



# THE MAIL POUCH



The Pony Express Branch #69  
November — 2021 Edition



John Popadak, Editor



## Sickert Says

Thank you to Little Sir Mark Steffens for conducting the October 14<sup>th</sup>, 2021, luncheon in my absence. I had recently been diagnosed as having the COVID-19 virus and was in isolation at home on the day of the luncheon.

I am very grateful for the medical care I received and the fact that the symptoms of my infection were comparatively mild. I don't know exactly when I was exposed to the COVID-19 virus but on reflection I think I was not cautious enough in continuously wearing my mask when out in public.

Branch 69 member Ron Peters is looking for like-minded men to get together with him to play cribbage. This is something new, so times and place are yet to be determined. For more information contact Ron directly at (916) 847-7196. If you have an activity, besides the golf and bowling that are the organized activities of Branch 69, that you would like to do with other branch members please let me know and we will advertise it like we are doing with Ron.

In addition, I want to draw your attention to the flyer at the end of the newsletter recruiting for new members for the "Country Club Aires" (CCA) men's chorus and band. CCA has been a SIRs activity in our area for the last 30 years and is in need of new members. This looks like it could be a lot of fun for those Branch 69 members that are musically inclined.

The next luncheon at the Dante Event Center is on Thursday, November 11, 2021, Veterans Day. This will be our fourth luncheon at the Dante Event Center and the last luncheon for the 2021 year before our usual break in December. The food and service this year at the Dante Event Center has been excellent, all that we were promised.

Please join us at 11:00 a.m. for social hour and at 12 noon for lunch for a traditional Thanksgiving meal and a speaker that will appeal to our veteran members on Veterans Day. See you there.

Thank you.

*Paul Sickert, Big Sir*



## Mark's Talk

On October 14<sup>th</sup> our speaker was Mike Woods, Vice President at Haggin Oaks Golf Complex. Mike shared some interesting products for seniors in helping to improve their golf scores:

- Low compression golf balls during the cooler weather, for example Wilson 50 Elite golf balls.
- BIONIC StableGrip golf gloves for a better grip for those with difficulty squeezing and gripping golf clubs.
- Hybrid Irons have now become more popular for more control.

Our speaker for November 11<sup>th</sup> is author Larry Brooks. Larry was born and raised in Portland, Oregon. He graduated with a degree in marketing communications from Portland State University, where he attended in the off-season during a five-year run as a professional baseball player in the Texas Rangers organization. He was a pitcher and, to this day, is still undergoing medical and therapy procedures from years of trying to throw a ball through a wall.

This led to his first published writing: a magazine article on the life of a minor league pitcher. Still not keen on a writing career - like the newly graduated, he had his eye on the money back then - his first stints in a business suit had more swings and misses. He says he was history's worst stockbroker for the world's largest brokerage firm, then the world's worst personnel manager in a now-defunct major department store (remember what Dirty Harry said about Personnel managers?), in addition to a couple of other humbling career fliers he chooses to forget. Each crashing career resulted in another published magazine piece lampooning the experience, and his interest in writing began to emerge as his best - and last - viable career option.

*Tan Tru*, published in 2013, chronicles events that unfolded during 1968 and early 1969 when the author served as a young infantry soldier in the United States Army with Charlie Company, 2nd/60th Infantry, 9th Infantry Division in Vietnam's Mekong Delta. *Tan Tru* has consistently ranked among Amazon's Top 100 Best Selling Vietnam War Memoirs and Biographies since the year 2017.

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## November Birthdays

Hal Copperberg	11/01	
Mark Steffens	11/03	
Jerry Buhlert	11/12	
George Ringley	11/13	
Richard Terrell	11/16	
Orville Noel	11/20	
Jack Osborne	11/20	
Armond Delestrez	11/21	
<b>Tom Costello</b>	<b>11/22</b>	<b>82 Years</b>
Joe Bowers	11/24	
<b>Bud Rogers</b>	<b>11/24</b>	<b>85 Years</b>
<b>Bob Sanchez</b>	<b>11/24</b>	<b>83 Years</b>



## November Anniversaries

Alex and Laree Canada	11/09	
David and Janice Trujillo	11/24	
Lenny and Timmi Silva	11/26	
Jim and Bonnie Oliver	11/27	
Bob and Paulette Sanchez	11/28	
<b>Lorren and Jeanne Jacobs</b>	<b>11/24</b>	<b>59 Years</b>



*Continued from Mark's Talk on Page 1*

**Finally**, check out SIR Apparel and Signage ([Apparel and Signage – SIR \(sirinc.org\)](http://Apparel and Signage - SIR (sirinc.org))). You will be amazed at what is available to our members (personalized Branch 69 shirts and jackets with your name FREE). The Pro-Shop Web-site can take individual orders. If your order is over \$50 it has free shipping. I will have my new shirt and hat by this meeting.

*Mark Steffens, Little Sir*

# WELCOME!!

## SIR BILL AUCH

1030 Entrada Rd  
Sacramento 95864  
(916) 524-7427  
williamauch145@comcast.net  
Sponsor: Mark Steffens



Bill was born in Pasadena and grew up in that area. After high school, he attended UC Irvine, both as an undergraduate and in medical school. After his medical school education, Bill moved to the University of Kentucky for further training, followed by work at UC Davis and Santa Rosa. Bill settled in Sacramento, working for 28 years as a cardiologist for Kaiser. He retired from Kaiser in 2018. He still occasionally encounters former patients in the Sacramento area, always a great experience.

Bill enjoys golf, traveling, bicycling and dancing. He also is undertaking beginner piano lessons. If all that isn't enough, Bill found time to write a novel, Love in Provence. The book is self-published as an ebook; it's available in the Amazon Kindle store.

Birthday: August 9, 1958

## SIR REX BOWLING

P.O. Box 161960  
Sacramento 95816  
(530) 519-1601  
rexbowling45@gmail.com  
Sponsor: transfer from Branch 93



Rex is a returning member. He was previously a member of Branch 69 from January 2017 to January 2020.

Rex was born in Palo Alto and grew up there. After high school, he attended junior college for a few semesters, worked for a while and then joined the Naval Reserve. He went active in the Navy for three years and left active duty in late 1969 and got his honorable discharge in 1971. He spent much of his working life in manufacturing, but ultimately made the transition to purchasing in the electronics field. He worked for a number of years for BD Biosciences until he retired in 2005. Rex moved to Sacramento to be near family members.

Rex has a total of six children and 11 grandchildren. He spends significant time with family activities. Rex also enjoys golf, a little fishing, and board and card games.

Birthday: December 29, 1945





## ***Your 2021 Golf Directors***



***Lennie Silva—Regular Course***



***Greg Schweitzer—Progressive Golf Club***

### **NOVEMBER GOLF**

November 4 - Wildhawk - Turkey Shoot - \$38

November 18 - Bing Maloney - Low Net- \$32

### **NOVEMBER GOLF**

November 15 - Davis GC - Stroke Play - White Tees

November 29 - Antelope Greens - Stroke Play - White Tees

### **ATTENTION GOLFERS!**

The Golf Clubs' Awards Luncheon scheduled for November 5 has been **CANCELLED!!!**

## **RECRUITING AND PUBLICITY**



We're settling in to our regular routine at the Dante Club. It has been great to be back seeing our friends at the luncheons again. I hope more members who are on the fence about attending the luncheons again because of Covid fears will join us soon and enjoy the speakers, good food and seeing their SIR friends again.

We added two new members to our branch last month. Bill Auch is a golfer and plans to get in some golf with our programs soon. Rex Bowling was a previous member of Branch 69, left us to join Branch 93 and now returns to our branch again. It's good to get two new members, but that number barely keeps us even, what with attrition. We have to redouble our individual work to invite prospective members to our branch.

When you sign up for golf tournaments, think about friends who might benefit from our SIR activities. Perhaps you could have a friend play as a guest in a tournament, one of our best recruiting methods. Also, think about bowlers who might want to join our branch and bowl in our league. It's always good to keep our recruiting in mind!

***Tom Page Recruiting & Publicity Director***



## **BOWLING NEWS**

The SIR Branch 69 & Friends bowling league is well into the 2021-2022 season. Our bowling skills are returning (at least a little) and the competition is close. Several teams are bunched up close to the top of the standings; I expect the battle to be tight throughout the season.



Several bowlers have posted really great scores so far. Jim Smalling has the top scratch game at 253 and the top scratch series at 644. Pat Barrett and Steve Eason are second and third in those categories with 236/635 and 234/611 respectively. Ron Peters has the top handicap game with 294, followed by Vic Scott at 269 and Pat Quinn at 262. Hal Copperberg has the top handicap series at 753, just ahead of Floyd Scott with 752.

I will look forward to seeing all of you at our monthly luncheons and at the bowling alley.

Stay safe and stay healthy,

***Tom Page, League Secretary 916-488-6465***

## **ATTENDANCE REPORT**

We had 72 members (52%) at our October meeting. For November we need to have attendance of 75 or more members per our contract with the Dante Club.



**HOW ARE WE DOING?**

10/25/2021

<b>INCOME</b>	<b>ACTUAL</b>	<b>BUDGET</b>	<b>DIFF</b>
Contributions	\$2,342	\$2,100	\$ 242
Other	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$2,340</b>	<b>\$2,100</b>	<b>\$ 242</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
Printing & Postage	\$ 0	\$ 500	\$ 500
Officers' Expenses	\$ 52	\$ 50	\$ -2
Guest Expenses	\$ 0	\$ 200	\$ 200
State Assessment	\$ 501	\$ 800	\$ 299
Other, Golf Expo	\$ 0	\$ 200	\$ 200
Other, Misc.	\$ 957	\$1,475	\$ 518
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$ 1,510</b>	<b>\$3,225</b>	<b>\$ 1,715</b>
CASH BALANCE AT END OF 2020			\$ 4,486
CURRENT CASH BALANCE			\$ 5,318
PROJECTED CASH BALANCE 12/31/2021			\$ 3,361
PROJECTED 2021 YEAR END MEMBERSHIP			150
PROJECTED CASH BALANCE PER MEMBER			\$ 22

**Hal Copperberg, Treasurer****SUNSHINE**

Roger Brunson has been diagnosed with lung cancer that has metastasized to his brain. He has had radiation and is now going through multiple rounds of chemotherapy.

PBS Jim Carlson has lost his fight with cancer, eventually succumbing to pneumonia. Memorial services will be held for him at Cordova Lutheran Church in Rancho Cordova on November 5 at 11:00 a.m.

Steve Eason has successfully completed his cataract surgery in both eyes.

We currently do not have a Sunshine Chairman. In the interim, if you have any information regarding a member who is ill or incapacitated, please email Paul Sickert at: [paulsicket3787@gmail.com](mailto:paulsicket3787@gmail.com).

**2021 ROSTER REPAIRS**

Please send roster corrections to Alan's personal Email account [Alan\\_Weinel@ATT.Net](mailto:Alan_Weinel@ATT.Net) with subject "Roster Correction".

**Alan Weinel, Roster Chairman****2021 Officers**

BIG SIR	PAUL SICKERT	(916) 396-6230
LITTLE SIR	MARK STEFFENS	(916) 214-8650
SECRETARY	PAT QUINN	(916) 201-5262
ASST SECRETARY	RON HUTCHESON	(916) 897-2807
TREASURER	HAL COPPERBERG	(916) 722-2606
ASST TREASURER	ALAN WEINEL	(209) 843-1804

**Directors**

PBS JIM BUCKLEY	(916) 284-2364	STEVE BRANDENBURGER	(916) 765-0585
BUD ROGERS	(916) 991-2611	JIM OBLIZZALO	(916) 747-8172

**State Officers**

STATE PRESIDENT:	STUART (STU) WILLIAMS
REGION 1 DIRECTOR:	DAVE GONZALES
AREA 4 GOVERNOR:	HUGH THOMPSON

**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	Mark Steffens	(916) 396-6230
Newsletter	John Popadak	(916) 662-0695
Chaplain	Lieutenant Coopwood	(916) 206-2732
Roster	Alan Weinel	(209) 843-1804
Golf (BR69/RC)	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
Nominating	Ron Hutcheson	(916) 897-2807
Nominating	John Popadak	(916) 662-0695
Attendance	John Hanson	(916) 612-3115
Orientation	Steve Goodman	(916) 521-6546
Branch Apparel	TBD	
Meeting Review	John Popadak	(916) 662-0695
Sunshine	TBD	
Lunch Reception	Ron Bacher	(916) 422-5583
Web Site	Ross Martin	(916) 427-0559
Book Club	Bernie Moreno	(209) 245-6313
RV	TBD	
NCGA Ambassador	Jim Huffman	(916) 468-8197
RAMP	Jerry Schroeder	(916) 801-2530

**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 DON BALDWIN  
SIR LLOYD PLANK  
SIR CHARLES DANT

**TREASURER'S REPORT – October, 2021****Cash Balance 1/1/2021 = \$4,486**

	<b>JULY</b>	<b>YTD</b>
Beginning Cash Balance	\$5,408	N/A
Contributions	\$ 71	\$2,342
Expenses	\$ 293	\$1,510
Ending Cash Balance	\$5,318	N/A

**MEMBERSHIP**

Membership, Gain/Loss	0/-0	138
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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).





**The “COUNTRY CLUB AIRES” (CCA) Men’s Chorus & Band**  
*All Volunteers - Established 1972 - Sponsored by Sons In Retirement (SIR)*

**We are currently seeking a Choral Director**  
also recruiting  
**Singers and Band Members!**

***(REQUIRES LIMITED EXPERIENCE & UNLIMITED ENTHUSIASM!)***

**For more information about entertaining wonderful people in this area,  
PLEASE CONTACT:**

**Bob Baker, Business Manager Business-  
Mgr@CountryClubAires.org (ph 916-397-6257) and/or**

**Robert DuPlantier, Assistant Business Manager/Master of Ceremonies AsstBusi-  
nessMgr@CountryClubAires.org (ph 916-521-3464)**

***For more in-depth information about the CCA, please look for our website at:  
<http://www.CountryClubAires.org>***