



THE MAIL POUCH

Concept and Creation by Frank Franzago



The Pony Express Branch #69
November — 2019 Edition



Alan Weinel, Editor

PAT'S PAPERS



Well, my term as Big Sir is coming to an end. It's been very interesting and in many ways very enjoyable. I have so many people to thank for support during the year not to mention the feeling that the membership also gave me their support.

I know the officers, directors, committee chair members and callers had specific tasks during the year that they performed. I will take some time at the November luncheon to mention these members specifically. I'll try to keep that time at a minimum.

Our luncheon attendance counts were again a bit low and below the 70% we try to meet. Not sure what to say about this. I do thank those members who are attending. I hope to encourage all to attend that can and hope we can finish out the year on a good note. I plan to recognize those who had perfect attendance thus far during 2019. Sounds kind of like the "Star" you would get for perfect attendance in school.

For those who may have not attended the October luncheon we did have some very sad news to announce. Long time members Hal Witsaman and Carl Munz passed in early October. Our thoughts are with their family and friends.

We will continue to work with the Elks club on our luncheon menu. Again last month we ran short of some food items. This certainly impacted the unfortunate table to be drawn last in our random buffet table selection. They were able to prepare more food but some members had to wait a bit. We will be meeting with the Elks Club to discuss this and start negotiations for the luncheon contract for next year which is effective April 2020. My heads up to membership; there will be an increase in the luncheon price for next year. We will do our best to keep this at a minimum. Still, we do know it will be way below the \$32 per person we anticipated in 2019 with the Dante Club.

I hope to see you at the November luncheon and the Ladies Day Luncheon in December.

Pat Quinn, Big Sir

The Nov. Luncheon menu is on page 2...

JIMMY'S GEMS



Last month, we welcomed Douglas Bonetti as our guest speaker. I didn't know that he had presented to our branch in the past.

Again, Doug garnered a lot of interest from the group. This was done through a display of civil war relics and sharing of some little-known facts that were known in high school and a very vigorous questions and answer session. If you were not at the luncheon some very important information was missed.

Our guest speaker for November is Kevin Knauss, Education Before Enrollment. Kevin is the author of "Hidden History of Folsom Lake" which captures numerous photographs of the remnants of the gold rush era of 1850's. These artifacts/remnants after being underwater for decades became available after Folsom Lake was drained in 2015.

Preparation for the **Ladies Day Luncheon** is well underway. Let's make this a premier event. This year's luncheon will feature more excitement, dancing and fun. We will have gifts, recognition of members, and raffle. The luncheon is planned for December 12, 2019 at the Carmichael Elks Club. Don't forget to bring/invite your wives, friends and significant others. Spread the word. We have a delicious menu from which to choose. Let's have a great time and lots of fun.

DON'T FORGET TO BRING A WRAPPED GIFT(S) TO SHARE WITH OTHER MEMBERS. We will accept gifts at our next luncheon.

How can we increase the attendance at the luncheon monthly? Are you enjoying the buffet? Please let me or other members of the BEC your concerns.

We are looking for a member to replace the newsletter editor. Alan has been doing a great job and is much appreciated but after three years he has decided to pass the torch on to someone else. Alan is willing to train anyone who is willing to "give it a try". Contact anyone on the BEC or call me directly.

Hope to see you at our luncheon on November 14th.

Jimmy Buckley, Little Sir

WELCOME!!

SIR RODNEY MIRAMONT

9151 Quail Brook Circle
Elk Grove CA 95624
916-717-4606 fristlonewolf@yahoo.com



Sponsor: Armond Delestrez

Rodney was born in Medford, Oregon, but grew up in Alameda after his adoption by a California family. Following his graduation from high school, he attended UC Berkeley for a year before enlisting in the Air Force. Rodney spent four years in the Air Force, serving in the Korean War as a loadmaster on C-124s.

Rodney had gotten married while in the Air Force, so after his Air Force service, he moved to West Virginia where his wife had grown up. He worked in a coal mine and then a steel mill before working for Oremat, an aluminum production plant. He worked as a work scheduler and set up the mix for producing various aluminum alloys. After about 10 years in West Virginia, Rodney moved his wife and three children back to California in search of better job prospects. He found work for International Harvester in San Leandro for a while. When IH closed down their operations there, Rodney returned to his first major hobby in life: tennis. He had worked as a tennis instructor in Alameda while a young man. Then, he opened two tennis shops in the East Bay area and returned to teaching tennis, too. He continued this work until his retirement in 1989.

Heart surgery pretty much ended his tennis playing in retirement, but Rodney enjoys bowling, travel and RV trips with his wife. Rodney has already signed up to bowl in our bowling league.

Birthdays: October 10, 1935
Anniversary: May 12, 2009 to Carolyn

Please welcome him!

SIR JIM MOREHOUSE

8794 Mondego Way
Fair Oaks, CA 95628
916-844-5343 jamesmorehouse@comcast.net



Sponsor: Dan Nelson

Jim was born in Brooklyn, NY, but grew up in Fairfield, Connecticut. After high school, Jim joined the Navy and served for 21 years. His initial work in the Navy was helping Viet Nam refugees escape from that country's new communist rulers. For most of his Navy career, he served on a minesweeper, responsible for both shipboard electronics and mine detection.

Following his discharge in 1996, he went to work for Comcast as a systems technician, responding to customer service issues. He retired for good in 2018.

Jim likes golf and he and his wife enjoy wine tasting and travel. Jim also likes to paint and is a big football and hockey fan. He has three children, five step-children and 11 grandchildren.

Birthdays: July 11, 1957
Anniversary: September 3, 2003 Linda

Please welcome him!

SIR E. K. WADE

6242 Mariposa Ave
Citrus Heights CA 95610
925-323-1578 wadenwaterek47@gmail.com



Sponsor: Jimmy Buckley

E. K. was born in Orange, Texas, and grew up in Corpus Christi. After high school, E. K. joined the Army in 1967 and soon found himself in Viet Nam with an artillery unit. He saw action in the Duc Pho and Chu Lai areas there.

After his three years of Army service, E.K. spent a number of years in various schools and jobs, all the while feeling the effects of PTSD. Ultimately, he got help with this issue and successfully returned to school, earning an accounting degree from Cal State Hayward, a Master's degree from Golden Gate University and a Paralegal Certificate with honors from St. Mary's College in Moraga. He spent his working career with the Franchise Tax Board, California Employment Development Department and the US Department of Labor. E. K. retired in 2004.

E. K. loves golf; he has already played with our Sir branch members and is looking forward to more outings with our players. He used to fish and bowl, too, and he may find time to return to these activities in the future.

Birthdays: September 12, 1947

Please welcome him!

Nonvember 2019 LUNCHEON MENU

Thursday November 14, 2019

Traditional Turkey Dinner!



BOWLING NEWS



The bowling season marches on with close competition, some notable scores, and lots of good times. It's way too close at the top to single out a dominating team; almost all the teams are in with a chance. As of this week, there is a 3-way tie for first place!

Many of our bowlers have scored some great games and series. Jim Smalling, as always, leads with a scratch game of 277, followed by Pat Barrett at 266 and Bud Rogers at 246. Jim also has the top scratch series of 713, Pat is close behind with 692 and Darren Simonds has a 643 score.

Pat Barrett has the top handicap game with 291, leading Jim Smalling at 284 and Darren Simonds with 643, Pat leads the handicap series, too, with 767, ahead of Tony Vigil at 750 and Vic Scott with 741,

I'll keep you posted on the league progress as the season goes on.

Tom Page, League Secretary 488-6465

November Birthdays

Hal Copperberg	11/1	
Mark Steffens	11/3	
Tony Vigil	11/5	
Jerry Buhler	11/12	
George Ringley	11/13	
Richard Terrell	11/16	
Orville Noel	11/20	
Jack Osborne	11/20	
Armond Delestrez	11/21	
Tom Costello	11/24	80 Years
Bud Rogers	11/24	83 Years
Bob Sanchez	11/24	81 Years
Joe Bowers	11/24	
Darren Simonds	11/25	



2019 ATTENDANCE REPORT

Gentlemen: For September, 2019 our luncheon attendance was 64%, and YTD is 66%
The SIR minimum goal is 70%

Paul Sickert, Attendance Chair



October's New Members and their Sponsors

Dan Nelson, Jim Morehouse, E. K. Wade, Jimmy Buckley, Rodney Miramont, Armond Delestrez



Your 2019 Golf Directors



Lennie Silva—Regular Course

NOVEMBER GOLF:

- 11-01 Thurs **GOLF AWARDS LUNCHEON**
- 11-07 Thurs Bing Maloney Turkey Shoot
- 11-21 Thurs Arcade Creek Low Net

DECEMBER GOLF:

- 12-05 Thurs Wildhawk Christmas Shoot



Greg Schweitzer—Progressive Golf Club

NOVEMBER GOLF:

- 11-04 Mon Wildhawk Stroke Play w/G combo
- 11-18 Mon Bing Maloney 4-Man Best Ball

DECEMBER GOLF:

- 12-09 Mon Antelope 4 Clubs Only



Belated **Congratulations** go to Jim Oblizalo for coming in first place in his flight in the Regional 1 Individual Qualifier held August 15 at Morgan Creek. Jim advanced to the State Championship held October 15th at Hiddenbrook Golf Club, where he placed 3rd. Jim was in the 1st flight and competed against 7 other golfers in his flight with several having handicaps lower than 10. There were a total of 68 players divided into 7 flights who competed.

In order to get to the Regional Qualifier, you must first win the area qualifier which was held at Alister MacKenzie Golf Course June 18th. There were 8 members from our branch participated in the area qualifier, and Jim Oblizalo, Jerry Buhlert, Tom Page, Mark Steffens, and Connor Chin all advanced to Regional.

Greg Schweitzer

URGENT NOTE FROM THE NEWSLETTER EDITOR

As reported last month, I am stepping down as the Newsletter editor at the end of this year, after three years of service. To date, nobody has come forward to volunteer to be the next editor. My term will end with the publishing of the January 2020 NL. At that time, unless “someone” comes forward, the *Mail Pouch* will cease publication, which I truly would hate to see happen. This is a fine newsletter, developed by the late Frank Franzago and then nurtured by my predecessor, Pat Quinn. The time commitment ****at first**** will be several days a month. Then, as you get the hang of it, it drops to just over a day or so. I PROMISE to help bring you up to speed, and will ALSO be available for any questions or technical advice.

Thank you for considering this task.

Alan Weinel, Newsletter / Roster

RECRUITING AND PUBLICITY

I was happy to see three new members join our branch last month. Read their bios in this issue—they are interesting men and have accomplished a lot in their lives. It was a pleasure to talk with each of them and to record some of the events they have encountered. Another guest attended the luncheon and seemed pleased to meet our members. Overall, our recruiting efforts look to be as strong as always.



As always, I want to stress the importance of keeping up with our recruiting efforts. Year after year, Branch 69 has been successful in maintaining and even increasing our membership numbers. I was sorry to note the passing of two members and the loss of another because he is leaving the area. It shows the need to continue the good work!

I hope to see you all at the November luncheon.

Tom Page Recruiting & Publicity Director

November Anniversaries

Steve and Marilyn Flynn	11/5
Lennie and Timmi Silva	11/26
Bob and Paulette Sanchez	11/28
Lorren and Jeanna Jacobs	11/30 57 Years



HOW ARE WE DOING?

10/26/2019

INCOME	ACTUAL	BUDGET	DIFF
Contributions	\$3,629	\$3,700	\$ 71
Other	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
TOTAL INCOME	\$3,629	\$3,700	\$ 71

EXPENSES

Printing & Postage	\$ 0	\$ 550	\$ 550
Officers' Expenses	\$ 112	\$ 300	\$ 188
Guest Expenses	\$ 0	\$ 100	\$ 100
State Assessment	\$ 954	\$1,000	\$ 46
Other, Golf Expo	\$ 199	\$ 300	\$ 101
Other, Misc.	\$ 1,185	\$1,800	\$ 615
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 2,450	\$4,050	\$1,600

CASH BALANCE AT END OF 2018	\$3,509
CURRENT CASH BALANCE	\$4,689
PROJECTED BALANCE 12/31/2019	\$3,159

PROJECTED 2018 YEAR END MEMBERSHIP	155
PROJECTED CASH BALANCE PER MEMBER	\$ 20

Jerry Buhlert, Treasurer**SUNSHINE**

Gentlemen: Please keep all of our members who are struggling with health problems in your prayers and if there is anyone you are aware of that might benefit from a card or a call from us, please let me know.

We extend our deepest sympathy to the families of **HAL WITSAMEN** and **KARL MUNZ** on the passing of these fine gentlemen. They will be missed.

If you know of any of our members or immediate family with health problems give me a call @ (916) 844-9832 (Text is also OK.)

*kindest Regards,
 Bill Nichols, Sunshine Chairman*

2019 Officers

BIG SIR:	PAT QUINN	(916) 201-5262
LITTLE SIR:	JIM BUCKLEY	(916) 284-2364
SEC:	PBS RON HUTCHESON	(916) 897-2807
ASST SEC:	GEORGE LANGFORD	(650) 823-5493
TREAS:	JERRY BUHLERT	(916) 704-0159
ASST TREAS	HAL COPPERBERG	(916) 722-2606

Directors

PBS TONY VIGIL	(916) 217-7816	BILL NICHOLS	(916) 844-9382
STEVE GOODMAN	(916) 521-6546	JOHN POPADAK	(916) 662-0695
JIM HUFFMAN	(916) 468-8197	REX BOWLING	(530) 519-1601

State Officers

STATE PRES:	ED BENSON
REG. 1 DIRECTOR:	MARK STUART
AREA 4 GOV:	BOB PEREZ

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	Jim Buckley	(916) 284-2364
Newsletter	Alan Weinel	(209) 843-1804
Chaplain	Bill Nichols	(916) 844-9382
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	PBS Tony Vigil	(916) 217-7816
Attendance	Paul Sickert	(916) 396-6230
Orientation	Steve Goodman	(916) 521-6546
Branch Apparel	Mike Ratzlaff	(916) 768-6348
Meeting Review	Jim Huffman	(916) 468-8197
Sunshine	Bill Nichols	(916) 844-9382
Lunch Reception	Ron Bacher	(916) 422-5583
Web Site	Ross Martin	(916) 427-0559
Book Club	Bernie Moreno	(209) 245-6313
RV	Bob Houghton	(916) 487-1190
NCGA Ambassador	Jim Huffman	(916) 468-8197
RAMP	PBS 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

TREASURER'S REPORT – OCTOBER 2019**Cash Balance 1/1/2019= \$3,509**

	OCTOBER	YTD
Beginning Cash Balance	4,874	N/A
Contributions	\$105	\$3,524
Expenses	\$290	\$2,449
Ending Cash Balance	\$4,689	N/A

MEMBERSHIP

Membership, Gain/Loss	+3/-2	153
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NON-RESPONSIBILITY DECLARATION: All activities arranged for or by, or sponsored by, Sons In Retirement, Incorporated, and its Branches, are for the convenience and pleasure of the members and their guests who desire to participate. Sons In Retirement, Incorporated, and its Branches do not assume any responsibility for the well-being or safety of the participants or their property, in any matters pertaining to said activities (Rule 345).

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

SIR Branch 69 Ladies Day Holiday Luncheon

Thursday, December 12, 2019

Carmichael Elks Lodge, 5631 Cypress Ave. Carmichael, Ca

11:00 Drinks and Conversation, 12:00 Lunch

1:00 Music & Dancing



Holiday Luncheon 2019 welcomes all members of Branch 69, wives, significant others and guests.

Entrance by Pre-Paid Reservations Only. Dress: Dressy Casual.

Today's program will include a sit down luncheon and recognition of members for significant accomplishments, prize drawings, gifts for the ladies and dancing to the Sly Fox Band. 🎵

Lunch Menu

Tenderloins of Beef – Black Pepper Corn Crusted Chateaubriand

Chicken Marsala – with Roasted Mushroom

Eggplant Parmesan – Herbed Panko Breaded Eggplant

Each meal is served with roasted red potatoes, seasonal vegetables, green salad, rolls, butter and chocolate mousse cake. Coffee and water will be provided at the table

Please clip form below and return with a check made out to SIR BRANCH 69

Reservations:

• SIR Name _____

Quantity

• Tenderloins of Beef _____ @ \$25 = _____

• Chicken Marsala _____ @ \$21 = _____

• Eggplant Parmesan _____ @ \$17 = _____

Amount Enclosed = _____

Prepay at October or November Luncheon, make Check out to SIRS Branch 69, send or give check to Treasurer, Jerry Buhlert, 4825 Willowbrook Drive, Sacramento, CA 95842 - by **December 1**

On reverse side, please list the members of your party and seating requests, if any. Seating: If you would like to be seated as a group with other members, write on the back of the reservation sheet, otherwise seats will be assigned.