



THE MAIL POUCH



Website: branch69.org

Facebook: Pony Express SIR Branch 69

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

John Popadak, Editor



ALAN'S BS STUFF

HAPPY NEW YEAR! 2023 is here --- READY OR NOT!

First, I want to thank you all for allowing me to serve as your Big Sir for the year. Of course, you all know what "BS" stands for. Well, if you continue on in college, do a Masters Thesis, you get your MS - which means "More of the Same" - AND if you continue on to your Doctoral Dissertation, you are awarded the PhD - which means "Piled Higher and Deeper!". [With due apologies to all those who DID pursue advanced degrees.]

Mark Steffens will be a tough act to follow! He has left some big shoes. Fortunately, he has modeled HOW to be a Big Sir. THANK YOU, Mark. Even more importantly, THANK YOU to those members who have agreed to serve on the various committees and other positions. Without **YOU** the Branch would not run. At all. It only works if we all help.

I look forward to another exciting year for the Branch. I have a couple of ideas for some outings... and our golf and bowling activities, which along with cribbage, ping-pong, bocce, dine-out events and OTHER activities should keep us all active and alert. Stay involved. Stay connected. From the movie *Mule*, with Clint Eastwood, there is a song "Don't Let The Old Man In" by Toby Keith. If you have not heard it, it is worth a listen.

On a personal note, on December 16th I was coughing, sneezing and had a horrible stuffy head. Yup. Tested and was VERY positive for the Corona virus. Within a few days I was feeling MUCH better. Re-tested the 21st and had a very thin line on the test indicating there was still a minor infection. SHOULD be over it before long. At least I hope. So far, my wife, Michele, continues to test negative.

See you all at the January 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 2022 New Year and the upcoming Asian New Year of the Rabbit (January 22nd) will bring good health and happiness for all the members of SIR Branch 69.

Program Speaker for January 12th's Luncheon is Geoff Pease, a City of Sacramento Fire Investigator, who will talk about his career - cases - and home safety improvements.

Looking ahead, I promise to do my level best for the Branch in 2023. See you all at the January 12th Luncheon.

Connor Chin, Little SIR



January Birthdays

Patrick Lord	1/5	
Roland Rodriguez	1/6	
Ernie Shell	1/6	
Amnon Igra	1/8	
Ron Peters	1/9	80 Years Old
Bernie Moreno	1/11	
Dave Yorston	1/15	84 Years Old
Tom Knoble	1/16	
Tim Fuller	1/21	
Tod Davis	1/26	
Don Agostinelli	1/29	
Jerry Schroeder	1/29	82 Years Old
Dan Turner	1/31	



January Anniversaries

Glen and Jayne Halvorsen	1/1
Bob and Debbie Baker	1/5
Lieutenant and Annette Coopwood	1/15
Thomas and Bernece Walton	1/26
Jerry and Linda Schroeder	1/27
Pat and Teri Barrett	1/28



RECRUITING AND PUBLICITY

Happy New Year! Let us all hope for a successful, healthy 2023, for our branch and all its members.

We have a number of prospective new members lined up to add to our branch in early 2023 if all goes well. Our members have mentioned other possible recruits who, we hope, will be attending our luncheons in the near future.

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. Let's have a great 2023.

Tom Page Recruiting & Publicity Director



GOLF NEWS



Rick Hom—Regular Course



Terry Block—Progressive Golf Club



UPCOMING TOURNAMENTS

January 19 - Alister Mackenzie - Stroke Play, Low Net - Application and Fees due January 10th - \$39

NOTE: This tournament was rescheduled from the 5th.

January 26 - River Oaks - Stroke Play, Low Net - Application and Fees due January 16 - \$50 (Cart Incl)

DECEMBER RESULTS

Bing Maloney (12/01) - Stroke Play

Cancelled due to rain.

Bartley Cavanaugh (12/15) - 4-man Shamble, 2 Low Net/Hole

1st Place Team
Jerry Buhlert, Pat Quinn, Bill Mullen, John Popadak

2nd Place Team
Terry Block, Rod Lukins, Lennie Silva, Alex Canada

3rd Place Team
Jim Svobodny, John Valdes, Russ Prophet, Sandy Davis

CTP: Pat Quinn, Jim Svobodny, Fred Smith, Rod Lukins

UPCOMING TOURNAMENTS

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

DECEMBER RESULTS

Davis Municipal Golf Club (12/12) - Stroke Play

1st Flight (Low Gross, Low Net) - Mark Machado, Jack Osborne

2nd Flight - Terry Block, Fred Smith

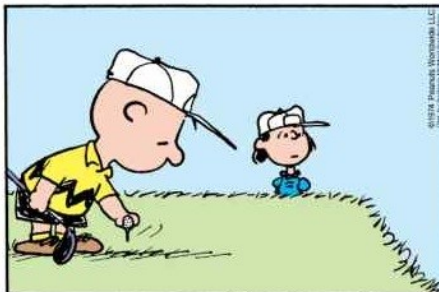
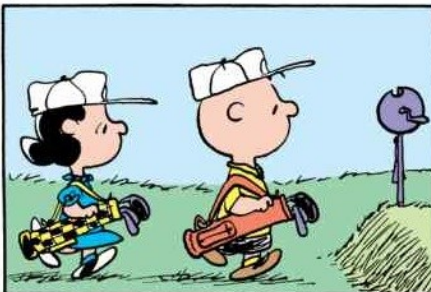
3rd Flight - Jerry Schroeder, Hal Copperberg

2023 GOLF SCHEDULE

The complete schedule for 2023 will be sent out in the next few weeks.



PEANUTS CHARLES SCHULZ





BOWLING NEWS

The first half of the bowling season went right down to the wire, with four teams within 1/2 point of the title. A fifth team was just a bit further out but still had a chance to take the first half title. In the end, the team of Steve Haakenson, Ron Peters, Wing Tse and Captain Rich Taylor swept all four points in their match and took the first half win. That guarantees them at least a slot in the championship finals in April. Congratulations, Rich's team. For the rest of the teams, the standings reset at zero for the second half of the season, so every team has a chance for redemption.

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. Allen Riker just rolled a 610 scratch series with all three games over 200.

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.

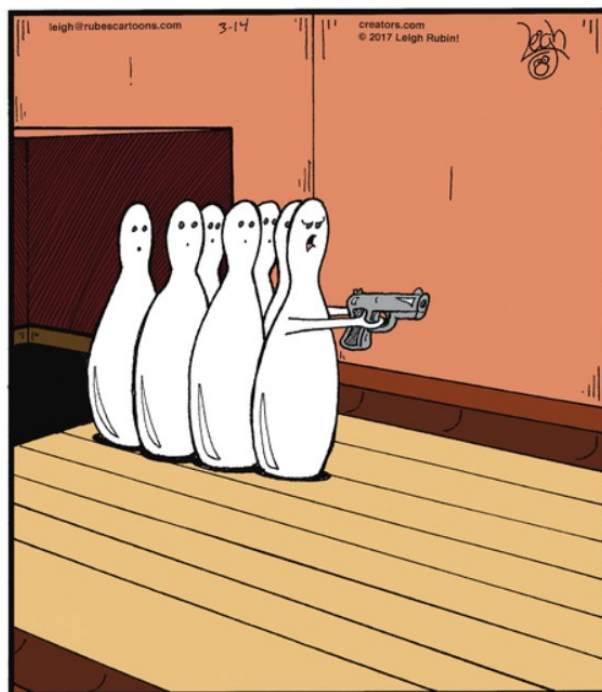
The State SIR Bowling Committee has several upcoming SIR tournaments on their calendar. Go to the State SIR Bowling website (sirbowling.org) to view the calendar; the entry forms are also on the site. Also, the State SIR Bowling Committee recently held a Zoom meeting to work on bowling issues in general 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



"Passive resistance, phooey. ... I say it's time we take action."

BRANCH ACTIVITIES

WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA: On December 17th SIR members participated in placing wreaths at a Veteran's Cemetery in Sacramento. Hope you will be able to join us next year when we do participate again in this heartfelt activity.



Dine-Out: Our next Dine-Out is on January 19th @ 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 some alcoholic beverages! For more information & [RSVP NOW \(NEED TO LET RESTUATANT KNOW\)](#), Contact: Mark Steffens, call or text (916) 214-8650 or steffens.mark@outlook.com

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

CURRENTLY EXPLORING GROUP TOURS: Leland Stanford Mansion and Aerospace Museum with maybe afterwards Lunch. 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

Dan Nelson says Cards will be held on January 4th and Wednesday January 18th. 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.

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.



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 .

INVESTMENT GROUP

Joe Cain has arranged for us to meet with the SIR128 Investment Group on Wednesday, January 25, 2023 at 1:30 PM by Zoom. Fred Fuld will make a presentation on Leading Future Industries including lists of companies (and their charts) that are representative of these. (See the December 11 email for more info)

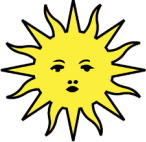


Fred retired from the financial services industry where he worked for over 30 years, working as an investment advisor, market maker at the Pacific Stock Exchange, and vice president of an investment management company. He also authored several books.

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



A Celebration of Life for Charles Landau will be held at Zinfandel Grille, 2384 Fair Oaks Blvd, Sacramento on Saturday, January 21st, from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm. Go to www.paperlesspost.com/go/JNzzb5LHWBP4gpfNeovyM to RSVP.

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
Itcoopjr@gmail.com**



2022 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-

State Officers

STATE PRESIDENT:	DAVE GONZALES
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 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	Bob Sanchez	(916) 996-7342
Nominating	PBS Mark Steffens	(916) 214-8650
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 Brandenburger	(916) 765-0585
RAMP	PBS Jerry Schroeder	(916) 801-2530
Information	John Popadak	(916) 662-0695
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

SENIOR CERTIFICATES

SIR JIM PAGE
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
Ping Pong	Bob Schrupf	(916) 897-7114
River Cats	Dennis Kramer	(530) 312-3896
Walking	VACANT	
Wine Tasting	Dennis Kramer	(530) 312-3896

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

Why older men don't get hired



Job Interview

Human Resources Manager: "What is your greatest weakness?"

Old Man: "My honesty."

Human Resources Manager: "I don't think honesty is a weakness."

Old Man : "I don't give a fuck what you think."

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).