



# THE MAIL POUCH



Website: [branch69.org](http://branch69.org)



The Pony Express Branch #69  
June - 2026 Edition



Facebook: Pony Express SIR Branch 69

John Popadak, Editor

## MY LITTLE CORNER



OMG, I just took a look at the long-term weather forecast for June 17, 2026 (the day of our upcoming SIR-69 Summer Picnic) and I see a forecasted high of 88 degrees. That would be great! I do hope that everyone takes advantage of this annual affair and pays their \$10 to our Treasurer, Hal, and comes out and enjoys themselves during this fun time. I've planned some trivia activities with California Scratchers as the winning prizes.

On a separate note, our 2026 SIR-69 roster directory now has Emergency Contact (EC) phone numbers that some of our members have provided. These Emergency Phone numbers are a way to contact spouses/significant others and are found on the first names line in our directory.

As an example, if our Chaplin/Sunshine Chairman, James Aylett was hurt and we tried to contact his wife, our directory shows a top line of "AYLETT, Chaplin, Sunshine", and the next line shows "James & Jana EC (650) 525-4020". This line shows James' EC as Jana and her phone number. Below this, we see James' address, and below that is his phone number and email address.

I counted 16 members who had an Emergency Contact (EC) phone number published. If you want an EC published in next year's directory, be sure to let Alan Weinel (our roster chairman) know.

The SIR State Newsletter for May came out, and they had some cruise packages published, including a 16-night Hawaiian Island Cruise sailing from San Francisco, starting at \$3,750 per person (10/23/26-11/8/26); and a river cruise on the Danube (11/27/26-12/8/26) starting at \$5,900 per person.

The Newsletter also mentioned a few upcoming bowling tournaments, such as Branch 113 hosting a 2-day tournament at Red Hawk Casino on June 4-5; and Branch 59 hosting a 2-day tourney at Earl Anthony's Dublin Bowl on June 22-23.

Golfing has its own section in the Newsletter, with a 2-day affair at Blue Rock Springs, in Vallejo on June 24-25. Then the State Team Scramble Championship on August 5-6 at Hiddenbrooke Golf Club, also in Vallejo.

If you cannot access the SIR State Happening Newsletter, just contact me and I can give you any of the missing details (like who to contact to participate) that you may need.

And a big thank-you to Les Kurtz for attempting to get bocce ball going for branch 69. I plan on being at Carmichael Park on Tuesday, May 26 at 9:00 for some bocce ball. Please come out and join us (held on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays, at 9am).

**Robert (BOB) Schruppf, Big SIR**

## PICNIC TIME!



Come on out to the Branch 69 Annual Picnic - Day in the Park on June 17 from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. at the Raymond & Hazel Nay Memorial Picnic Shelter IN Carmichael Park. See attached flyer for more info.

## SCOTT'S WORDS OF QUESTIONABLE WISDOM



Last month's speaker, comedian Steve Bruner, brought plenty of laughs and energy to our meeting! A seasoned standup comic, Steve connected wonderfully with the group, sharing humor, stories, and a great sense of fun that had the room smiling throughout his presentation. It was clear that Steve truly enjoyed meeting our SIR's members... and judging by the reaction, the members certainly enjoyed him right back! Thanks again to Steve for helping make our luncheon both entertaining and memorable.

For our June meeting, we continue our effort to share the interesting backgrounds and life stories of our own members, as I'll be serving as the guest speaker. I'll share highlights from my years owning and operating a chain of comedy clubs, along with behind-the-scenes stories from the world of standup comedy. Expect a few entertaining tales, some well-known name-dropping, and stories involving comedians and entertainers I had the privilege to work with over the years. It should be a fun look inside the comedy business and a chance to learn a little more about one of your fellow SIR's members!



Pic of Scott with Bob Saget and Dave Coulier

It should be a fun look inside the comedy business and a chance to learn a little more about one of your fellow SIR's members!

**Scott Edwards, Little SIR**

In the Membership Roster, some entries have an "EC" with a telephone number after it. This is the phone number for that member's Emergency Contact.



## LAST MONTH'S SPEAKERS



Big SIR Bob Schrupf and Little Sir Scott Edwards with last month's entertainer, comic Steve Bruner (center).



**APPARAL**

Get your official SIR apparel at:  
[sir.ourproshop.com](http://sir.ourproshop.com)

Shirts, hats, jackets, all with the official SIR logo at reasonable prices!

Lots of colors to choose from.

Click on the hat to order:



## JUNE BIRTHDAYS

Craig Weckman	06/01	
Sid Newman	06/02	92 Years
Tom Page	06/02	82 Years
Gregory Powell	06/02	
John Mestek	06/06	
Wesley Ellinghouse	06/07	
Steve O'Donoghue	06/07	82 Years
Gani Angeles	06/14	
Ritchie Carlson	06/14	84 Years
Pat Quinn	06/18	
Michael Brassil	06/20	
Neal McCoy	06/20	
Dan Zabronsky	06/20	
Bob Ingols	06/29	82 Years



## JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

Tim & Kathy Fuller	06/02	
Doug & Pamela Bailey	06/08	58 Years
Bruce & Lurae Riker	06/13	
Steve & Theresa Eason	06/14	51 Years
Connor & Jean Chin	06/15	
Frank & Donna Adams	06/17	54 Years
Bill & Penny Katsifolis	06/19	
Don & Catherine Agostinelli	06/20	56 Years
Ed & Jacklyn Linn	06/25	66 Years



## NEXT GENERAL MEETING

The next General Meeting will be

**JUNE 11, 2026**

At the Dante Event Center, 2330 Fair Oaks Blvd.,  
Sacramento 95825

Check-In and Social Hour: 11:00 am to 12:00  
Noon

General Meeting and Lunch: 12:00 Noon to  
2:00 pm

Scheduled Speaker: Our own Scott Edwards

**YOU'RE ALL INVITED!**



# WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

## SIR Leonard (Leo) Butler

12020 Blake Rd.  
Wilton, CA 95693  
(279) 200-1479  
leonardmichaelbutler@gmail.com  
Sponsor: Les Kurtz



Leo was born at Ft. Ord while his father served in Korea. He grew up in Northern California, mostly in Sacramento and other nearby locations. After high school, Leo joined the Air Force in 1971 and made a career there for just over 20 years in various bases, including Holland, Sicily, Turkey and Canada. His specialty was military police security, so it was natural that, after leaving the Air Force in 1991, he again did security work, this time for private companies. He also did prisoner transport work, attending Shasta College studying criminal justice, and did some long-haul truck driving for a spell. He retired for good in February of this year.

Leo loves to bowl. It's his main hobby and sports activity—he is looking forward to bowling in our SIR league next fall.

Birthday: May 19, 1952

In 2007 an 83 year old British gentleman arrived in Paris by plane. As he was fumbling in his bag for his passport a stern French lady asked if he had been to France before. The man said he had indeed been previously. The lady sarcastically said, "Then you should know to have your passport out and ready to show." The gentleman said "I didn't have to show it last time." "Impossible!" said the woman. "You British have always had to show your passports to get in France." The man responded, "Well the last time I came ashore on the beach on D-Day in 1944 I couldn't find any damn Frenchman to show it to."

## SIR Ignacio (Iggy) Rodriguez

8736 Elk Ridge Way  
Elk Grove CA 95624  
(916) 206-2860  
sparkee2860@gmail.com  
Sponsor: Dan Nelson



Iggy was born in Mexico and came to the US in 1971 while still a youngster. His family first moved to Davis and later to West Sacramento. After high school, Iggy went to work as a maintenance mechanic for a company that did service work for Montgomery Wards trucks. He started work as an apprentice electrician in 1996 and spent the rest of his career as an electrician for Sacramento County. He was injured on the job in 2018 and retired for good on injury disability in 2023.

Iggy likes to play golf, fish, camp and barbeque/meat smoking. He and his wife have two children, a boy and a girl.

Birthday: January 26, 1962  
Anniversary: April 26, 1986 to Kim



Iggy Rodriguez (Center) is welcomed into the branch by his sponsor, Dan Nelson, and Big SIR, Bob Schrupf



**Rick Hom, Regular Course**

# GOLF NEWS



**Terry Block, Progressive Golf Club**

## UPCOMING TOURNAMENTS

- June 4 – Turkey Creek – 4-Man Scramble  
 June 18 – Cherry Island - \$59 - 1st Round Club Championship  
 June 25 – The Reserve - \$67 – 2-Man/Low Net  
 July 10 (FRIDAY) – Davis GC - \$25/\$14  
 July 16 – Emerald Lakes - \$28/\$15  
 July 30 – Diamond Oaks - \$62 – Thursday Team CC

## MAY RESULTS

### **Bing Maloney (04/30) – 4-Man Shamble/2 Low Net**

1st Place Team: William Berndt, Nate Gauff, John Mes-tek, and Don Nevis

2nd Place Teams (Tied):

Terry Block, Dan Nelson, and Joe Riley

Ernie Flores, Chris Miller, Doug Riddle, and Mark Steffens

CPTs: Joe Riley, Joe Bowers, Bill Katsifolis, Chris Miller, and Dan Nelson

### **Elkhorn (05/07) - 2-Man Teams/Blind Draw**

1st Place Teams (Tied):

Ritchie Carlson & Pat Quinn

Bill Katsifolis & Rod Lukins

3rd Place Team: Rick Hom & Marty Miller

CTPs: Nate Gauff, Paul Woods, Ritchie Carlson, Joe Bowers, Doug Riddle, and Don Nevis

## UPCOMING TOURNAMENTS

- July 13 – Mather - \$60/\$40 – Ind Stroke Stableford  
 July 27 – Cherry Island - \$59 w/cart – 1st Round Club Championship

## MAY RESULTS

### **The Reserve (05/04) – 4-Person/2 Best Balls**

1<sup>st</sup> Place Team: Jim Svobodny, Marty Miller, Gary Lukins, and William Brendt

2nd Place Team: Jerry Buhlert, Pat Quimm, Dan Nelson, and Don Nevis

3rd Place Team: Terry Block, Mark Steffens, Rod Lukins, and Paul Woods

4th Place Team: Bill Katsifolis, Tom Page, Sandy Davis, and Jesse Starkey

### **May 18 – Micke Grove (05/18) – 2-Person Scramble/1 Best Ball Net**

1st Place Team, 2nd Place Team, 3rd Place Team

Flight 1: Rick Hom & Jesse Starkey, Bill Katsifolis & Rod Lukins

Flight 2: Terry Block & Miller, Jim Svobodny & Ken Sawitzky, Jerry Buhlert & William Berndt,





## BOWLING NEWS

After all the excitement of the end of our bowling season, bowling is pretty quiet currently. There are various summer activities and leagues going on now, including no-tap bowling on Fridays at noon, and summer leagues. Country Club Lanes will have all the information on these leagues.

Toward the end of June, I will start contacting the bowlers from this year and any suspected bowlers to see about their bowling plans for the 2026-2027 bowling season. If you have not bowled with us previously but you think that you might want to give it a try, send me an email and I will put you on the list.



### Other bowling information:

If you're in the league and want to practice bowl, identify yourself as a SIR league bowler at the front desk at Country Club Lanes and you can bowl for \$.50/game, an increase from the previous \$.25/game. It's still a huge bargain. Also, if you still have some of those old free bowling coupons from making splits, Country Club Lanes will continue to honor them. These special rates apply all year round.

Stay healthy, stay active.

**Tom Page, League Secretary**



## GOLF NEWS

(Continued from Page 5)

### **Wildhawk (05/21) - Modified Stableford**

*1st Place, 2nd Place, 3rd Place*

1st Flight: Jim Oblizalo, Tom Page, Nate Gauff

2nd Flight: Paul Woods & John Valdes (Tied), Terry Block

3rd Flight: Rod Lukins, Don Nevis & Ritchie Carlson & Sandy Davis (3-way tie)

CTPs: Bill Katsifolis, Gary Lukins, Nate Gauff, Doug Riddle, and Ernie Flores

### **Alister Mackenzie (05/28) - Stroke Play**

*1st Low Net, 2nd Low Net, 3rd Low Net*

1st Flight: Bill Katsifolis, Nate Gauff and Jim Svobodny (tie)

2nd Flight: Tom Page, Alex Canada, Pat Quinn and Gary Lukins (tie)

3rd Flight: Terry Block, Carl Hefner, Marty Miller and Rod Lukins (tie)

CTPs: Pat Barrett, Gary Lukins, Terry Block, Bill Katsifolis, Scott Edwards, and Marty Miller





HEAR YE,  
HEAR YE!

## OLD ROSTERS

Do you have a bunch of old SIR Membership Rosters lying around? Don't know what to do with them?



**DO NOT throw them away!** They should be shredded. They contain some sensitive information about our members. If you don't have a shredder, please give them to Bernie Moreno and he will gladly shred them for you.

---

## MEMBERSHIP DUES

Time is almost up to pay your membership dues for 2026. If they are not paid by June, your membership may be terminated. For merely \$25 a year you get to attend our fabulous monthly lunches with stimulating speakers and prizes, access to golf tournaments and bowling league, and a spiffy monthly newsletter. Just bring in your check for \$25 made payable to SIR Branch 69 and give it to our Treasurer, Hal Copperberg, or mail it to him at 8015 Gary Oak Drive, Citrus Heights, CA 95610.

---

## 2026 ROSTER CORRECTIONS

Please email roster corrections (i.e., new address, new telephone number, new spouse, new email) to Alan Weinel at [Alan.Weinel@ATT.Net](mailto:Alan.Weinel@ATT.Net) with the subject "Roster Correction".

Be sure to add the new members to your copy of the roster.

## RECRUITING AND PUBLICITY

We added two new members in May—nice work, guys. Be sure to read their bios in the newsletter.

Keep up your efforts with bringing in your friends, golf buddies and other guys to our branch. SIR Branch 69 has a lot to offer, so let's share the news with prospective members.

Little Sir Scott Edwards and Jesse Starkey are continuing their efforts to upgrade the appearance of our branch web site and opening up some social media presence for our branch.

If any members have ideas about possible recruiting measures, please let me know. We have a couple new outreach efforts to explore in the coming months, but we can always use new ideas. Let me know if you have a brainstorm to share!

I'll look forward to seeing everyone at the June luncheon.

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




---

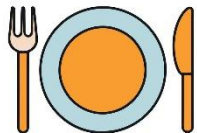
## SIR Membership Application Form

If you know someone who would like to join SIR Branch 69, download an application form to give them by clicking on the form at the right:



# BRANCH ACTIVITIES

## ACTIVITIES CHAIRMAN



## DINE-OUT

**NEXT DINE-OUT** Please join us at **Bennett's American Cooking** JUNE 23 at 6:00 PM. Bennett's is located at 2232 Fair Oaks Blvd, Sacramento, CA.

<https://www.yelp.com/biz/bennetts-american-cooking-sacramento>



RSVP, PBS Mark Steffens, call or text (916) 214-8650 or email Mark at [steffens.mark@gmail.com](mailto:steffens.mark@gmail.com)

Come enjoy a great evening with your fellow SIR members, bring a guest and make a new friend.



**PBS Mark Steffens**  
Activities Chairman



## CRIBBAGE

The Cribbage Group meets on the first and third Wednesday of the month. In June they will meet on the 3rd and 17th. We meet in the back room of Country Club Lanes at 10:00 am.

See you there and bring your friends.

**Dan Nelson, Cards Chairman**  
(916) 895-5673  
[Dan.8733@yahoo.com](mailto:Dan.8733@yahoo.com)



## TEXAS HOLD 'EM



We had a big turnout for our May Texas Hold'em poker game, with 15 players showing up. SIR-69 was well represented with Dave Bozeman; Hal Copperberg and his wife, Dolly; Tom Knoble; Brian Thurston; Dan Zabronsky; my wife, Kathy, and myself.

Our next game will be on Saturday, June 13 at 1:30 at my house. Please RSVP when you can as we have a maximum of 16 players. The cost is only \$10 and we have the tables, chairs, chips, cards - as well as some beers, soft drinks, snacks and waters available for you.



Congratulations to my wife, Kathy Schruppf, who was the top winner at our May 16 poker game.

See you on June 13 for some Texas Hold'em Poker.

**Bob Schruppf, Poker Chairman**  
5418 Lequel Way, Carmichael, CA.  
(916) 897-7114

# BRANCH ACTIVITIES



## INVESTMENT GROUP

The Investment group meets on the 4th Wednesday of the month. In June, the meeting will be on the 24th. It will be a ZOOM meeting.

In May's meeting we discussed the ramifications of SpaceX going public.

Our group has an educational orientation. All SIR members are welcome. By researching and sharing information gathered, and shared among ourselves, a safe haven is provided to those who want more knowledge about financial matters.

**Joe Cain, Investment Group  
Chairman**

**(530) 219-3709**

[jl Cain45@yahoo.com](mailto:jl Cain45@yahoo.com)



## JUNE CALANDER OF EVENTS

**June 3** - Cribbage

**June 4** - Golf - Turkey Creek

**June 11** - Branch Executive Committee (BEC) Meeting (10:00 am)

**June 11** - General Meeting and Luncheon (12 Noon)

**June 13** - Poker

**June 17** - Picnic/Day in the Park

**June 17** - Cribbage

**June 18** - Golf - Cherry Island

**June 23** - Dine-Out - Bennett's American Cooking

**June 24** - Investment Group ZOOM Meeting

**June 25** - Golf - The Reserve

## PING-PONG

Ping pong is still going strong at our two local Rec&Park Centers, Swanston Community Center at 2350 Northrup Ave., Sacramento (Mon, Wed, Fri 11am-1pm); and at Gibbons Community Center at 4701 Gibbons Dr., Carmichael (Wed, Fri 3pm-6pm).



As the weather heats up, making outdoor activities less enjoyable, and there is no SIR-69 bowling during the summer - get your exercise at either of the two indoor rec rooms mentioned above.

**.Bob Schrupf  
Ping Pong Chairman**





## SUNSHINE



**Dave Yorston** spent four or more days in Kaiser hospital toward the end of April and the beginning of May. Daves been fighting a severe bladder infection and has developed a Fistula.

**Ed Linn** spent six days or more in Sutter Hospital Cardiac Unit. He's been dealing with some Edema in his legs. His wife Jacklyn was at his side making sure he was being well cared for.

**Jerry Schroeder** was in the hospital at the beginning of May and had surgery for an intestinal blockage. He is at home now and is recuperating there. He's lost about 50 pounds. He can't wait to rejoin our lunches.

**Fred Smith:** After knee replacement surgery doctors found blood clots in both legs and two in his lung (left side). Fred's recuperating at his daughters house and with the help of some blood thinners is slowly recovering. He said he'll be on blood thinners for about 6 months, but he's taking it one day at a time.

**Ray Price** has been battling Bladder cancer for the last few months and is undergoing Chemo and Radiation Therapy.

**Jim Sprifke** is dealing with complications from a foot infection. He is now undergoing Chemotherapy at this time (9 weeks; 5 days a week) He should return to us in Oct. All the best to Jim. We can't wait to see him back out front, next to Hal.

Celebration of Life for Renee Anderson (**Tom Knoble's** long time companion) will be held at Fremont Presbyterian Church, 5770 Carlson Drive on June 4th at 12 noon.

If you know of any of our members or immediate family with health problems give me a call at (650) 240-6019, or email me at [penholder19@gmail.com](mailto:penholder19@gmail.com).

**James Aylett, Sunshine Chairman**



## DIRECTORY OF OFFICERS, DIRECTORS, AND COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

### 2026 OFFICERS

BIG SIR	ROBERT SCHRUMPF	(916) 897-7114
LITTLE SIR	SCOTT EDWARDS	(916) 267-0502
SECRETARY	BERNIE MORENO	(209) 245-6313
ASST. SECR.	ALAN WEINEL	(209) 843-1804
TREASURER	HAL COPPERBERG	(916) 880-8065
ASST. TREAS.	JIM SPRIFKKE	(209) 200-2107

### DIRECTORS

PBS LT COOPWOOD (916) 206-2732	JOHN POPADAK (916) 662-0695
PBS CONNOR CHIN (916) 601-1854	BOB CLANTON (408) 887-8449
BLAKE THOMPSON (916) 922-5227	DOUG BAILEY (916) 725-9134

### STATE OFFICERS

STATE PRESIDENT:	FRED SERENA
AREA 4 REPRESENTATIVE:	MARK STEFFENS

### RECRUITMENT, ACTIVITIES, MEMBER RELATIONS & PUBLICITY

RECRUITING/PUBLICITY/BIO	PBS TOM PAGE (916) 488-6465
ACTIVITIES	PBS MARK STEFFENS (916) 214-8650
MEMBERSHIP/INFORMATION	JOHN POPADAK (916) 662-0695

### COMMITTEE CHAIRS

PROGRAM	SCOTT EDWARDS	(916) 206-2732
NEWSLETTER	JOHN POPADAK	(916) 662-0695
CHAPLAIN	JAMES AYLETT	(650) 240-6019
ROSTER	PBS ALAN WEINEL	(209) 843-1804
AUDIT	GEORGE LANGFORD	(650) 823-5493
NOMINATING	PBS LT COOPWOOD	(916) 206-2732
ATTENDANCE	MARK KRAUT	(916) 929-3494
ORIENTATION	JOHN POPADAK	(916) 662-0695
INFORMATION	JOHN POPADAK	(916) 662-0695
SUNSHINE	JAMES AYLETT	(650) 240-6019
WEB SITE	ROSS MARTIN	(916) 427-0559
PICNIC	JERRY SCHROEDER	(916) 801-2530
ACTIVITIES	PBS MARK STEFFENS	(916) 214-8650

### SPECIFIC ACTIVITIES CHAIRMEN

THURSDAY GOLF	RICK HOM	(916) 395-7433
MONDAY GOLF	TERRY BLOCK	(916) 686-0797
BOWLING	TOM PAGE	(916) 488-6465
BOOK CLUB	JOHN P'NEAL	(916) 531-5378
CRIBBAGE	DAN NELSON	(916) 895-5673
DINE-OUT	PBS MARK STEFFENS	(916) 214-8650
INVESTMENT GP	JOE CAIN	(916) 219-3709
PICNIC	PBS JERRY SCHROEDER	(916) 801-2530
PING PONG	BS ROBERT SCHRUMPF	(916) 897-7114
POKER NIGHT	BS ROBERT SCHRUMPF	(916) 897-7114
RIVER CATS	DENNIS KRAMER	(530) 312-3896
WINE TASTING	DENNIS KRAMER	(530) 312-3896

### HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS

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

### SENIOR CERTIFICATES

PBS WARREN SENEGAL
BBS KEN TOWNS
SIR HEMAN SMITH
PBS ARNIE KELLER
SIR SIDNEY NEWMAN
SIR JOSE FERNANDEZ

### DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

PBS PAT QUINN

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.

# PICNIC 26!

## SIR Branch 69 Day in the Park Picnic

**Where: Picnic Shelter, Carmichael Park**

**When: Wednesday, June 17**

**10:00 am to 2:00 pm**

**Cost: \$10 per adult, \$5 for children under 12**



**Featuring GREAT food:**

**BBQ Brisket**

**BBQ Chicken**

**Hot Dogs**

**Potato Salad**

**Pasta Salad**

**Green Salad**

**Watermelon**

**And Pies**



**There will be Games: Bocce Ball, golf pitching contest, and we have horseshoes. And a supporting cast of thousands. Well, maybe not that much, but they all are helping.**



**Now we just need you!  
Sign up at the June Meeting!**