



THE MAIL POUCH

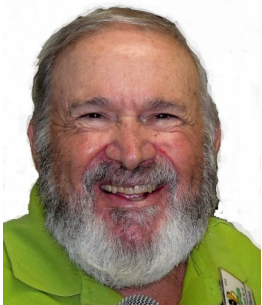


Website: branch69.org

Facebook: Pony Express SIR Branch 69


The Pony Express Branch #69
December - 2022 Edition


John Popadak, Editor



Message from Mark

By the time you read this December will have begun! Let me wish everyone of you a very Happy Holidays and Merry Christmas. This will be my last newsletter as Big Sir. This past year has been very incredible with all the amazing fun

things that we have done in spite of the pandemic. This would not have happened if it was not for such a STUPENDOUS group! Again, thank you to everyone!

Next year I will be changing roles and joining the BEC Board (1 year member). I'll also be the Nominating Chair and Activity Chair. As Nominating Chair I will be asking you for your support in taking on leadership positions (I'M DOING MY PART), so we can continue to have a strong and vibrant club!

Branch Activities

Dine-Out: Our next Dine-Out is on January 19th at 6:00 PM. Since everybody had a fantastic time, we are **rebooking:**

EL TAPATIO, 5637 Sunrise Blvd, Citrus Heights.

Again, experience a scrumptious meal and alcoholic beverages!

We are currently exploring a group outing to tour Leland Stanford Mansion and Aerospace Museum with a lunch afterwards. If we have enough interest, I will pursue planning and setting up a date. Please let me know!

WALKING/HIKING: We will continue our weekly walks again at the North Natomas Regional Park starting on Monday, January 16th at 10 a.m. More information to follow.

We are currently in need of a new Chair to set up Walking or Hiking areas. If you're willing to step up for this fun activity, please give me a call!

WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA: December 17th I will be placing wreaths at a Veteran's Cemetery. This is volunteer activity. Please view the website & YouTube (<https://www.wreathsasscrossamerica.org/>) (https://youtu.be/5_EW6a_Vas) If you are interested, please contact BS Mark!

Mark Steffens, Big Sir

Working Dog Quiz

https://canine.org/working-dog-quiz/?utm_source=email&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=NT22NSDM



HAPPY

HOLIDAYS



Alan's Chit-Chat

Well, this ends my term as your Little Sir. AND, being that we just observed Thanksgiving, I decided that this is the perfect time to do a little reflection. FIRST, I need to take a moment to thank everyone for their support and encouragement. I specifically want to thank Mark Steffens. He has been a tremendous help this year. As Little Sir, I have learned some new things. For example, Mark wanted those little videos inserted into the slide show at the meetings... SO, ****I**** got to learn how to DOWNLOAD videos off the 'net, save them for viewing offline, edit them (sometimes I had to trim off some of the video from either the beginning or the end of the video or BOTH!) and then how to insert them into the slide show. I learned how the Dante club video set up works, and how to project a slide show from my laptop to the screen. These are good things – not in and of themselves, but rather that the process of learning new things helps keep the brain active. SO, I am grateful.

Looking ahead, I will confess that I am more than a *little* nervous. Mark has been such a great Big Sir that I think his shoes will be hard to fill. So, please bear with me as I make that transition, and be kind to me for the mistakes I **know** will happen. I promise to do my level best for the Branch in 2023.

See you all at the December Holiday luncheon.

Alan Weinel, Little SIR



Alan Weinel presents October's speaker, Christina Wynn with a Certificate of Appreciation and bottle of wine. Christina is the Assessor for Sacramento County. She talked about how property taxes were assessed in regards to Prop 13 and Prop 8 and some of the exemptions available to homeowners such as the Homeowners' Exemption and the Disabled Veterans' Exemption. She also talked about the Transfer of Base Year Value and Exclusions to Reassessment. The Assessor's Website at www.assessor.saccounty.net has more information on these and other property tax exemptions.

Forgot the luncheon's speaker details? Want to read back issues of the Mail Pouch? Get all of this and more on our Web Site at <http://branch69.org>

NEW BRANCH MEMBERS FOR NOVEMBER



From left to right: New Member Roland Rodriguez, Sponsor Jimmy Buckley, New Member Dwight Zook, Sponsor Tom Page, New Member Paul Woods, Big SIR Mark Steffens.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!!

SIR Paul Woods

2035 Fenmore Way
Sacramento, CA 95835
(916) 254-8240
pfwoods1@gmail.com
Sponsor: SIR Poster at Bing Maloney



Paul is from the Boston Area; he and his wife moved out here in 1996 for her new job with Sutter Health at the time. Paul and his wife have been married for 34 years now and have two adopted sons and three grandchildren. His wife is from the Philippines and they try to visit there every few years. Both Paul and his wife have been career insurance professionals. Paul was in Contractors' insurance before he ended up in personal lines from which he retired about 4 years ago. His wife has been with The Dentist Insurance Company for the last 20 years and is planning to retire early next year.

Paul keeps busy with pickleball, and swimming at the lap pool, and has also joined a local bike group in Natomas and averages over 100 miles a month.

Paul is an avid reader of Michael Connolly novels, too. Paul is looking forward to joining the Bowling league, ping pong, and he would love to learn and play Bocci ball. He also plays golf.

Paul is excited to be an active member of SIRS 69.

Birthday: October 20, 1954
Anniversary: Emilita, July 30, 1988

SIR Roland Rodriguez

9057 Trujillo Way
Sacramento, CA 95826
(916) 662-3092
kcchiefsrule_2001@yahoo.com
Sponsor: Jimmie Buckley



Roland grew up in the Bay Area and has lived in California pretty much all his life. After high school, he joined the Marine Corps in 1981. That career move ended with a serious hand injury that required major surgery and ultimately led to a medical discharge.

Roland next worked for the Coca Cola Company and

then for a company that made cans for different food/beverage companies such as Coca Cola. He later went to work for the post office but had to retire due to more problems with his hand. While he was undergoing several more surgeries, he went to college at Merced College, American River College and Sac State. He earned several degrees in accounting and business management. He now is retired on a military medical pension.

Roland has two adult children, a son age 38 and a daughter age 33. Roland has been a long time bowler and is now bowling in our SIR league. He used to play golf but had to give that up. He is active in Veterans' activities, enjoys artwork and the theater.

Birthday: January 6, 1963

SIR Dwight Zook

5326 Misty Meadow Way
Elk Grove, CA 95758
(916) 425-1054
zookga@aol.com
Sponsor: Transfer from Br 93/Tom Page



Dwight grew up on farm near Abilene, Kansas, doing all the chores that farm life requires. After high school, he worked sales and other jobs until he became a long haul truck driver. He did this work for 25 years. He moved to Hayward, Ca, in 1985. Ultimately, UPS bought out the trucking company for which Dwight worked, so he became a driver for UPS. He transferred to Sacramento in 2001. Dwight finished out his driving career with UPS until his retirement in 2004.

Dwight and his wife Gloria have two children and five grandchildren. Dwight has been a bowler most of his life. He also enjoys reading about world history in many eras.

Birthday: December 6, 1943
Anniversary: Gloria, September 10, 1966

December Birthdays

Mark Kraut	12/01	
George Langford	12/06	
Dwight Zook	12/06	
Bill Boruff	12/12	
Ed Linn	12/14	86 Years
Greg Schweitzer	12/14	
Ron Hutcheson	12/16	
James Aylett	12/19	
Gary Lukins	12/25	
Rich Taylor	12/25	86 Years
Rex Bowling	12/29	












December Anniversaries

Bill and Betty Mullen	12/07	
Rod and Cheryl Lukins	12/08	
Floyd and Helen Scott	12/16	61 Years
Conrad and JoAnn Cookman	12/20	56 Years
Paul and Carolyn Ogden	12/21	
Larry and Nancy McLeod	12/23	
Lloyd and Joyce Plank	12/28	59 Years



IN MEMORIAM

We honor the memory of those SIR Branch 69 members who passed away this past year. They will be missed.

	<u>Name</u>	<u>Year Joined</u>	<u>Passed Away</u>	<u>Years a Member</u>
	Jim Page	Unk	Jan	Unk
	Frank Calcagno	2000	Feb	22
	Peter Pozzuto	2017	Mar	5
	Bryan Perrin	2015	May	7
	Ron Bacher	2003	May	19
	Bill Mueller	2012	Aug	10
	Jim Huffman	2015	Sep	7
	Dick Borah	1996	Oct	26
	Charlie Landau	2009	Nov	13

RECRUITING AND PUBLICITY

The Golf Committee and I are continuing our efforts to place Branch 69 posters at the local golf courses. As I mentioned before, we have already recruited one new member who saw our poster at Bing Maloney and has now joined our branch.

I'm still exploring the possibility of having our branch listed as a senior activity for a major park district. This would open up a lot of advertising potential in their publications and online display. The manager sounded very optimistic over this idea, so we'll see how it turns out.

Keep working on your buddies who might be interested in our various activities. Each Branch 69 member should give some thought to friends, golfing and bowling buddies who might have an interest in our branch. We know how much fun our golf and bowling programs are, not to mention new activities, such as dinner outings, walking group and card playing—we have to share this information with prospective members.

I'm looking forward to seeing all of you at the next luncheon.

**Tom Page Recruiting & Publicity
Director**



MEETING ATTENDANCE

Member responsibilities include attending the monthly luncheon/meetings. A member should, per both State and Branch Procedures, attend at least half of the meetings in a year. The number of members who attended the luncheons this past year are as follows:

MONTH	No. of Members	No. of Attendees	Percent
January	128	82	64%
February	127	77	61%
March	130	75	58%
April	131	86	66%
May	128	78	61%
June	122	74	61%
July	124	78	63%
August	124	78	63%
September	127	84	66%
October	129	56	43%
November	131	88	67%

State SIR would like to see at least 70% attendance.

Your Branch Executive Committee for 2023



The members of the 2023 Branch Executive Committee were sworn in at the November meeting. From left to right: Director Ron Peters, Director Paul Sickert, Director John Popadak, Assistant Treasurer Bob Sanchez, Secretary Bernie Moreno, Assistant Secretary Lieutenant Coopwood, Big SIR Alan Weinel, Director Mark Steffens, Little SIR Connor Chin, and Director Ted Patterson. Insets: Treasurer Hal Copperberg and Director Jim Oblizalo.

GOLF NEWS



Rick Hom—Regular Course



Greg Schweitzer—Progressive Golf Club



UPCOMING TOURNAMENTS

December 1 - Bing Maloney - Application and fees due November 21 - \$40

December 15 - Bartley Cavanaugh - Low Net - Application and fees due December 5 - \$34

NOVEMBER RESULTS

Alister Mackenzie (11/17) - Stroke Play

1st Flight (Turkey Shoot Winner, 2nd Low Net, 3rd Low Net, 4th Low Net)
Alex Canada, Glen Holvorsen, Dan Calcagno, Tom Page

2nd Flight - Fred Smith, Ritchie Carlson, Dan Nelson, Sandy Davis

3rd Flight - Russ Prophet, John Popadak, Rod Lukins, Lennie Silva

CTPs - Mark Machado, Pat Quinn, Tom Knoble, and John Popadak

UPCOMING TOURNAMENTS

December 12 - Davis Municipal GC

NOVEMBER RESULTS

Bing Maloney (11/07) - 4-Man Shamble, 2 Best Ball

1st Place Team

Jim Oblizalo, Terry Block, Bill Mullen, and Greg Schweitzer

2nd Place Team

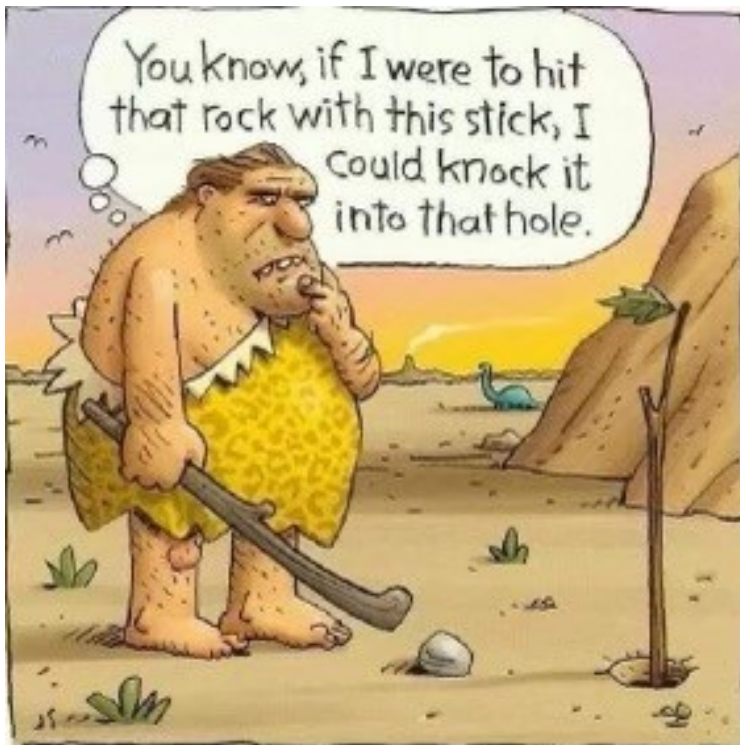
Rick Hom, Jack Osborne, Fred Smith, and John Popadak

Bartley Cavanaugh (11/21) - Stroke Play

1st Flight (Low Gross, Low Net) - Tom Page, Alex Canada

2nd Flight - Fred Smith, Joe Bowers

3rd Flight - Jerry Schroeder, Greg Schweitzer



How Man Learned to Swear.



Mark Steffens thanks Greg Schweitzer for his many years leading the Branch 69 Progressive Golf Club. Greg is stepping down and the PGC will be taken over by the Branch 69 Golf Committee, specifically Terry Block.



BOWLING NEWS

The bowling league has almost reached the end of the first half of our season. The race for first place is close, close, close! Five teams are within two points of the lead—the winner of the first half locks in a position in the season championship. I'll share the finish with you in my January article.

Some of our bowlers are in the midst of regaining their form from last season, while other bowlers have gotten off to great starts. Jim Smalling leads our league in both high scratch game (267) and high scratch series (719). Brian Thurston holds second place with a 264 scratch game, while Eddie Caviel has earned the second best scratch series with 649. Eddie also has the third high scratch game with 244 and Brian Thurston has the third best scratch series score with 614.

Brian Thurston also has the top handicap game with 313, while Eddie Caviel has the top handicap series with 805. Eddie Caviel is second with a handicap game of 296, and Brian has third in the handicap series with 752.

Our league bowling is held every Wednesday at 11:00am at Country Club Lanes, the corner of Watt & El Camino. Spectators are always welcome—who knows, you might even get an urge to join in on the fun.

Other bowling information:

If you want to practice bowl anytime **during the weekdays** (not evenings or weekends), identify yourself as a SIR league bowler at the front desk at Country Club Lanes and you can bowl for \$.25/game. Also, if you still have some of those old free bowling coupons from making splits, Country Club Lanes will continue to honor them.

The State SIR Bowling Committee has several upcoming SIR tournaments on their calendar. Go to the State SIR Bowling website to view the calendar; the entry forms are also on the site. Also, the State SIR Bowling Committee recently held a Zoom meeting to work on bowling issues in general and the 2023 State SIR bowling schedule in particular. It looks like Sacramento will once again hold a tournament at Country Club Lanes early in the year, this time under the leadership of Connor Chin.

See you soon at Country Club Lanes.

Stay safe and stay healthy,

Tom Page, League Secretary
916-488-6465



DOING MY PART



Big SIR Mark Steffens awards "I'm Doing My Part" pins to Jim Oblizalo, Bud Rogers, and Rick Hom.

BRANCH ACTIVITIES

ACTIVITY LEADERS

DINE OUT - Mark Steffens - (916) 214-8650
Steffens.mark@outlook.com



CARDS - Dan Nelson - (916) 895-5673
dan8733@yahoo.com



BOCCI BALL and

PING PONG - Bob Schrupf - (916) 897-7114
rschrumpf@hotmail.com



PICKLEBALL - Terry Block - (916) 686-0797
TerryBlock@Comcast.Net



INVESTMENT GROUP - Joe Cain - (530) 219-3709
jlcaïn45@Yahoo.com



WINE TASTING and

RIVER CATS - Dennis Kramer - (530) 312-3896
wischixen1@aol.com



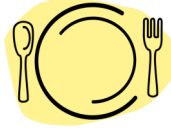
WALKING/HIKING - We currently need someone to take over this group



CARD CLUB

Cards will be held on December 7th and Wednesday December 21st. The first Wednesday and the third Wednesday of the month and every month to follow, at the bowling alley at 2:00 pm always.

Please come and join us . We just play casually and to have a good time. So come join us.



DINE OUT

Next Dine Out will be at **El Tapatio** on January 19th at 6:00 PM, located at **5637 Sunrise Blvd, Citrus Heights**. Come and experience a scrumptious meal and some alcoholic beverages!

PING PONG

Bob Schrupf has started a ping-pong club out at Gibbon's Park in their community center. There are annual dues of \$25/ year, but if you join now, that \$25 will cover the rest of 2022 and all of 2023.



The hours are Wed, and Fri 3pm – 6pm. Tables, nets, balls, and paddles are all available to use at Gibbon's Park, located at 4701 Gibbons Dr., Carmichael, CA.

So far we have two ping-pong tables and about a half -dozen members. If more people join, the district will buy more tables. He hopes to see you there .

WALKERS AND HIKERS

We will continue our weekly walks again at the North Natomas Regional Park starting on Monday, January 16th at 10 a.m. More information to follow.



PICKLEBALL

To all those who wish to play, or learn to play, pickleball, Terry Block will conduct a clinic at Oasis Park (info below) under 2 conditions: 1- no rain, 2- slight to no wind.



If you are interested please contact him at terryblock@comcast.net that way he can let you know if they need to cancel. Spouses are welcome.

He hopes to see all you pickleballer's on the 20th.

When: January 20, 2023

Time: 10:00 am – 11:00 am, and maybe longer if we get a good turnout.

Where: Oasis Park 8015 Poppy Ridge Rd, Elk Grove, CA 95757.

2022 ROSTER REPAIRS

Please send roster corrections to Alan's personal Email account Alan_Weinel@ATT.Net with subject "Roster Correction". Don't forget to update your rosters with new members.

Alan Weinel, Roster Chairman



SUNSHINE



Our prayers go out to the Patterson family, **Ted Patterson's** wife Dorothy passed away this month.

Frank Adams is recovering from eye surgery so let's keep him on our prayer list.

Victor Scott isn't feeling well so pray that God has already blessed him and he's well on his way to recovery.

Jim Oblizalo is suffering from Bladder cancer so we lift him up in our prayers to God that he be healed from this affliction.

Charlie Landau, who recently rejoined SIR back in August, passed away on November 24. Our prayers go out to his family.

Eddie Collins (a prospective member) is recovering from two eye surgeries I'm told, and we pray for his speedy recovery.

We pray that all the men of SIR 69 who are in need of a healing be restored in the name of our heavenly Father.

If you know of any of our members or immediate family with health problems give me a call at (916) 206-2732, or call Big SIR Mark Steffens.

**Lieutenant Coopwood,
Sunshine Chairman
ltcoopjr@gmail.com**



2022 Officers

BIG SIR	MARK STEFFENS	(916) 214-8650
LITTLE SIR	ALAN WEINEL	(209) 843-1804
SECRETARY	JIM HUFFMAN	(916) 468-8197
ASST SECRETARY	BERNIE MORENO	(209) 245-6313
TREASURER	HAL COPPERBERG	(916) 722-2606
ASST TREASURER	CONNOR CHIN	(916) 601-1854

Directors

PBS PAUL SICKERT (916) 396-6230	STEVE BRANDENBURGER (916) 765-0585
BUD ROGERS (916) 991-2611	JIM OBLIZALO (916) 747-8172
PBS TED PATTERSON (916) 607-3050	JOHN POPADAK (916) 662-0695

State Officers

STATE PRESIDENT:	RICK KINDLE
REGION 1 DIRECTOR:	HUGH THOMPSON
AREA 4 GOVERNOR:	JACK REEFER

Recruitment, Activities, Member Relations & Publicity (RAMP)

RECRUITING/PUBLICITY/BIO	PBS TOM PAGE	(916) 488-6465
ACTIVITIES	PBS JERRY SCHROEDER	(916) 801-2530
MEMBERSHIP	JOHN POPADAK	(916) 662-0695

Committee Chairs

Programs	Alan Weinel	(209) 843-1804
Newsletter	John Popadak	(916) 662-0695
Chaplain	Lieutenant Coopwood	(916) 206-2732
Roster	Alan Weinel	(209) 843-1804
Golf (RC)	Rick Hom	(916) 395-7433
Golf (PGC)	Greg Schweitzer	(916) 687-8629
NCGA Ambas	VACANT	
Bowling	PBS Tom Page	(916) 488-6465
Audit	Bob Sanchez	(916) 996-7342
Nominating	Paul Sickert	(916) 396-6230
Attendance	Allen Riker	(916) 873-3779
Lunch Recptn	Mark Kraut	(916) 929-3494
Orientation	Steve Goodman	(916) 521-6546
Meeting Rev	John Popadak	(916) 662-0695
Sunshine	Lieutenant Coopwood	(916) 206-2732
Web Site	Ross Martin	(916) 427-0559
Book Club	Steve Brandenburg	(916) 765-0585
RAMP	Jerry Schroeder	(916) 801-2530
Information	John Popadak	(916) 662-0695
Cards	Dan Nelson	(916) 895-5673
Walking	Paul Sickert	(916) 396-6230
Wine Tasting	Dennis Kramer	(530) 312-3896
Branch Apprl	https://sirinc.org/apparel-and-signage	

Honored Members

HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS

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

SENIOR CERTIFICATES

SIR JIM PAGE
SIR KEN TOWNS
SIR VERNON FREEMAN
SIR HEMAN SMITH
SIR LLOYD PLANK
SIR CHARLES DANT

Check out the State SIR newsletter "**Happenings**" for information about statewide SIR activities and other branches by clicking on the Rooster at the right.

NON-RESPONSIBILITY DECLARATION: ALL ACTIVITIES arranged or sponsored by Sons In Retirement, Inc. and its branches are for the convenience and pleasure of its 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 or their property in matters pertaining in to said activities.

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 a valid reason, or did not attend one half of the regular luncheon meetings within the previous twelve consecutive month period. may be notified, by letter, of the pending termination of his membership in SIR. (Rule 60, 100 & 107).



TREASURER'S REPORTS



HOW ARE WE DOING?

11/24/2022

INCOME	<u>ACTUAL</u>	<u>BUDGET</u>	<u>DIFF</u>
Annual Dues	\$3,325	\$3,200	\$ 125
Other	\$ 740	\$ 0	\$ 740
TOTAL INCOME	\$4,065	\$3,200	\$ 865
EXPENSES			
Printing & Postage	\$ 293	\$ 500	\$ 207
Officers' Expenses	\$ 79	\$ 50	\$ -29
Guest Expenses	\$ 300	\$ 300	\$ 25
State Assessment	\$ 912	\$ 950	\$ 38
Other, Golf Expo	\$ 0	\$ 200	\$ 200
Other, Misc.	\$ 2,096	\$1,700	\$ -396
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 3,680	\$3,700	\$ 020
CASH BALANCE AT END OF 2021			\$ 5,260
CURRENT CASH BALANCE			\$ 7,635
PROJECTED CASH BALANCE 12/31/2022			\$ 4,760
PROJECTED 2022 YEAR END MEMBERSHIP			135
PROJECTED CASH BALANCE PER MEMBER			\$ 35

Hal Copperberg, Treasurer

TREASURER'S REPORT - NOVEMBER, 2022

11/24/2022

Cash Balance 1/1/2022 = \$5,260

	<u>NOVEMBER</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Beginning Cash Balance	\$6,300	N/A
Contributions	\$1,705	\$ 4,065
Expenses	\$ 370	\$ 3,680
Ending Cash Balance	\$7,635	N/A
<u>MEMBERSHIP</u>		
Membership, Gain/Loss	3/-1	131