



THE MAIL POUCH



Website: branch69.org

Facebook: Pony Express SIR Branch 69

 **The Pony Express Branch #69**
February - 2023 Edition 

John Popadak, Editor

ALAN'S BS STUFF



Wasn't that some wild weather the first half of January! What a start to the new year. Michele and I were caught in a HUGE traffic jam New Year's Eve on highway 99, which was closed due to flooding. We were visiting friends in Galt and left their home around 11 PM (their power had gone out, so that killed the party). NORMALLY that is about a 45 minute trip home. We FINALLY rolled into the driveway at 4:03 AM. 5 HOURS. Multiple detours, backtracking and other fun. Yikes.

Those who attended the Dine-out at El Tapatio had a great time. We had somewhere around 35 or so in attendance. If you have not gone to one of the dinners, consider it. It is a nice chance to socialize in a different setting - just dinner and chit-chat. No agenda. And, of course, a BIG "Thank you" to Mark Steffens for organizing these events. The February Dine-Out will be at Timbers at the Lodge, located at 7050 Del Web Blvd, Roseville on Thurs, Feb 16th at 6:00 - RSVP to Mark Steffens.

BOWLERS! Branch 69 is again hosting a tournament at Country Club Lanes. If you are interested, contact CONNOR CHIN (916) 601-1854 or cljschin@gmail.com for more information. DEADLINE for registration is February 8th.

Lastly, it LOOKS like things are drying out enough that you duffers can resume your normal events.

Keep active and healthy.

See you all at the February luncheon.

Alan Weinel, Big SIR

CONNOR'S LUCK OF THE IRISH



As we start the New Year with Connor Chin as your 2023 Little Sir, it will be a fun and rewarding time to be of service to SIR Branch 69. I have tough road to follow all the good program projects of the 2022 Little SIR Alan Weinel.

Hopefully, the 2023 New Year and the coming of the Asian New Year of the Rabbit (January 22nd) will bring good health and happiness for all the members of SIR Branch 69 and the San Francisco 49ers be at the 2023 Super Bowl.

Program Speaker for the February 9th Luncheon is Ken Cross of the Renaissance Society of Sacramento State. The Renaissance Society provides opportunities for participatory lifelong learning and community engagement for older adults. The learning opportunities include seminars and other programs on widely varied programs proposed and presented by the members.

Looking ahead, I promise to do my level best for the Branch in 2023. See you all at the February 9th Luncheon.

Connor Chin, Little SIR



Mark Steffens receives his PBS pin from this year's Big SIR, Alan Weinel.

February Birthdays

Connor Chin	2/16	
Lennie Silva	2/19	85 Years Old
Jim Happs	2/21	
Ross Martin	2/25	
Jim Luttig	2/27	
Allen Riker	2/28	



February Anniversaries

Tony and Marilyn Stratton	2/2	
Dan and Sarita Turner	2/3	55 Years
Ron and Diana Hutcheson	2/4	
Don and Patricia Neufeld	2/9	61 Years
Carl and Robyn Hefner	2/14	
Victor and Barbara Scott	2/14	
Bob and Loretta Turner	2/18	62 Years
Jim and Lavina Smalling	2/23	
Bill and Sandy Boruff	2/27	52 Years



WELCOME!! NEW MEMBER

SIR RUSSELL PROPHET

4050 Sunset Lane, Apt 107
 Shingle Springs, CA 95682
 (530) 306-0536
 rprophet1@yahoo.com
 Sponsored by Jim Svobodny



Our newest member, Russ Prophet, was born in Oakland but grew up mainly in the Santa Barbara area. His family ultimately moved to Rancho Cordova. After high school, Russ got married and became a parent while going to work in the family appliance store in Rancho Cordova. Russ carried out this work for 24 years until his retirement.

Russ likes to play golf and has already played in several of our SIR events. He also enjoys ping pong, limited only by the distance he lives from the ping pong venues. He also follows a lot of sports. Russ has one child and one grandchild.

Birthday: April 23, 1956



GOLF NEWS

Rick Hom—Regular Course



Unfortunately, the massive rain storms caused cancellation of several tournaments. But we are hopeful for improving conditions!

UPCOMING TOURNAMENTS

February 2 - Bartley Cavanaugh - 2 Man-Alternate Shot
- Application and Fees due January 23rd - \$35

February 16 - Ancil Hoffman - Stroke Play-Blind Bogey -
Application and Fees due February 6 - \$36

JANUARY RESULTS

Alister Mackenzie (1/19) - Stroke Play

Cancelled due to rain.

River Oaks (1/26) - Stroke Play

Low Gross, 1st Low Net, 2nd Low Net

1st Flight: Jack Osborne, Tom Page, Rick Hom

2nd Flight: Terry Block, Gary Lukins, John Valdes

3rd Flight: Bill Mullen, Steve Brandenburger, John Popadak

CTP: Jerry Buhlert, Jack Osborne, John Popadak



Terry Block—Progressive Golf Club

UPCOMING TOURNAMENTS

January 9 - Davis Municipal GC - Stroke Play - White Tees - \$23

JANUARY RESULTS

Davis Municipal Golf Club (1/9) - Stroke Play

Cancelled due to rain.



PBS Mark Steffens presents Greg Schweitzer with a Distinguished Service Award for his many years running the Progressive Golf Club.

RECRUITING AND PUBLICITY

We added another new member last month, Russell Prophet; you can see his bio in this issue. We hope to have other prospective members attend the coming luncheons.

We have had notable success recently in getting our advertising posters displayed in the local golf courses. This work has been done primarily by our Golf Committee chair, Rick Hom. Most of the courses seem very willing to let us display our posters.

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. We're off to a great start for 2023; let's continue have a great year.

**Tom Page Recruiting & Publicity
Director**





BOWLING NEWS

As I announced previously, our branch is again this year sponsoring a State SIR bowling tournament at Country Club Lanes, this time under the leadership of Connor Chin. Hal Copperberg stays on as the event treasurer and Tod Davis has been helping Connor with many of the myriad tournament details. Ray DiBasilio from Pollock Pines is once again offering his considerable skills to help make this event a success.

The dates of the tournament are **Thursday, February 16 & Friday, February 17**. You can choose to bowl both events (single/doubles) one day or you can bowl one event each day. Most important, though, is to get your entry in and plan to compete. Country Club Lanes is our home court; last year, several of our bowlers cashed in big time in the tournament. Don't let this bowling opportunity slip by—get your entry in to Connor right away. **The deadline for entries is February 8**. Golfers will want to sign up for both events on Friday because we have a golf tournament scheduled for Thursday, February 16. Entries are available on the State Sir website or from Connor Chin or see me at Wednesday bowling.

In our Wednesday league bowling, we are several weeks into the second half of the season. Just like the first half, the top half of the standings are jammed up close. It's definitely way too early to pick a favorite.

Some recent great scores of note:

Brian Thurston upped his already high handicap game to 317, followed by Jerry Buhlert at 296, while Alan Weinel nailed a great game at 294. Roland Rodriguez recently bowled a 759 handicap series, still short of Eddie Caviel's 805 effort.

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 during the weekdays.

See you soon at Country Club Lanes.

Stay safe and stay healthy,

Tom Page, League Secretary
916-488-6465



BOWLING WITH THE NEW GUY

A couple of weeks ago, I practiced bowling with a new member. We had fun during the practice, so I asked him if he wanted to practice again next week. He said: "Sure, but I might be half an hour late."

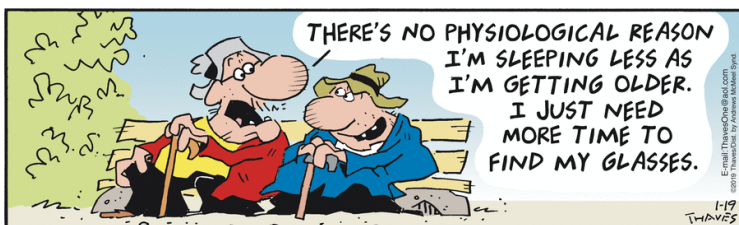
The following week he shows up right on time. But this time he plays left-handed. I asked him if he wanted to practice again next week. He replied: "Sure, but I might be half an hour late."

I then asked him: "How come some times you play right-handed and other times, left-handed?"

He said: "When I wake up in the morning and my wife is sleeping on her left side, I play left-handed. If she is on her right side, then I play right-handed."

I asked: "So what if she is laying flat on her back?"

"That's when I'll be a half hour late."



BRANCH ACTIVITIES

EL TAPATIO: On January 16 SIR members participated another extraordinary dining experience. This was our largest gathering of friends since we began last January! Thanks to everyone who attended helped make this a very successful DINE OUT!

Dine-Out: NEXT DINE-OUT at TIMBERS at the LODGE, on February 16th AT 6:00 PM at 7050 Del Web Blvd, Roseville, Ca 95747) For menu information: [Timbers at the Lodge ~ Lounge](#) Enjoy time with your SIR buddies, bring a guest & make a new friend!

For more information & **RSVP**, PBS Mark Steffens, call or text (916) 214-8650 or steffens.mark@gmail.com

Dine-Out in March: Theater Night (WAIT UNTIL DARK) and Hors d' oeuvres (enough for dinner), on March 5th AT 6:00 PM at Wells Fargo Pavilion, 1419 H St. Tickets \$40.00

LIMITED TICKETS AVAILABLE! RSVP NOW! PBS Mark Steffens, call, or text (916) 214-8650 or steffens.mark@gmail.com
<https://youtu.be/nVZ5WSKGKNM>
 Hosted by Embarcadero Lions

WALKING/HIKING: We will continue our weekly walks again in April when weather is warmer in the morning.

CURRENTLY EXPLORING GROUP TOURS: Leland Stanford Mansion and Aerospace Museum with maybe a lunch afterwards. If we have enough interest, I will pursue planning and setting up a date. Please let me know! If you have an idea, please let me know and I will follow up on it.

Mark Steffens, Activities Chairman






CARD CLUB

Cards will be held on The first and third Wednesday of the month and every month to follow, at the bowling alley at 2:00 pm always. In February, the dates will be the first and the 15th.

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

Dan Nelson, Cards Chairman






PICKLEBALL

Though it was windy we did have two people show up at Oasis Park for the inaugural pickleball training; a third showed just as we were leaving. Our next scheduled event will take place on Feb 27th, from 10 to 11 am, at Shady Oaks Park (Orangevale).

Terry Block, Pickleball Chairman



DINE-OUT

The next Dine-Out will be at:



WHEN: February 16th at 6:00 pm
 WHERE: 7050 Del Web Blvd, Roseville, Ca 95747)
 RSVP: Mark Steffens at (916) 214-8650 or steffens.mark@gmail.com





Jim Svobodny (L), who sponsored January's new member, Russell Prophet (R).



Branch members, their families and guests enjoyed a delicious Mexican meal at El Tapatio on January 16th.



LS Connor Chin presents January's guest speaker, Geoff Pease, with a Certificate of Appreciation and a bottle of wine. Geoff is a fire investigator with the Sacramento Fire Department. He explained what he does as an investigator and things people can do to minimize the risk of fire.





SUNSHINE



Warren Senegal is recovering from a bout of COVID.

Orville Noel has returned home from lung cancer surgery and is doing well. He is learning how to operate with one lung and is expected to fully recover.

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 Alan Weinel.

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



2023 ROSTER REPAIRS

The 2023 rosters are now available. Pick up your copy at the next meeting if you have not already done so.

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



2023 Officers		
BIG SIR	ALAN WEINEL	(209) 843-1804
LITTLE SIR	CONNOR CHIN	(916) 601-1854
SECRETARY	BERNIE MORENO	(209) 245-6313
ASST SECRETARY	LIEUTENANT COOPWOOD	(916) 206-2732
TREASURER	HAL COPPERBERG	(916) 722-2606
ASST TREASURER	BOB SANCHEZ	(916) 996-7342

Directors		
PBS MARK STEFFENS	(916) 214-8650	JOHN POPADAK (916) 662-0695
JIM OBLIZALO	(916) 747-8172	RON PETERS (916) 847-7196
PBS TED PATTERSON	(916) 607-3050	PBS PAUL SICKERT (916) 396-6230

State Officers	
STATE PRESIDENT:	DAVE GONZALES
AREA 4 REPRESENTATIVE:	JACK REEFER

Recruitment, Activities, Member Relations & Publicity (RAMP)		
RECRUITING/PUBLICITY/BIO	PBS TOM PAGE	(916) 488-6465
ACTIVITIES	PBS MARK STEFFENS	(916) 214-8650
MEMBERSHIP	JOHN POPADAK	(916) 662-0695

Committee Chairs		
Programs	Connor Chin	(916) 601-1854
Newsletter	John Popadak	(916) 662-0695
Chaplain	Lieutenant Coopwood	(916) 206-2732
Roster	Alan Weinel	(209) 843-1804
NCGA Ambas	VACANT	
Audit	George Langford	(650) 823-5493
Nominating	PBS Mark Steffens	(916) 214-8650
Attendance	Mark Kraut	(916) 929-3494
Orientation	Steve Goodman	(916) 521-6546
Information	John Popadak	(916) 662-0695
Sunshine	Lieutenant Coopwood	(916) 206-2732
Web Site	Ross Martin	(916) 427-0559
Book Club	Steve Brandenburger	(916) 765-0585
RAMP	PBS Jerry Schroeder	(916) 801-2530
Activities	PBS Mark Steffens	(916) 214-8650

Honored Members

HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS

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

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARDS

- PBS PAT QUINN

SENIOR CERTIFICATES

- PBS WARREN SENEGAL
- SIR KEN TOWNS
- SIR VERNON FREEMAN
- SIR HEMAN SMITH
- SIR LLOYD PLANK
- SIR CHARLES DANT

SPECIFIC ACTIVITIES CHAIRMEN

Golf (RC)	Rick Hom	(916) 395-7433
Golf (PGC)	Terry Block	(916) 686-0797
Bowling	PBS Tom Page	(916) 488-6465
Bocci Ball	Bob Schrupf	(916) 897-7114
Cards	Dan Nelson	(916) 895-5673
Dine-Out	PBS Mark Steffens	(916) 214-8650
Investmnt Gp	Joe Cain	(916) 219-3709
Pickleball	Terry Block	(916) 686-0797
Picnic	PBS Jerry Schroeder	(916) 801-2530
Ping Pong	Bob Schrupf	(916) 897-7114
River Cats	Dennis Kramer	(530) 312-3896
Walking	VACANT	
Wine Tasting	Dennis Kramer	(530) 312-3896

Branch Aprnl <https://sirinc.org/apparel-and-signage>

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?

1/25/2023

INCOME	<u>ACTUAL</u>	<u>BUDGET</u>	<u>DIFF</u>
Annual Dues	\$2,150	\$3,200	\$ -1,050
Special Activities*	\$ 0	\$ 650	\$ -650
Other	\$ 345	\$ 0	\$ 345
TOTAL INCOME	\$2,495	\$3,850	\$ -1,355
EXPENSES			
Printing & Postage	\$ 233	\$ 325	\$ 92
Officers' Expenses	\$ 0	\$ 25	\$ 25
Guest Expenses	\$ 25	\$ 300	\$ 275
State Assessment	\$ 254	\$1,050	\$ 796
Special Activities*	\$ 0	\$ 650	\$ 650
Other, Recruitment	\$ 0	\$ 50	\$ 50
Other, Misc.	\$ 203	\$ 750	\$ 547
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 715	\$3,150	\$ 2,435

*Special Activities = Day in Park & Holiday Luncheon

CASH BALANCE AT END OF 2022	\$ 3,809
CURRENT CASH BALANCE	\$ 5,589
PROJECTED YEAR END CASH BALANCE	\$ 4,509
PROJECTED 2023 YEAR END MEMBERSHIP	135
PROJECTED CASH BALANCE PER MEMBER	\$ 33

Hal Copperberg, Treasurer

TREASURER'S REPORT - JANUARY, 2023

01/25/2023

Cash Balance 1/1/2023 = \$3,809

	<u>NOVEMBER</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Beginning Cash Balance	\$3,809	N/A
Contributions	\$2,495	\$ 2,495
Expenses	\$ 715	\$ 715
Ending Cash Balance	\$5,589	N/A
<u>MEMBERSHIP</u>		
Membership, Gain/Loss	1/-1	129