

Officers

President: Lee Lamp

Vice President: Morgan Akin

Secretary: Cris Andrews

Asst Sec: Gerry Dodge

Treasurer: Rix Callaway

Asst Treasurer: Ken Timmerman

Directors

Dennis Compomizzo

Barrie Lee

Sid Nobles

Chuck Spafford

Administrative Leaders

Membership: Phil Perry

Membership Asst: Tom Ward

Chaplain: Gerry Dodge

Facilities: Chuck Spafford

Membership: Phil Perry

Nominating Chair: Cris Andrews

Newsletter: Lee Lamp

Raffle: Jim McClelland

Sunshine: Len Napoli

Publicity: Jim McMahan

Marketing: Jerry Sanchez

Sergeant At Arms: Tom Merrow

Teller of Tales: Darrel Elliot

VOLUME 40 NO 12 December, 2024

SIR

Newsletter



Three Shastas
Branch 129
Redding, CA

The Pres Sez'

It's December and this will be my final column during a 6 year run as your Branch President. At the Christmas Luncheon on December 11th we will induct a new President along with the remainder of the Branch Executive Committee. It has been my honor to represent all of you. I'm not going anywhere. I'll just be continuing to serve in a different capacity. On occasion, as requested by your new President, I will MC the luncheons. I will be serving on the SIR Inc Board of Directors as Vice President. Part of my responsibilities there include providing support to not only the President but also the 17 Area Representatives. These are men who we ask to work closely with branches in their assigned areas so they can better understand the direction SIR Inc hopes to take us. Our principal focus this year is on increasing visibility in the communities we support while working to grow and also target a younger group of men to lead us in the years ahead. I genuinely love what this organization offers our community. A group that focuses on encouraging members to remain active in our later years in order to enhance their lifestyle, remain connected with other seniors, and extend your life. I will also still be scheduling and managing the 18 hole golf activities this year with hope of some welcome assistance and of course Little League will still be a big part of my life. I don't have any grands playing in the league but youth sports will always find a home near my heart. Thank you all for the encouraging words throughout my terms. Thank you all for putting up with my stories. And mostly, thank you all for filling my life with friendship and camaraderie, laughter and companionship. I look forward to continuing all, just in a different way.

Monthly Meeting*First Thursday of the month**Elks Lodge*

Meeting/Speaker: 11:00 - 12:00

*Dec subject to change for holidays

Attendance is Important

Guest
Speaker:

No December
Regular Meeting

State Officers 2025

State President	Rich Carlston Br 8	Board Area Rep #3	Fred Serena Br 26
Vice President	Lee Lamp Br 129	Dir State Documents	Bruce Corwin Br 159
Secretary	Jeff Chin Br 103	Dir State Activities	open
Treasurer	Carl Mason Br 88	Dir Marketing/Comm	Andy Danver Br 35
Chief Information Officer	Kevin King Br 95	State Advisor	open
Board Area Rep #1	open	Legal Advisor	open
Board Area Rep #2	Bruce Corwin Br 159	AR Coordinator	Fred Serena Br 26

Lunch Bunch

by Duane Nelson



Come out and join us on December 18th at 11:30am if you don't have other plans. You can enjoy the Buffet at GoodTimes Pizza in Palo Cedro. If you have questions or suggestions please contact me (email bandan@msn.com or call 530-547-5157).

Activity	Chair	Telephone	Email
Book Exchange	Len Napoli	530-547-4201	lenandgail@frontiernet.net
Golf - 18 Hole	Lee Lamp	530-921-1375	lel4355@yahoo.com
Golf - 9 Hole	Bob Goetz	530-245-0684	lakehead6@gmail.com
Lunch Bunch	Duane Nelson	530-547-5157	bandan@msn.com
Bocce Ball	Dennis Compomizzo	530-356-9966	dennysz71@yahoo.com
Publicity Events	Jim McMahan/Jerry Sanchez	530-953-3151 530-925-2409	jimduedranch213@icloud.com huerojerry@yahoo.com

ATTENTION: The next General Membership Luncheon is January 2nd at 11am.

Welcoming New Members 2024 Phil Perry, Membership Chair

The following individuals all joined our Branch during the 2024 calendar year. Join me in welcoming them. This is a new (and long overdue) addition to the newsletter. It will be a running total through the year. We have grown to 103 members with at least one to be added in January (no meeting in December).

<i>Name</i>	<i>Sponsor</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Sponsor</i>
<i>Richard Chapman 3/24</i>	Larry Welch	<i>James McMahon 3/24</i>	Hal Leininger
<i>Tim Holmquist 5/24</i>	Steve Renier	<i>Greg Deptuck 5/24</i>	Don Arnold
<i>Dennis Ward 6/24</i>	Chuck Spafford	<i>James Brown 6/24</i>	Lee Dickey
<i>Clark Moorhead 7/24</i>	Tom Vlahos	<i>Greg Laam 8/24</i>	Mike Deay
<i>David Laam 8/24</i>	Mike Deay	<i>Bob Watt 9/24</i>	None listed
<i>Mike Smith 9/24</i>	Elks Newsletter	<i>David Mosunich 9/24</i>	Chuck Cotten
<i>John Bettes 10/24</i>	Gerry Dodge	<i>Jerry Sanchez 10/24</i>	Enjoy Magazine
<i>Lynn Leistinger 10/24</i>	Dave Laam	<i>Steve Fox 11/24</i>	Past Member
<i>Don Streetman 11/24</i>	Past Member	<i>Phillip Rubalcava 11/24</i>	Lee Lamp
<i>Jim Griggs</i>	Steve Renier	<i>Pat Casady</i>	reinstatement

[Share this newsletter with your friends and help us grow the membership!](#)

SIR Branch 129 Facebook page link.

<https://www.facebook.com/socialactivitiesformen/>

SIR Branch 129 Private Facebook page link.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/401463741647384/>

For more information on Zoom: Go to

<https://sirinc.org/Zoom/LearningZoom.pdf>

State SIR Newsletter "Happenings".

<https://sirinc.org/newsletters/>



Computer Group

While there is no computer meeting, it does not mean there is no help....call the Lee and maybe, just maybe he can help.



Treasurer Report by Rix Callaway

I would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas. We have no meeting this month. However, we do have a **Christmas luncheon on December 11th**. Those who still wish to attend you **MUST** call me at 530-262-3869 and make arrangements to deliver me your check. **DO NOT** mail them now. I will not get them in time for the December 4th cut off. Hope to see you there.

The next luncheon is January 2nd, 2025. **We will begin collecting dues** which unfortunately have risen to **\$50** per year. Still a great deal for membership in this fun organization.

Again, please check in for the monthly luncheon even if you are not paying for lunch so we have an accurate count. The bills are paid badge#151 and the account is balanced. See you at the Christmas Party

Birthdays in December

Rix Callaway	Dec 21st	John McCue	Dec 14th
Ed Grinton	Dec 16th	Len Napoli	Dec 2nd
Lon Harris	Dec 3rd	Dennis Ward	Dec 28th
Tim Holmquist	Dec 16th		



Recruiting Efforts



Jim McMahan and Jerry Sanchez arranged to have an informational booth set up for the Cottonwood Christmas event held on Nov 30th. Pictures are Sid Nobles who showed up to help along with Jim McMahan. We are scheduled to participate at the 30th Annual Palo Cedro Country Christmas Event on Friday, Dec 6th from 4pm-8pm. The event is held at Palo Cedro Park. Come out and enjoy the festivities while also giving Jim and Jerry a hand greeting folks and sharing information about our Branch.

Dec/Jan Calendar of Events

Activity	Date/Time	Meeting Forum
18 Hole Golf	Dec 2nd, 9:30am	Gold Hills
Christmas Luncheon	Dec 11th, 11am	Sons of Italy
Lunch Bunch	Dec 18th, 11:30am	GoodTimes Pizza, Palo Cedro
Bocce	Who knows...maybe it dries out and we can play! (one can dream)	
BEC	Jan 2nd, 9:15am**	Elks
General Membership Luncheon	Jan 2nd, 11:00am	Elks (arrive early to mingle)
Lunch Bunch	Jan 15th, 11:30am	GoodTimes Pizza, Palo Cedro
Bocce	Who knows...maybe it dries out and we can play! (one can dream)	
**Note the earlier time for the BEC meeting. First of the year agenda is full.		

Sunshine Report By Len Napoli

December: A month of lights, snow, coziness, and feasts; time to make amends and tie up loose ends; finish what you started and thank the Lord for all we've been given.

It's also time to think of what special gift to give that special someone in your life. At our age, we all seem to have everything we need, so I suggest looking into maybe a massage, or pedicure and a spa treatment has always been a winner.

Good luck!

A blessed Christmas to all!



Bocce by Dennis Compomizzo

Winter weather has arrived with lots of rain, which we desperately need. The bocce courts are flooded and covered with leaves and other debris, as you can see in the photo. We won't be playing bocce until spring when the temperatures warm up and dry out the courts. Once the courts are usable, a Constant Contact announcement will be sent to all the SIR's members approximately one week prior to the play date. I hope to see you at the next SIR's meeting and luncheon. Last but not least, have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

If you have any questions, call, text, or email. 530-356-9966
dennysz71@yahoo.com.



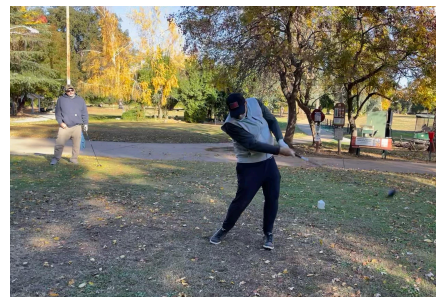
9 Hole Golf Report by Bob Goetz

As 2024 is nearing its end, we have played the last 9-Hole Golf event of the year. After a 4-year hiatus we returned to Churn Creek Golf Course on November 6th. The good news is that the greens have vastly improved since the last time we played there. The one thing that I forgot about Churn Creek is that if you play in November leaves are everywhere. We picked a day where the winds were playing with us, hiding our balls in the middle of the fairway and blowing our hats off. It was fun. Our schedule for 2025 will include Churn Creek in the rotation.

As we close out this year, I truly want to thank all of the SIRs and their guests for making this year's 9-Hole events fun and memorable. Golf is a wonderful way to spend time with old friends and meet new friends. I will publish the 2025 9-Hole schedule in the February newsletter.



Steve Irej prepares to tee off the 4th tee at Churn Creek. It was windy and he had to put his cap on backwards to keep it on.



Lee Lamp tees off for the first time since Feb. Look at that form! Phillip Rubalcava, a new member, looks on in the background.

Inviting a guest to join an activity with us is a great way to grow our membership and several of you have brought guests recently...Turn them into members! It's easier than ever to fill out an application. Send them to our online application web site: <https://sirinc2.org/branch129/>



18 Hole Golf Report By Lee Lamp

Our lone event for November was rained out. What a surprise as we only suffered through an atmospheric river for much of the month dropping record rain. Lord knows we always need the rain to fill our lakes.

We had 19 scheduled events this year of which 2 were cancelled due to weather (1 event to be played on Dec 2nd). That was the least amount of 18 hole events in several years however the attendance has been lower than in years past. I'll be working on the 2025 schedule in the weeks to come with the first event typically planned to be scheduled for sometime in February. I'll be looking to schedule the same number of events (give or take 1-2). There were 9 skins awarded (B. Monaghan x2, G. Ephland x2, L. Leistinger x2, G. Laam x2. M. Deay)

One more thing...if you have not paid your NCGA Membership dues for 2025 and you are a member of the Branch 129 Golf Club please get a check to me ASAP. If you do not renew (\$49) by the last week of December you will be removed from the club and be unable to post scores for your handicap. Yes, you can get added back in, but only upon payment of the dues.

Next up is Gold Hills Dec 2nd. I will accept late signups but you have to hurry!

Branch 129 Historical Tidbits Submitted by Cris Andrews

As Branch 129 Secretary since 2013, I have records going back to the early days of our branch. Our branch was formed in 1985 and the first Big Sir was Dick Gray. He served as Big Sir for the year 1985 and 1986. Some of us know that SIR was formed in the Spring of 1958 in the Bay Area by Damian Reynolds and three friends. On July 3rd of 1958, 18 men met in San Mateo for lunch. That first group of SIRs set five guidelines:

1. This is to be a luncheon club for men, retired from their usual full-time occupation.
2. No dues, no fees, no assessments, except contributions at each luncheon to cover expenses.
3. Espouse no politics, religion, or sect.
4. For membership, men must be sponsored by a current member and attend at least one meeting.
5. Once a month a speaker will be invited and each member will pay his own expenses.

Each branch had to be sponsored by another branch. Branch 84 in Chico sponsored Branch 129. In February of 1985, the Chico SIR folks met with Mel Stromberg, Bob St. Clair, and Dick Gray and agreed to sponsor Branch 129. At that time a branch had to have at least 25 members for a probational charter. By December of 1985 Branch 129 had over 100 members which qualified Branch 129 to have a full charter. At one point in our history Branch 129 set a self-imposed membership limit of 235 members (presumably because no facility could handle more than that for lunch).

NASCAR/INDY CAR Report by Barrie Lee



10/27

The Nascar Cup Series race today was at Homestead/Miami Speedway. It was truly a great race. Team Penske didn't qualify very well, and it looked like Toyota and Chevrolet were going to be the main feature. Denny Hamlin, Ryan Blaney, Tyler Reddick, and Chase Elliot were below the cut line to reach the final four. So it wasn't a surprise to see them all at the front of the race at one point or another. Denny Hamlin won one of the first stages and looked hard to beat. Chase Elliot led more laps today than he ever has at this track. Then Ryan Blaney climbed up to the lead from his 20th starting position. The last stage of the race was a classic. Blaney faired well and led many laps during the final 50 laps, but Larson, Elliot, Hamlin, and others weren't going to quit without a fight. And fight they did. Larson took himself out by being over aggressive and hit the wall. The final 10 laps saw Blaney, Reddick, and Hamlin duel for the finish. It was great. I was pulling for Blaney and thought he had it, but Reddicks car had the extra speed on the final lap and took the lead from Blaney to win the race and grab his ticket into the final four. Blaney was 2nd, and Hamlin 3rd. Toyota, Ford, Toyota. Quite frankly, I don't like Toyota but I do like Tyler Reddick, because he's a great driver and comes from Corning, Ca. Next week at Martinsville will decide the final four drivers that will compete for the championship at Phoenix Raceway. Only two more races for the year in Nascar. If you haven't watched it before, check it out.

11/3

I didn't believe that we could be treated to two great races in a row, but I was wrong. Chase Elliot started up front and showed everyone that he really wanted to win. Rick Hendricks Racing had all four of their cars running up front during the race and I believed they would have at least two of their drivers in the final four. I had picked Ryan Blaney to make the final four and didn't think Joey Logano would be there. Because Tyler Reddick won last week and Joey won the week before, they both were already in the last race of the year, running for the championship. That left two spots to fill and only a handful of drivers able to complete that task, either by winning the race or making it in on points. The lead changed numerous times and several drivers were on the verge of joining Joey and Tyler. However, with a never give up mind set, Ryan Blaney turned out to be too strong to stop. He fought a major battle during the final 100 laps to move to the front with less than 20 laps remaining. He went on to win and moved from 7th place in the points, to making the final four with his win. That left only one spot left to fill, and despite two drivers with multiple wins during the year, both were down to the wire to see who would join the others in the final four. Those drivers were Christopher Bell driving for Joe Gibbs Racing in the #20 Toyota and William Byron driving for Rick Hendricks Racing in the #24 Camaro. So on the final lap Bell had to pass the #23 car of Bubba Wallace in order to make the cut on points. Bell saw an opening and went for it but carried too much speed into the corner and hit the wall. What happened next created a controversy that Nascar had to deal with. Bell finished with a +0 and Byron finished with a -0 in the points, making Bell the last driver to make it in. But ever since a race in 2022 when Ross Chastain in the #1 Camero hit the wall and floored his car using the wall to help him pass several cars to finish in front of many of his competitors, Nascar had banned that tactic. As a coincidence, Chastain pulled this tactic at the same racetrack and the same weekend as this year, but two years prior. Please don't misunderstand, it was truly a major shock to everyone that he had the presence of mind to pull that off and finish ahead of so many other drivers including Denny Hamlin who was about to make the round of four. The idea came from all the

simulators drivers use to practice driving different tracks prior to the actual event. The problem for Bell was that in an effort to move away from the wall in a turn, you really have to slow your speed and turn the steering wheel hard to the left. Once you have separation, you can then accelerate. His desire to avoid falling back was to continue his speed while still trying to move from the wall. In car video shows him steering sharply to the left as he hits the wall but he ends up "riding the wall" for a short distance. Nascar had to determine several different issues about the last lap and "wall riding" was a main issue. As it turned out, they took his finishing position away from him and moved him back in the finishing order, therefore handing the last opening to William Byron. The race results took over 30 minutes with everyone anxious for the final determination. We now have our final four and the shootout takes place next Sunday at the Phoenix Raceway, in Avondale, Arizona. Hope to have you aboard. Then Tuesday morning I heard that two Chevy drivers were discussing on their radios about blocking Brad Kesolowski and allowing William Byron to make the final four. Nascar had better find a way to keep their sport ethical or they might just lose their fan base.

11/10

As I'm watching the pre-race coverage of the last race of the year for the Nascar Cup Series, they just announced the passing of Bobby Allison. I spent a couple of years crewing for Bobby when he was driving for Roger Penske, in both the Cup Series and the IndyCar series. He will be remembered in Nascar history as one of the best of all time. Born in 1937, the same year as Roger Penske and Mark Donohue, he passed this month of 2024. I remember asking Bobby one time about how he felt about driving an Indy Car compared to his Cup ride. His honest answer to me was, Indy Cars scared the crap out of him. It's a sad day for me to be sure. He was a good friend of Bill Schmit of Redding, Ca. I first met Bill after the Winston West series race in 1975 at Riverside Raceway when I crewed for Bobbys own Chevy team, with his father acting as crew chief. We were in the bar at the Holiday Inn that evening, still sporting our teams uniforms. Bill came in and came up to us wanting to meet all of us. I told Bill that we should be the ones wanting to meet him, since he had just won the race. Bill and his wife (who owns Design Time and Tile) on 273 would join Bobby and fly together in Bobby's twin engine airplane to go fishing out of state. Bobby will always be remembered for his big heart and driving prowess.

The race today has been a tribute to the four drivers that made it into the final group of four. Tyler Reddick fell short of his goal, but was never out of the top ten. Penske Racing drivers, Ryan Blaney and Joey Logano were the stars of the show. Even though William Byron stayed right on their bumpers throughout the race, he was unable to seal the deal for Hendricks Racing. I had picked Ryan to win, but was extremely proud of Joey's victory since he is a terrific individual, a hell of a driver, and is now one of only a handful of drivers that have captured three Nascar Cup Series during their career. Ryan is younger at age 30 and will win again sooner rather than later. I can't tell you how proud I am for Roger and Kathy Penske who both mean so much to me. Joey won, and Ryan finished second, closely followed by William Byron. I believe Tyler finished in sixth place. I hope you saw the race. Until 2025, enjoy the off season.

Free Lunch

Don't forget that a badge number is hidden in this newsletter. If you find that and correctly identify that to Rix (our treasurer) at the time you are checking in for lunch at the next Membership Luncheon your meal will be free!