his wife enjoy watching movies on their home theater TV system.

Birthday: July 7, 1949

Anniversary: Caroline, September 22, 1990

Your 2018 Golf Directors



Lennie Silva—Regular Course

MARCH GOLF:

03-01 Thurs	Cherry Island	Low Net
03-15 Thurs	Bing Maloney	Low Net
03-29 Thurs	Mather	Low Net

APRIL GOLF:

04-05 Thurs	Cavanaugh	Low Net
04-19 Thurs	Bing Maloney	4 Man 2 Best Ball
04-23/24	Napa Valley	
04-27/29	Golf Expo	



Greg Schweitzer—Progressive Golf

MARCH GOLF:

03-05 Mon	Wildhorse	Stroke Play
03-19 Mon	Emerald Lakes	You Pick Best 9 Holes

APRIL GOLF:

04-02 Mon	Davis	Stroke Play
04-23 Mon	Antelope Greens	4 Man Best Ball

Medicare scam

Starting 4/1/18 Medicare will start a year long project to replace all current Medicare cards with new alphanumeric ID numbers. (Currently the ID number is simply your social security number.)

First of all the new Medicare card will come to you in the mail. **You don't need to request it or do anything.** It will show up automatically

WHAT'S THE SCAM?

Scammers are opportunistic: Somebody from "Medicare" will call to tell you that you are getting a new Medicare card. But until it comes you will need a temporary card and the fee for the card will be somewhere between \$5 and \$50. They will then want personal information, such as a bank account number or a credit card number so that they can "process" your temporary card.

REMEMBER: Medicare does all communications by mail unless you ask them to call. ONLY scammers call and ask for personal information.

HOW TO PROTECT YOURSELF FROM THIS ONE?

- First of all spread the word.
- Use your answering machine to screen calls or simply don't even answer a number you don't recognize.
- Never, ***EVER***, give personal information to ***ANYONE*** who calls YOU... UNLESS you know ***for certain*** that they are who they say they are. Trust no one.

If it has happened to you or friends or loved ones and personal info had been given out (it happens considerably more often than you think so don't feel bad or stupid) **immediately** call the police, and your bank and credit card issuers. Then take action to protect yourself against further identity theft.

A sad, sad tale ...

HAROLD was on his deathbed. He knew it. As the end approached, one day he smelled the sweetest smell coming down the hall ... the unmistakable aroma of fresh Chocolate Chips cookies being baked. He ... he struggled out of bed, leaned on cane and pulling his IV pole and slowly made his way down the hall towards the kitchen. He became overwhelmed—imagine the love ... his wife was making his absolute favorite thing ... he started to weep he was so overcome ...

As he came out of the hall, he saw sheets and sheets of freshly cookies, just out of the oven. By now the tears were flowing down his cheeks ... He weakly called her "Norma... Norma..." as he lurched towards the counter ...

By now his mouth was watering as much as his eyes were ... As he reached for a cookie ... suddenly his beloved wife appeared by his side...

And SLAPPED his hand saying away: "**Harold stay OUT of those—they're for the funeral!**"



TREASURER'S REPORT – FEBRUARY 2018

Cash Balance 1/1/2018 = \$3,572

	FEBRUARY	YTD
Beginning Cash Balance	\$5,419	N/A
Contributions	\$ 700	\$2,785
Expenses	\$ 123	\$ 361
Ending Cash Balance	\$5,821	N/A

MEMBERSHIP

Membership, Gain/Loss	+4/-5	148
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HOW ARE WE DOING?

02/27/2018

INCOME	ACTUAL	BUDG	DIFF
Contributions	\$2,785	\$3,700	\$ 915
Other	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Total INCOME	\$2,785	\$3,700	\$ 915

EXPENSES

Printing & Postage	\$ 0	\$ 650	\$ 650
Officers' Expenses	\$ 98	\$ 350	\$ 252
Guest Expenses	\$ 0	\$ 100	\$ 100
State Pro Rata	\$ 224	\$ 950	\$ 726
Other, Golf Expo	\$ 0	\$ 300	\$ 300
Other, Misc.	\$ 40	\$2,000	\$ 1,960
TOTAL EXP.	\$ 362	\$4,350	\$ 3,988

CASH BALANCE AT END OF 2017	\$3,572
CURRENT CASH BALANCE	\$5,821
PROJECTED BALANCE 12/31/2018	\$2,922

PROJECTED 2018 YEAR END MEMBERSHIP	159
PROJECTED CASH BALANCE PER MEMBER	\$ 18

Jerry Buhlert, Treasurer



SUNSHINE



OTIS BENNING It was good to see Otis at the last luncheon. He showed up briefly before the lunch to say hello and played golf on the 12th.

ORVILLE NOEL At the time of our last luncheon, Orville was hospitalized after undergoing brain surgery. Orville said his surgery was successful and he will be at our next luncheon.

Let's keep these men in our prayers, and any other men of our branch who are dealing with health problems.

If you know of any of our members or immediate family with health problems give me a call @ (916) 635-8516

Jim Carlson, Sunshine Chairman

2018 Officers

BIG SIR:	TONY VIGIL	(916) 217-7816
LITTLE SIR:	PAT QUINN	(916) 201-5262
SEC:	PBS RON HUTCHESON	(916) 897-2807
ASST SEC:	GEORGE LANGFORD	(950) 823-5493
TREAS:	JERRY BUHLERT	(916) 704-0159
ASST TREAS	HAL COPPERBERG	(916) 722-2606

Directors

PBS JERRY SCHROEDER	(916) 801-2530	BILL NICHOLS	(916) 844-9382
STEVE GOODMAN	(916) 521 6546	JIMMY BUCKLEY	(916) 284-2364
JIM HUFFMAN	(916) 468-8197	GREG SCHWEITZER	(916) 687-8629

State Officers

STATE PRES:	JERRY STRAIN
REG. 5 DIRECTOR:	BILL HOLLY
AREA 4 GOV:	BOB PEREZ

Recruitment, Activities, Member Relations & Publicity (RAMP)

RECRUITING/PUBLICITY	PBS TOM PAGE	(916) 488-6465
ACTIVITIES	PBS JIM PORTERFIELD	(916) 383-8156
MEMBERSHIP	JOHN POPADAK	(916) 662-0695

Committee Chairs

Programs	Pat Quinn	(916) 201-5262
Mail Pouch	Alan Weinel	(209) 843-1804
Chaplain	Bill Nichols	(916)844-9382
Roster	Alan Weinel	(209) 843-1804
Golf	PBS Lennie Silva	(916) 487-9812
Golf (PGC)	Greg Schweitzer	(916) 687-8629
Bowling	PBS Tom Page	(916) 488-6465
Audit	Don Neufeld	(916) 863-5228
Audit	Jim Buckley	(916) 284-2364
Nominating	Dan Calcagno	(916) 481-8368
Attendance	Paul Sickert	(916) 396-6230
Orientation	Dick Borah	(916) 419-2214
Branch Apparel	Mike Ratzlaff	(916) 768-6348
Activities	PBS Jim Porterfield	(916) 383-8156
Sunshine	PBS Jim Carlson	(916) 635-8516
Bios	PBS Tom Page	(916) 488-6465
Web Site	Ross Martin	(916) 427-0559
Book Club	Steve Goodman	(916) 521-6546
RV	Bob Houghton	(916) 487-1190
Membership	John Popadak	(916) 662-0695
RAMP	Jerry Schroeder	(916) 801-2530

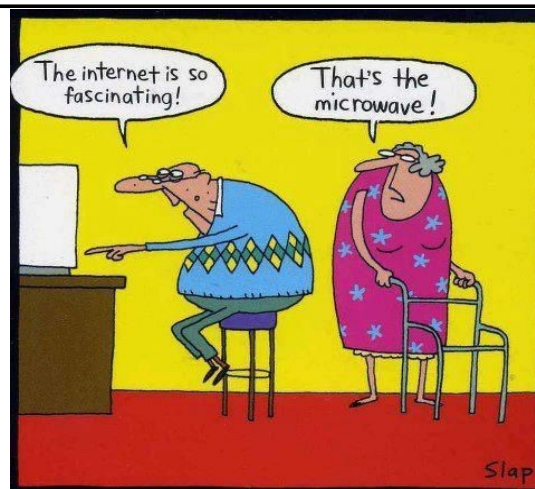
Honored Members

HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS

PBS LENNIE SILVA (SHLM)
PRD WARREN SENEGAL
PBS TOM PAGE
PBS JIM PORTERFIELD
PBS RON HUTCHESON

SENIOR CERTIFICATES

SIR SAM LeROUGE
SIR JIM PAGE
SIR WINFIELD (WINDY) CURTIS
SIR NOBLE ZUMWALT



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Checks, money orders or credit cards for Travel for one day or less (no overnight), where a bus/busses is/are used as the primary means of transportation, may be made payable to the Branch sponsoring the event. All other checks, money orders or credit cards for travel must be made payable to the travel agency. (Rule 420 & 421).

Members are obligated to attend all regular luncheon meetings unless prevented by illness or absence from the Branch locale. (Rule 60). **REQUIRED ATTENDANCE** – A member who misses three (3) consecutive luncheon meetings without having been excused by contacting the designated Branch Attendance person prior to the meeting date, and giving