



Branch #49 Folsom

December 2025/January 2026

Next Luncheon: January 15, 2026 at the Robert H. Miller III Rotary Clubhouse located at 7150 Baldwin Dam Rd. in Folsom.

Speaker: Kim Hammon

Board Meeting @ 10:00 a.m.
Social Hour @ 11:00 a.m.
Golfer's Meeting @ 11:00 a.m.
Lunch @ 12:15 p.m.

2025 Officers

Big SIR	Roland Kleinman
Little SIR	Mike Panelo
Secretary	Bob Hedges
Asst. Secretary	Ed Puchi
Treasurer	Stephen Post
Asst. Treasurer	Ray Fischer
Membership	Bill Bertsch
Asst. Membership	Joel Reisman

Board of Directors

Roland Kleinman	Bill Bertsch
Mike Panelo	Ed Puchi (At-large)
Bob Hedges	Joel Reisman (At-large)
Stephen Post	

Committee Chairman

ATTENDANCE	Cory Lindholm
AUDITOR	OPEN
BEVERAGE	Jim Ramstad
BEVERAGE AIDS	John Cordero
BOOK EXCHANGE	Manny Cordero
CHAPLAIN	Gene Phelps
EDITOR	OPEN
GREETER	Ed Puchi
MARKETING	Joel Reisman
MUSIC	Fred Jacobs (PBS)
NOMINATING	Art Vallerga
PURVEYOR	OPEN
SUNSHINE	John McKim
TICKET SALES	Joe Artim (PBS)
WEBSITE	Kim Hammon

Activities Chairmen

BOWLING	Bob Collins
GOLF	Steve Sims
WINE TASTING	Dave Butt

State SIR Website
<https://www.sirinc.org/>

Branch 49 Website
<https://www.Sirinc2.org/branch49>

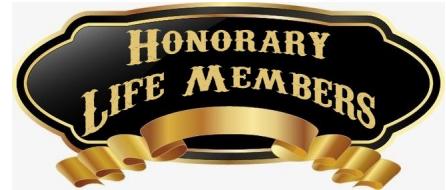


Past Big SIRs

2012	.....	Joe Lapilusa
2013	.....	Karl Ryden
2014	.....	Gary Stout
2015	.....	Fred Jacobs
2016	.....	Robert Eplett*
2017	.....	Vic Brewer
2018	.....	Ed Puchi
2019	.....	Jerry Helmey
2020	.....	Al Edwards
2021	.....	Joe Artim
2022	.....	Joe Artim
2023	.....	Allen Wong
2024	.....	Max Hartley

State SIRs

AREA 3 REPRESENTATIVE	Jim Gragg
SIR STATE OFFICERS	
PRES.	Rich Carlson
V.P.	Fred Serena
SEC.	Jeff Chin
TREAS.	Carl Mason



Karl Ryden—SHLM
Frank Donner
Joe LaPilusa
Jack DuBé emeritus
* Roy Estep
* Bob Griggs — SHLM
* Frank Reetz
* Bill Staiger— SHLM
* Gordon Vinther
* Ralph Housley
* Deceased

2026 Dues:

Please pay your 2026 dues of \$25 in the envelope provided at our next luncheon. If you won't be attending, send a check made out to "SIR Branch 49" to our treasurer, Stephen Post 632 Stonebriar Ct., El Dorado Hills, CA 95762

R.I.P. Gene

We've received confirmed memorial service information for our dear friend Gene Phelps, who passed away November 16, 2025.



Here are the details as provided by Donna Phelps:

In Memory of Gene

Date: Friday, January 31
Time: 12:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Location:
The Legacy Center at Green Valley
3004 Alexandrite Drive
Rescue, California

Gene liked to play fast. I'm sure he would have appreciated a drone accessory like the one shown:



"It's for getting the hole layout, but also has 'anti-slow golfer' capabilities."



Incoming Big SIR - Mike Panelo

A Season of Thanks and Looking Ahead

The holidays are special for many of us. I especially enjoy how the family gathers again. It's always a treat to see the smiling, familiar faces. It's interesting to discover

that the "kids" have grown into adults with careers and families of their own. They're definitely catching up to me in age. And as I've become the graying uncle, they are no longer surprised to find me settled into a quiet, comfortable sofa, resting my eyes by the end of the night.

Our annual Christmas Luncheon was a great success. As leader of the planning committee, I wish to acknowledge the great job they did: Barbara Puchi, Becky Jordan (Robin Williams' better half), Dorene and Joel Reisman, Roland Kleinman, and Tom Conrad. Your teamwork brought it all together. Barbara, in particular, deserves special thanks. Without her direction, we would have a much different event. Among her many contributions, she is the reason our prize table looks so impressive. We owe her a great deal of gratitude.

Guys, let's welcome recent inductees, David Cousins and Stan Tentnowski, along with our more recent members. We're glad you're here, and we look forward to getting to know you better in 2026. Allen Wong likes to half-kid new members that they're "the future of SIR". It's easy to envision you all keeping Branch 49 strong, active, and fun. When the time is right, we hope you'll consider getting involved in ways that work for you.

If you've joined our group, chances are you're looking for ways to get involved. Make the leap, and you may be surprised to find yourself having more fun than you expected. With that in mind, we do have a few opportunities coming up. After five years of outstanding service, Bob Hedges will be stepping down as our Secretary, and our Membership Chairman, Bill Bertsch, is also looking to pass the reins. In addition, we're hoping to introduce new activities such as pickleball and bocce, and we're looking for members willing to help organize and launch those efforts. No special expertise is required. Enthusiasm and a willingness to help go a long way.

As we close out the year, I'd also like to recognize Big SIR Roland Kleinman for his leadership throughout 2025. It's been a pleasure watching him work, and I appreciate his mentorship and encouragement. Branch 49 is better because of his leadership, and he leaves big shoes to fill.

The past year has been a blast thanks in large part to you. The memories and your friendship have been the highlights of my year. I'm honored to be a part of the Folsom SIR family. Thank you.

Wishing you and your families a joyful holiday season and a healthy, happy New Year.

Mike Panelo
Big SIR, Br 49
916-201-5668
mike.panelo@gmail.com



Incoming Little SIR—Tom Conrad

New Year, New Beginnings

Welcome to 2026! I hope you all had a good Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's. My wife and I enjoyed time with family and friends. It looks like the board did vote me in as your new Little Sir and

I am humbled by them thinking I could do the job. I will try my best not to disappoint.

As your new Little Sir here is a little bio about me: I am married to a wonderful woman, her name is Karen. She is the total opposite of the "Karen's" we hear about today! We have one grandchild, Connor, who is 15. He keeps us busy going to his high school football and baseball games. We are blessed as he only lives 10 minutes away - so we get good times with him.

I came to branch 49 in 2023 and was sponsored by Gary Vefredo. I stayed for the great golf club and members we have here.

Our last speakers were representatives from Sutter Health Park. They gave an interesting talk on the history of the ballpark and gave out some nice gifts; real MLB game balls and bobble heads. Speaking of luncheon speakers, we are always looking for speakers. If you know of somebody who you think would be interesting, please let me know. If you do not know anybody, how about letting me know of some topics you would like to hear about? I'd be glad to try and find speakers. This month our speaker is our own Kim Hammon.

We ended our 2025 golf season and as always It was great. Thanks to Steve Sims and the entire golf board to a well-run season. I enjoyed it myself and even won some money. I am looking forward to this year's season and hope to see many of our branch members on the links. Our bowling league is also going strong under Bob Collins leadership. Dave Butt is doing a great job managing our happy hour and wine tasting groups. As you can see, we have many activities going on here at branch 49, all run by volunteers! Please look for opportunities to volunteer for our branch— you will get more out of it than you put in! On that topic, we need a new branch secretary to replace Bob Hedges who has been doing a great job but would like a break. Please contact me if this may interest you.

We ended the 2025 with our annual Christmas party. It was a great success with many wonderful prizes and delicious food. If you missed it, I encourage you to make it this year.

I am looking forward to this new year as your Little Sir and getting to know all that I have not yet met. See you on the links!

Tom Conrad
Little SIR@gmail.com
(916) 997-1944
tkconrad1999



MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Membership Chairman: Bill Bertsch (916) 791-3570
workready247@hotmail.com
Asst. Membership Chairman: Joel Reisman (916) 983-2492
j.reisman@comcast.net

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

In 2025 we lost 19 members and gained 20 new members.

Thank you all for recruiting our new friends.

CURRENT MEMBERSHIP: 92

Lost Member in Nov: 1

Gene Philips

New Member in Nov: 1

Stan Tentnowski

New possible guests for Jan Lunch:

Rick Branchini
Glen Campora
Erik Carlson
David Donner

Anniversaries for Dec: 1

Tom Tseng



Welcome new members Stan Tentnowski and David Cousins!

KEEPING UP WITH CURRENT EVENTS:

Branch Marketing Plan – 2026

At the January BEC meeting, the Board approved our Branch Goals and Marketing Plan for the coming year.

The idea is simple: keep Folsom SIR Branch 49 strong, active, and welcoming by helping new members discover what we do and encouraging everyone to get involved.

Here's what we'll be focusing on this year:

- Participating in the SIR Postcards on Demand program
- Using signage at events and activities
- Sharing branch flyers in local retirement communities
- Encouraging members to personally invite friends and acquaintances
- Continuing to use our website and newsletter to keep everyone informed

This is our marketing roadmap for the year so far. If you know someone who might enjoy good fellowship and fun activities, invite them to a luncheon or event and let them see what SIR is all about.

We'll share updates on outreach efforts as the year goes on.

**Mike Panelo
Big SIR**



Branch 49 Golf Club

Chairman: Steve Sims
916-365-6062
Asst. Chairman/Handicap Chair: Don Fuller
916-791-4581
Tournament Directors: Ed Nishio, Tim Hammon & Robin Williams
Treasurer: Pat Flynn
Secretary: Robin Williams
Lead Tournament Leader: Jerry Nakamura
Rules Chairman: Roland Kleinman
Advisor/Special Projects: TBD

Well folks, and just like that there goes 2025! Overall, I feel 2025 was a great year for Sir Br. 49 Golf. We played a lot of courses; we had great weather and many winners. We are a handicap league and this year we saw a lot of real competition, on any given week a different player could win. Sadly, we had a fair number of injuries and illnesses, and we lost a few players. On the bright side, we saw a lot of players make comebacks and come back stronger than ever.

Just want to make everyone aware that we have not had a hole in one for some time, so HIO is still alive and well. One more thing, HIO counts for all sanctioned Sir Br 49 tournaments, winter or summer. We do not do POY in the winter season.

Now we head into 2026, wrapping up the winter schedule and starting the summer schedule in February. Please check the website if you have questions regarding that schedule. I want to wish everyone a very Happy New Year and I look forward to seeing many of you in the new year on the course.

WINTER SCHEDULE WINNERS:

Bartley Cavanaugh 11/10/25

Flight 1 - Brad Carter **84/70**
Flight 2 - Tom Conrad **95/71**
Flight 3 - Joe La Pilusa **98/69**

Diamond Oaks 11/18/25

Flight 1 - Steve Sims **73/66**
Flight 2 - Kim Hammon **101/69**

Wildhawk 11/24/25

Flight 1 - Pat Flynn **85/76**
Flight 2 - Robin Williams **86/70**
Flight 3 - Ray Fischer **97/74**

Mather 12/2/25

Flight 1 - Ken Davis **89/77**
Flight 2 - Don Fuller **90/72**
Flight 3 - Tim Hammon **96/74**

Woodcreek Scramble 12/8/25

1st – Flynn, Conrad & Hammon K. **58.77 / -13.23**
2nd – Butt, Hedges, Myers **58.88 / -13.12**
3rd – Pressley, Coulter, Peters, Panelo **61.39 / -10.61**
4th - Nishio, Lindholm, Vicksne **61.60 / - 10.4**

Teal Bend 12/15/25

Flight 1 - Brad Carter **88/77**
Flight 2 - Michael Vicksne **85/68**
Flight 3 - Don Fuller **95/76**

NEXT UP (WINTER SCHEDULE)

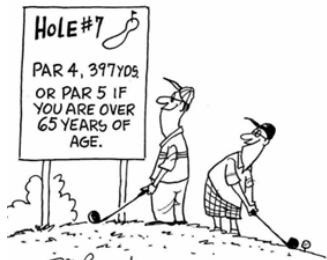
1/5/2026	Ancil Hoffman	8:30
1/12/2026	Empire Ranch	9:00
1/20/2026	Mackensie-Arcade	8:21
1/26/2026	Antelope Greens	9:00



Don Fuller presents Brad Carter with Player of the Year award.



Great turnout as usual at Cattlemen's for the annual awards luncheon.



"I love these senior citizen discounts."



Branch 49 Bowling

Bowling Chairman: Bob Collins

(916) 983-5246

robertcollins325@comcast.net



We just completed the fall session (on December 17) which began on September 3, 2025. We took a two week break for Christmas and New Years, and will start bowling again on January 7, 2026. We are still bowling at Steve Cook's Fireside Lanes in Citrus Heights on Wednesdays 12:30-3:00pm. We get 10 minutes of practice before the session starts. We bowl on lanes 1-16.

The league is called the "Senior Fun" Bowling League. The league normally consists of 16 three person teams. The league consists of many SIRs members from this and other chapters. The league is a mixed gender and "handicap" league, currently with several women (none from SIRs).

Currently, there are several Chapter 49 SIRs bowlers. Below are the current statistics (as of 12/30/25).
NOTE— ALAN WONG'S TEAM TOOK FIRST PLACE!! (The handicap really helps!)

Bowlers	Team	Avg	High Game	High Series	Place (of 16)	
Allen Wong	Nuggets	139-	187	474	1	\$\$\$
Jim Boles	Beer Frame	130-	181	455	9	
Ron Peters	Young at Heart	138+	204	465	8	
Mike Panelo	Young at Heart	150-	205	527	8	
John McKilm	Has Beens	144+	179	503	11	
Ray Jerd	Has Beens	148+	207	524	11	
Bob Collins	Has Beens	154+	210***	546***	11	

(+ means increased, - means decreased, = means stayed the same. *** means current leader)

Despite inconsistent and some continued "low" scores, we ARE having fun.....or so I'm told. (More beer and the better you bowl, = more fun.) To put the scores in perspective, currently in this session the high individual game in the league is 224, high scratch individual series score is 632, high scratch team score is currently 589, high scratch team series score is 1667.

The "handicap" is now based on a "raw score" of 220, up from 210 last session. Most of our chapter bowlers in the league consider a "good" raw average anything above 165, and a series to be 500 or more. As I have previously reported, several of our SIRS bowlers seem to all be working on increasing our handicap. (Yeah, you read that right!.) The handicap, makes things competitive. Our bowlers are doing better overall.

Each week consists two teams competing against each other for 3 games. The better you bowl, (or depending on how much beer you drink), the more fun you have! The cost to bowl each week is \$15.00. Payment must be made even if you miss a session. The league also has a raffle each session which helps to fund the season ending prizes "pot of gold." There are money prizes for best teams, best bowler, high game, high series, high scores among others, at the end of each season (Spring, summer, winter). We will not bowl during the Christmas and New Years weeks.

Scoring for team placement consists of 1 point for each team game "win" (including handicap), and 2 points for the team with the high series score (including handicap) for each week. A team can get 0 to 5 points each week. Each week the standings are based on the number of points a team accumulates throughout the season. Prizes are distributed at the end of each "season."

The bad news is we are currently full and not accepting substitutes, sorry. **Bob Collins- bowling coordinator for Chp 49** Be safe out there. **Good luck and good bowling.**



The Social Corner
Dave Butt (408) 295-9933
davidwbutt@gmail.com

Our last happy hours were held on November 14 at Land Ocean on Bidwell and December 12 at Gekkeikan for sake.



November 20, 2025 Luncheon



L/R: Don Marnach, Jerry Thomas, Ron Ness, Jerry Nakamura, Don Fuller, Bob Hedges



L/R: Gary Stout, Bob Losik, Ed Puchi, Fred Jacobs, John Chegia, Jerry Hudson



L/R: Art Vallerga, Tom Conrad, Steve Bennett, Dave Ward, Jim Reed (Not pictured - Scottie Scheffler)

2025 ANNUAL HOLIDAY LUNCHEON!



