

Officers

President: Barrie Lee

Vice President: Morgan Akin

Secretary: Cris Andrews

Asst Sec: Gerry Dodge

Treasurer: Rix Callaway

Asst Treasurer: Ken Timmerman

Directors

Dennis Compomizzo

Steve Irey

David Yorton

Lee Lamp

Don Arnold

Administrative Leaders

Membership: Phil Perry

Membership Asst: Tom Ward

Chaplain: Gerry Dodge

Facilities: Sid Nobles

Nominating Chair: Cris Andrews

Newsletter: Lee Lamp

Raffle: Jim McClelland

Sunshine: Len Napoli

Publicity: Jim McMahon

Marketing: OPEN

Sergeant At Arms: Tom Merrow

Teller of Tales: Darrel Elliot

VOLUME 41 NO 10 October, 2025

SIR 129

Newsletter



Three Shastas
Branch 129
Redding, CA

The Pres Sez'

I wrote a column last week that included a thoughtful message about Charlie Kirk. I sent it in to be my October Pres Sez column and asked a couple of close friends to let me know if it was inappropriate. Even though my thoughts were pure and kind hearted, even the thought of impropriety to some in our branch made me remove that presentation. We avoid religion, politics, and inappropriate language within our organization. I hope you all appreciate that your officers and directors are here for all of you. With that said, here we are in October already. Few events each year mean as much as our yearly Christmas Luncheon. Putting it together looks fairly easy but a lot of work goes into that great event. We've established a day and time for this year, again at the Sons & Daughters of Italy. We'll meet between 10:30 & 11:00 AM on Wednesday, December 17th. We will have tickets available next month at the October 2nd luncheon meeting. We would like to ask each of you to step up and buy your tickets sooner, rather than later. It will help us out a lot. We're looking at good weather for the next few weeks, so let's get out there and enjoy our branch activities. We encourage you to attend as many fun outings as possible and take advantage of all we provide. I also want to invite any of you that would like to see your BEC in action, please come to the Elks around 9:30 any 1st Thursday of the month. Someone has to keep an eye on your board to make sure we show up.
Cont' next page

Monthly Meeting*First Thursday of the month*Elks Lodge

Meeting/Speaker: 11:00 - 12:00

Lunch follows.

*Dec subject to change for Annual Christmas Lunch

Attendance is Important

Guest
Speaker:

Travis Menne,
City of
Redding
Community
Services
Director

Cont' from page 1 There's a lot of turmoil going on in our country right now, but we'll get through it and we'll become better citizens for how we handle our problems. I want to thank all of our members that attend our monthly meetings. It means you care and it makes us proud to do our jobs. See you on the 2nd.

State Officers 2025

State President	Rich Carlston Br 8	Board Area Rep #3	Fred Serena Br 59
Vice President	Fred Serena Br 59	Dir State Documents	Bruce Corwin Br 159
Secretary	Jeff Chin Br 103	Dir State Activities	Michael Lee Br 128
Treasurer	Carl Mason Br 88	Dir Marketing/Comm	Andy Danver Br 35
Chief Information Officer	Ramesh Thadani Br 98	Dir Branch Support	John Farcich Br 1
Board Area Rep #1	Jerry Morrow Br 172	State Advisor	Derek Southern Br 8
Board Area Rep #2	Bruce Corwin Br 159	Parliamentary	Roy Hodgkinson Br 146

Lunch Bunch by Duane Nelson



The next event is scheduled for Oct 15th. 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). Of course you can add to your phones calendar with an alert and that would help 😊

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 Watt	530-227-4470	wattclan1954@gmail.com
Lunch Bunch	Duane Nelson	530-547-5157	bandan@msn.com
Bocce Ball	Dennis Compomizzo	530-356-9966	dennysz71@yahoo.com
Horseshoes	OPEN		

**The next General Membership Luncheon is
October 2nd, 11am at the Elks.**

Guest Speaker by Morgan Akin

This month's Guest Speaker is Travis Menne, City of Redding Director of Community Services. This wide ranging department includes Recreation, Civic Auditorium, California Soccer Park, Redding Sports Park, Redding Rodeo, and the Parks Department.

Welcoming New Members 2025 Phil Perry, Membership Chair

We started this newsletter entry last year and will continue a new tradition of announcing new members as they are inducted.

The following individuals all joined our Branch during the 2025 calendar year. Join me in welcoming them. It will be a running total through the year.

<i>Name</i>	<i>Sponsor</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Sponsor</i>
Mitch Crowe	Jack McAuliffe	Steve Martinez	John McCue
Earl Poytress	Mike Smith	Brent Bryer	Greg Ephland
Greg Hartley	Guys from Grape Ranch	Charles Ross	Member of Elks
John Rowell	A members discussion	Michael Lamonica	

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

SIR Branch 129

<https://sirinc2.org/branch129/>

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

<https://sirinc.org/>



Birthdays in October

John Bettes	Oct 13	Lynn Leistinger	Oct 28
Chuck Cotten	Oct 20	Phil Perry	Oct 18
John Crowley	Oct 19	Mark Robison	Oct 4
Greg Ephland	Oct 2	Bob Watt	Oct 10
Mike Lamonica	Oct 13	badge 68	





Treasurer Report by Rix Callaway

It's October and that brings us to the last quarter of 2025. It's also a good time to bring in new members—dues are waved for the rest of the year. So bring a friend as a guest and buy him lunch. Maybe he will want to join. See you, and a friend, at the meeting and remember to please CHECK IN even if you are not paying for lunch so we have an accurate count. The bills are paid and the account is balanced



Sunshine Report By Len Napoli

I went to visit Tom VandeVenter at Marquis Rehab, as he fell and is recovering from a fractured tail bone & vertebrae. He's in good spirits and has a great attitude, but will need your prayers for recovery.

We're all expecting fall and getting the rakes out, back east Oct. 13th is Columbus day and the peak of the fall colors. It's well worth the trip back there to experience it.

This month is also Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Many of us have had family members go through this cancer treatment procedure, and we hope are blessed with successful results.

It's a good reminder to wear pink to show your support.

Every month has its true nature, but October lends itself to something sad and beautiful. When you think about it, it's the ending and beginning of new things.

So here's to welcoming those new beginnings.



Bocce by Dennis Compomizzo

The bocce courts have been resurfaced by the Sons and Daughters of Italy for the Paisano Days bocce tournaments that took place in September. The courts are really nice and the ball is rolling well. Our game last week, proved the resurfacing was a great success. The schedule for the next two months will be October 10th and the 24th and November 7th and the 21st. These dates may be rescheduled or cancelled depending on weather and court conditions. If the October and November temperatures are mild, the start time will be moved from 9:00 AM to 10:00 AM. Please add these dates to your calendar. The courts are located in South City Park next to the Shasta County Library with the entrance off of Grape Street. I will send out a Constant Contact announcement to all the SIR's membership, approximately five days prior to the bocce game. I hope to see a lot of SIR's with their family and friends come out and enjoy a wonderful social activity and a little team competition. I'm looking forward to seeing everyone at the next Sir's meeting and luncheon in October.



Oct/Sep Calendar of Events

Activity	Date/Time	Meeting Forum
BEC	Oct 2nd, 9:30am	Elks
General Membership Luncheon	Oct 2nd, 11:00am	Elks
9 Hole Golf	Oct 9th, 9:00am	Grape Ranch
Bocce	Oct 10th, 10:00am	South City Park
18 Hole Golf	Oct 13th, 9:00am	Gold Hills
Lunch Bunch	Oct 15th, 11:30am	GoodTimes Pizza, Palo Cedro
Bocce	Oct 24th, 10:00am	South City Park
18 Hole Golf	Oct 30th, 10:00am	Riverview
BEC	Nov 6th, 9:30am	Elks
General Membership Luncheon	Nov 6th, 11:00am	Elks
Bocce	Nov 7th, 10:00am	South City Park
18 Hole Golf	Nov 12th, 9:00am	Tierra Oaks
Lunch Bunch	Nov 19th, 11:30	GoodTimes Pizza, Palo Cedro
Bocce	Nov 21st, 10:00am	South City Park

Branch 129 Historical Tidbits Submitted by Cris Andrews

From October 2000 "SIR'S UPDATE"

Looking at our Branch 129 newsletter, "SIR'S UPDATE" from October 2000, I was interested in Big Sir Ed Duggan's "Big Sir Says". In his column, among other things, he talked about the annual Christmas Party at the Sons of Italy. And he was pitching the sale of tickets to the December event. The tickets were \$10 each and the Board of Directors (what is now the Branch Executive Committee or BEC) provided complimentary wine at all the tables. He wrote *"...be sure to buy your tickets at either the October or November SIR Luncheon."* Little has changed except the price and the complimentary wine!

Big Sir Duggan ended his column for October 2000 by reporting that *"...SIR Branch 129 is alive and very well indeed. Presently there are forty (40) prospective members waiting for induction. This proves we have the best Chapter in Northern California, thanks to each of you"* (the membership was capped at two hundred).

9 Hole Golf Report by Bob Watt

Our next 9-Hole event is Thursday, Oct 9th, at Grape Ranch Golf Course (9am). This is the final event of the year. We were previously scheduled to play Lake Redding as our final event but the course was not in very good shape. The full schedule is on the SIRS website at <https://sirinc2.org/branch129/activities/9-hole-golf/>.

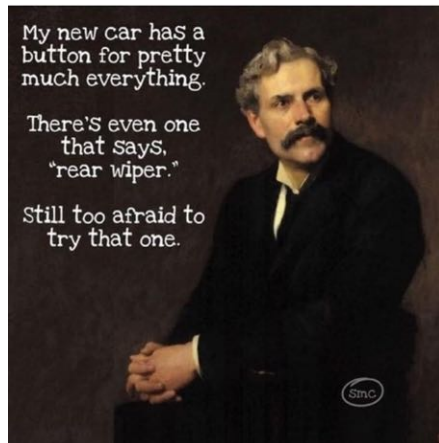


HOW TO SIGN UP TO PLAY

If you are on the 9-Hole Golf distribution list you will be sent a Constant Contact email invitation to play the 9-Hole event about 5 days before the playing date. If you are not on the distribution list, please contact me to have your name added. You can contact Bob Watt in one of three ways, email wattclan1954@gmail.com, call or text Bob at (530-227-4470). When texting, please include your name in the text. As always you can invite a spouse, son, daughter, grandchild or friends to play with you. In addition, if you would like to join with fellow SIRS members after the round for a beverage or food you are always welcome.

Hope to see you on the course.

Don't forget to look for a badge number and if it's yours you get a free lunch at the next General Membership Luncheon.





Racing Report by Barrie Lee

(formally NASCAR/INDY)

This is the second month of my new approach to dealing with auto racing, on a professional basis. I've been told during the past four months by members of our branch that they don't always understand the nuances of auto racing. So this month I'm going to explain some of the history of NASCAR. The National Association of Stock Car Racing was started back in the late 1940s. The France family created this sanctioning body and has grown it to what it is today. Since the beginning of sedan racing it was an offshoot of the illegal whiskey business. Most early stock car drivers were hauling moonshine for a living wage. Vehicle manufacturers were plenty back in the day, including the Hudson Hornet in several races in the 1950s. Most early stock car racing took place in the south/east portion of the country. Dah! That's where they made moonshine. One of the most famous drivers in the sport was Junior Johnson. He spent some jail time for his whiskey deliveries early on, and turned to raising chickens later to avoid returning to the lock up. His chicken farm company sponsored his efforts while he drove and continued on when Junior hired Cale Yarborough some years later. They had a great winning percentage. Ford and Chevy became the prominent manufacturers along with the Chrysler Auto Company that ran Dodge cars for many years, including those special cars with a rear wing for high speed race tracks like Daytona. Those cars became so famous that they were outlawed by NASCAR after only a two year run. They now can sell at auto auctions for more than a million dollars per vehicle. Nascar exploded in popularity over the years and the France family took advantage of their growth by creating more tracks throughout the country, including California. They also started running on two road racing venues during their growth period. Watkins Glen in New York state was one, and Riverside Raceway in southern California was also a favorite. My first race for Penske Racing was a CanAm race at Riverside, Ca. with Mark Donohue as the race winner. He also won 7 of 9 races that year (1973) which killed the series after one more year. They turned the series into the Formula 5000 program with open wheel racing machines with huge American made V-8s as their power. I loved their looks and speed. Nascar currently has a new format with races consisting of three stages. They run approximately 36 races a year and they have a playoff program that makes Nascar a fun venue for all to follow. The current three main manufacturers of cars are Ford, Chevy and Toyota. I didn't like losing Chrysler but I really didn't like seeing Toyota coming into the series, but look at the numbers and you can't keep such a huge company out of the series. Enough for this month and I'll need to follow up next month with more details about Nascar. So you can see what I'm trying to do with the new column and I can only hope you enjoy the read.

Trivia submitted by Eric Measles

The word "**buttlload**," often used colloquially to mean "a large amount," actually has roots in old English wine measurement systems. A "butt" was a real unit used to measure large quantities of liquid, especially wine or ale, during medieval times and into the early modern era. **One butt equals two hogsheads**, and each hogshead typically holds 63 gallons (in the imperial system), **making a butt exactly 126 gallons**. This unit was most commonly used in England and parts of Europe, especially in reference to shipping and storing wine, beer, and other liquids in wooden casks or barrels. These massive barrels were known as butts (yes, that's the actual term), and they often appeared in old taverns and ships' cargo. Today, the term survives mostly as slang or humor — "a buttlload of something" — but it does in fact originate from a formal measurement that once held legal and commercial significance.



18 Hole Golf Report By Lee Lamp

Our first event of September was up north at Mount Shasta Resort. Great weather welcomed 22 players and all appeared to enjoy the day. The course was in great shape but the trees sure got in the way. There were 10 skins awarded (J McCue x2, D Laam, L Lamp, G Laam, B Bryer, M Deay, P Casady, L Leistinger, L Dolan).

1st Flight	2nd Flight	3rd Flight
Brent Bryer E	David Laam Fox +4	Phil Perry +6
Lee Lamp +6	John McCue +5	Greg Laam +9
Lynn Leistinger +6	Don Streetman +7	Len Dolan +12

The second event of the month was a Branch favorite Fall River. Much cooler weather but we made it through the day before any rain fell. The course was in okay shape. It's not the jewel it has been in years past but it is still an awesome track to play. 23 players made the trip. There were 5 skins awarded: D Streetman, L Welch, G Pepper, L Leistinger, G Laam.

1st Flight	2nd Flight	3rd Flight
Lynn Leistenger -2	Mike Deay -2	John McCue E
Lee Lamp +2	Robert Watt +3	Phil Perry +2
Len Napoli +3	Randy Moore +6	Don Streetmen +2

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/>

Each month the State President is sending out a short newsletter to all members with an email address on file. I'm including on the ensuing pages for those that may have missed this. On the next 2 pages enjoy the August edition of "The Rooster Crows"



The Rooster Crows!

The Scoop from the Coop

September 2025

Board of Directors

Rich Carlston B8
President
Fred Serena B59
Vice President
Jeff Chin B103
Secretary
Carl Mason B88
Treasurer
Ramesh Thadani B98
CIO
Andy Danver B35
Dir. Mktg/Comm.
John Farcich B1
Dir. Br. Support
Bruce Corwin B159
Dir. State Docs.
Michael Lee B128
Dir. Activities
Fred Serena B59
AR Coord., AR
Jerry Morrow B172
AR
Bruce Corwin B159
AR
Derek Southern B8
State Advisor
Roy Hodgkinson B146
Parliamentarian

CORRECTION

At the Annual Meeting I showed the recipients of the **President's Award**. By mistake, I attributed the handling of 450 golf tournaments to the wrong person. The right person is **Gary Bradley**. Sorry Gary and thank you Rob.



2025 Annual Meeting

Our Annual Meeting was last month. For me, it was my second as President. It was wonderful to see around 130 of our SIR leaders at the meeting. We covered a lot of ground. Here's a summary:

The 2026 State Officers were elected. We have a terrific incoming leadership group and we can expect that 2026 will be an outstanding year. Wes Howard volunteered to fill the open AR spot on the Board and will be appointed shortly.

Derek Southern received a President's Award for his work with AI as well as his tireless service for SIR both State and Branch 8.

We voted to remove the geographic restrictions in our By-laws so we can now have branches anywhere in California. We also voted to delete the term "retired" from our Articles of Incorporation to ensure that one need not be retired to join or be a member of SIR.

We had several talks from our State leaders during the morning session reporting on the state of SIR and a few of the many accomplishments achieved this year. In addition, Carl reported on our financial position, which is in good shape.

After lunch, we had two separate breakout sessions. Fred held a session with the Area Representatives and interested members in which they discussed many issues impacting our Area Representatives. The other session involved comments from three past Presidents and myself. That session addressed marketing to younger men, training, getting leaders to step forward, suggestions relative to finding speakers and finally a clear acknowledgment that those in attendance are the leaders of SIR in the future and an expression of appreciation for their service.

Note: Proceedings from the meeting will be posted on the State website.



2026 State Officers

Pres: **Fred Serena**
VP: **Nick Feimer**
Sec: **Jeff Chin**
Treas: **Carl Mason**
CIO: **Ramesh Thadani**
D Doc: **Bruce Corwin**
D Br Sup: **John Farcich**
D Mktg: **Neil Wheeler**
D Act: **Michael Lee**
AR: **Jerry Morrow**
AR: **Carl Dawson**
[AR: **Wes Howard***]

*To be appointed.

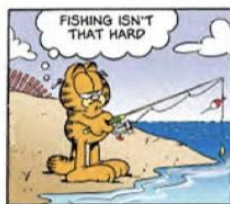
President's Award Derek Southern



"Sorry. Casting when it's windy isn't one of my strong points."

FISHING is our newest State activity!

Interested, see Brion Beetz - Br. 2





Vision for 2026



The Sir President and the Board have agreed that our Area Representative are a critical component to the success of the SIR organization. The Area Representatives are not just coaches for the branch. ARs now have more flexibility to assist our branches to meet their needs in the future.

I was asked where is SIR heading? The answer is forward. It is my goal to have the State Administration leaner by removing old policies and forms and adopting new important policies. Some of our new policies include a branch document retention policy and a new first aid and safety policy to increase protection of our branch members.

Branches are not islands. There are several methods we can use to get to know other area branches and establish mutual understanding of how other branches operate. How do we start:

- Invite other branch Big Sirs to your luncheon and BEC meetings
- Invite other branch members to your activities
- Read other branch monthly newsletters
- Find common ground with other leaders

I will continue to emphasize having a two-way communication with the branches. I will be asking our State Secretary to distribute the Board meeting agendas to all ARs and the meeting summaries to them as well. We will continue distributing The Rooster Crows! newsletter to all ARs and Big Sirs.

The success or failure of a branch should not be judged on the number of members. It should be judged on whether the branch is fulfilling our mission and vision of SIR.

Thank you.



- SIR Past/ Present/ Future State-Rich Carlston
- Key Elements of a Successful Branch - Andy Danvers
- Branch MKT Initiative for 2026 - Fred Serena
- Big/Little SIR Responsibilities/Leader Guide-Fred Serena

Recruitment Strategy for Active Senior Men (50-70 Years Old) FEN13

1. Executive Summary
2. Current Situation & Need for Change
3. Organizational SIR provides social, mental, and physical activities for senior men.
4. Objectives: Increase membership, increase financial stability, and increase the number of active members.
5. Challenges: Declining membership, average age 70, and a lack of marketing.
6. Current Strategy: Focus on social activities, which is our target audience (50-70 years old) and the age of current members and their interests.
7. Goal: Recruit 500 new members within 12 months, increase membership by 20% and increase financial stability.
8. Understanding the Target Demographic: Active Men (Age 50-70)
9. The group, often referred to as "Younger Seniors" or "Baby Boomers Early Life 57" often is highly active and healthy.
10. Life Stage: Many are newly retired, enjoying retirement, or working part time. They are active and healthy.
11. Activity Level: They identify as "Active" or "Very Active" and are engaged in physical activity ranging from moderate to vigorous, mental stimulation, and are generally healthy and have made their lives purposeful in their later years. They want to "live" things, not just "survive".
12. Values:



2025 ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA

August 26, 2025

Lufkin Veterans Memorial Center
2700 Mount Dallas Blvd.
Lufkin, TX 75901

Commences at 10:00 a.m.

Attendees

President: Rich Carlston
Vice President: Fred Serena
Secretary: Andy Danvers
Treasurer: Carl Mason
Past SIR President: Fred Serena
Area Representative: Rich Carlston
Big Sirs in Attendance: Fred Serena

Plus State Committee Chairmen and District Delegates



Attracting and Retaining Baby Boomers in Clubs and Organizations (including SIR)

1. Executive Summary
2. Current Situation & Need for Change
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12. Values:

Remember!

Help us spread the word about SIR. We have fun. We make friends. We are active. We are happy. We help each other. And we live longer.

WE Are SIR!

