



Branch #49 Folsom

February 2026

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



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

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

Speaker: Karen McClafin, Executive Director of the California Automobile Museum.

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

President	Mike Panelo
Vice-President	Tom Conrad
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
	Manny Cordero
BOOK EXCHANGE	OPEN
CHAPLAIN	Ed Puchi
EDITOR	Joel Reisman
GREETER	Fred Jacobs (PBS)
MARKETING	Art Vallerga
MUSIC	OPEN
NOMINATING	Joel Reisman
	Ed Puchi
	Joe Lapilusa
PURVEYOR	Joe Artim (PBS)
SUNSHINE	Dave Ward
TICKET SALES	Ray Jerd
	John McKim
WEBSITE	Kim Hammon

Activities Chairmen

BOWLING	Bob Collins
GOLF	Steve Sims
WINE TASTING	Dave Butt

Past Big SIRs

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
2025	.....	Roland Kleinman

State SIRs

AREA 3 REPRESENTATIVE
Jim Gragg

SIR STATE OFFICERS
PRES. — Rich Carlston
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

Note:

The board voted to use the official titles “President” and Vice-President” of Branch 49 instead of “Big SIR” and “Little SIR.” This will no doubt take some getting used to, but it just seemed to make more sense in this day and age.



Vice-President Tom Conrad welcomes our latest new members: Jack Dixon, Wayne Runestrud, and Dan Bonebrake



John Cordero, Manny Cordero, Ray Jerd, Cory Lindholm, and John McKim are recognized for their valuable contribution to Branch 49



President - Mike Panelo
From the Friendly Forty Niners

Hallelujah, the days are getting longer. Still, it's been cold and wet, and my golf game has gone downhill faster than

Lindsey Vonn. No excuses, but at this point I'm not sure what I need more, a golf lesson, some counseling, or both.

In January, the Branch Board held its first meeting of 2026 and has been busy getting the year organized. The core group of guys bring years of experience guiding Branch 49, and it's a real advantage having their counsel as I begin my term as President. A quick housekeeping reminder: if you haven't already done so, please remember to pay your annual Branch 49 dues of \$25 at the luncheon check-in table. And thank you to all of you who have already done so.

As the weather improves, membership usually does as well, and we've started reaching out through a new postcard mailing. But the best growth still comes from personal connections. If you know a friend or neighbor who might enjoy our lunches, golf, or activities, I hope you'll invite them to join us sometime.

We were honored to induct three new members at the January luncheon. Please join me in welcoming Jack Dixon, Dan Bonebrake, and Wayne Runestrand. Guys, consider yourselves part of the Branch 49 family. Our activities are what make the branch, and I encourage you to get involved and enjoy the camaraderie.

I'm exploring the idea of starting a casual Coffee Club for members who enjoy good conversation and a relaxed setting, especially for those who may not be golfing as much these days. If that sounds like something you might enjoy, I'd love to hear from you.

I'd like to offer a quick thank-you to our January speaker and fellow member Kim Hammon. Kim took us on a photo-filled trip, from stone quarries in Italy and Spain where materials are sourced, to the finished projects they eventually become here at home. Part travelogue, part craftsmanship lesson.

At our February luncheon, we'll be hearing from Karen McClaflin, Executive Director of the California Automobile Museum. Karen will share insights into the museum, its history, and the role it plays in preserving automotive culture here in our region. I'm looking forward to an interesting and informative program and hope you'll join us.

I'd also like to recognize some of our volunteers, especially our golf leadership group. Steve Sims, our Golf Chairman, and his team truly knock it out of the park each week, from running our weekly events to organizing both our winter and summer



Vice-President—Tom Conrad

One Month Down 11 to go!

Wow, where did January go? I don't know as I could not see through all the fog! Our January luncheon was good with our own Kim Hammond

giving an interesting talk on the global stone markets. Thank you, Kim. We inducted several new members and had several visitors as well. Please continue to invite people to help us grow our branch.

Karen McClaflin, Executive Director of the California Automobile Museum will be our February speaker. Our March speaker will be a representative of Symmetry Health who was referred by our SIR member, David Farrelly. If you know of anyone you think would be an interesting speaker, please let me know, as we are always looking for speakers. We also inducted our new board of directors and as a group I know we are looking forward to a great year with our branch 49. I survived my first BEC meeting and looks like I will be continuing as your Vice-President.

Even with all the fog we did finish out our winter golf season. Now it is time to clean off all the mud and get ready for our regular summer season. Our golf board continues to run a great golf club and I hope to see you all on the links this year. Please remember the other activities we have; bowling, wine tasting, and happy hour. We are looking at the possibility of adding some other activities and your ideas are encouraged. We have many areas for our members to volunteer, so if asked, I encourage you to say "yes". We have a potential replacement for Bob Hedges as our secretary. He will be confirmed at our next board for this important role. Till next time - have a great February!

Tom Conrad
Vice-President, Branch 49
(916) 997-1944
tkconrad1999@gmail.com

schedules in a way that makes participation easy for everyone. Golf remains the heartbeat of our branch and the original reason I joined SIR myself. A big thank-you to the golf crew, who make everything run so smoothly and keep Branch 49 moving.

I hope to see you at the February meeting. Please keep an eye out for the RSVP email. If navigating the RSVP system ever feels more frustrating than helpful, don't hesitate to reach out to me, Tom Conrad, or Bill Bertsch,

Mike Panelo
President, Branch 49
916-201-5668
mike.panelo@gmail.com



MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Membership Chairman: Bill Bertsch (916) 791-3570
workready247@hotmail.com

Asst. Membership Chairman: Joel Reisman (916) 983-2492
j.reisman@comcast.net

Our first meeting of 2026 was great! We added three new members with the potential for two more.

Thank you all for recruiting new friends.

CURRENT MEMBERSHIP: 93

New Members added in Jan: 3

Jack Dixon

Dan Bonebrake

Wayne Runestrand

Member to be added in Feb: 1

Rick Branchini

Anniversaries for February:

Justin PERIQUET

Ken DAVIS

Ron NESS

Cory LINDHOLM

Sil DeLEON

Woody WOODSON

Ron PETERS

Joel REISMAN

Jerry HELMEY

Ed PUCHI

Manny CORDERO

AI EDWARDS

Ray JERD

John McKIM

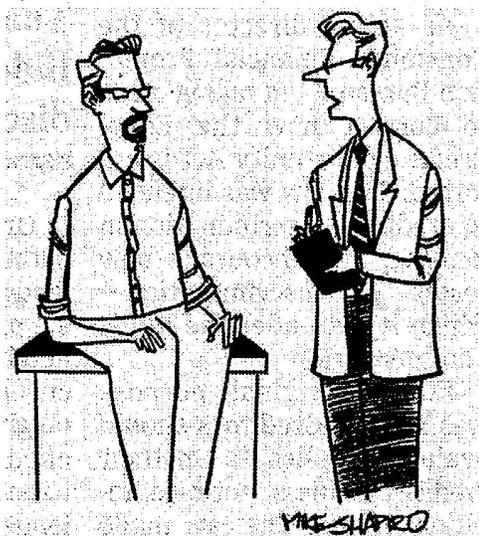
John CORDERO



Roland Kleinman is recognized by Jim Gragg for his great contribution as Big SIR for 2025.

Pepper ... And Salt

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL



"Here is a prescription for a new drug. I don't know much about it but I like their commercials."



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

Welcome everyone to the 2026 Summer season, as we say goodbye to a very good winter schedule. The new summer season started on February 2 at Wildhawk.

A few changes moving into this new season. Prize payouts have changed from 10,7,5,3 to 15,10,5 dollars, we are paying first thru third. Closest to the pin goes from 7/5 dollar for first and second to 10/5 dollars. We are still going to pay low net POY 10 dollars. Speaking of which, POY will be a little different this year. Two substantial changes, this year every tournament played will count towards POY, as opposed to last year we counted 85%. Second change is the point system which will weight top 10 finishes very much like the Pro Tour. The point system table can be found on the Branch/Golf page under the POY link.

Other changes moving into the new year include a sandwich board that will be set up at some of our local courses in the hopes of drawing in new members, an easy way to advertise. Secondly, in a joint effort between the golf club and the BEC, Branch 49 will be targeting local retirement communities for new members as well via a direct mailer.

Last but not least, the golf board has added a new tournament leader, Warren Myers will be our 5th TL, welcome aboard Warren, we are glad and lucky to have you.

Last Three:

Empire Ranch 1/12/26

Flight 1 – Eli Flores 81/72
 Flight 2 – Stephen Post 86/66
 Flight 3 – Kim Hammon 98/69

Arcade Creek 1/20/26

Flight 1 - Steve Sims 79/75
 Flight 2 – Michael Viksne 86/68
 Flight 3 – Tim Hammon 90/66

Antelope Greens 3 Clubs/Putter 1/26/26

Flight 1 – Warren Myers 70/58
 Flight 2 – Stephen Post 70/57
 Flight 3 – Allen Wong 74/47 (That is a -11 Folks-Amazing)

Next up (SUMMER Schedule)

2/10/2026 Mather
 2/17/2026 Empire Ranch
 2/23/2026 Diamond Oaks

Hats

If you are looking for a new hat please see our Treasurer Pat Flynn, he can sell you one for \$20. You may also obtain one from the tournament leader at weekly tournaments. You can choose either gray or khaki.

New Members see either guy for your hat at no charge, first ones on us.

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE



"I don't know what it is about it, but I love this course!"



"He was putting for birdie, but ended up with a double bogey. He got so mad his head just up and exploded."



"I had heard that the traps on this course were brutal, but this is ridiculous."



Branch 49 Bowling

Bowling Chairman: Bob Collins

(916) 983-5246

robertcollins325@comcast.net



In mid-December, we completed the fall session. We took a two week break for Christmas and New Years, and started bowling again on January 7, 2026. We are now in the “Winter” session (week 19 of the year) which will end in mid-May. We are still bowling at Steve Cook’s Fireside Lanes in Citrus Heights on Wednesdays 12:30-3:00pm. Spectators are welcome. We get 10 minutes of practice before the session starts. Sometimes the practice helps. Each session consists of three games. We bowl on lanes 1-16. There are 32 lanes at this bowling alley so it can get busy and noisy. A session usually lasts from 12:30 to about 3:00pm.

The league is called the “Senior Fun” Bowling League. The league normally consists of 16 three-person teams (only 10 teams during the summer). 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 ha-ha).

Currently, there are several Branch 49 SIR bowlers. Below are the current statistics (as of 1/21/26). Jim Boles dropped out of the Sirs chapter but is still bowling. We added a new bowler from Sirs 49—Roland Kleinman (former Big SIR). Current Big SIR- Mike Panelo (a lefty bowler) is hanging in there. Hope Roland continues to bowl with us.

Bowlers	Team	Avg	High Game	High Series (recent)	Place (of 16) (recent)
Allen Wong	Nuggets	139=	187(177)	481	16=
Jim Boles	Beer Frame	130-	181	455	15-
Ron Peters	Young at Heart	138=	204(170)	465(448)	14=
Mike Panelo	Young at Heart	150=	205(171)	527(446)	14=
Roland Kleinman	Gold	150	166	451	6 new guy
John McKim	Has Bends	145+	180+	503(444)	9-
Ray Jerd	Has Bends	147-	207(188)	524(506)	9-
Bob Collins	Has Bends	155+=	210***	546***	9-

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

Collins recently had a high game of 188, but the team dropped to 9th place. Darn. 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, a perfect game score is 300 (very hard to do). Currently in this NEW session the high individual game in the league is 246, high scratch individual series score is 619, high scratch team score is currently 589, high scratch team series score is 1679. Allen Wong’s team is still occupying the bottom rung—16th place. The only way to go is UP^^^^. Good luck Allen.

Some fun facts about bowling that non-bowlers may not know. Men typically use a ball weighing between 14 to 16 pounds (16 being the heaviest you can use.) Most bowlers use a ball with 3 holes, and use 2 fingers and thumb to hold the ball. Some bowlers are now using two hands to bowl with only 2 fingers (or none) in the ball. Many professional bowlers are now using the “2-hand” method to throw the ball. (I don’t know how or why this method was developed- probably because of “wear and tear” on the thumb). Many bowlers have and use more than 1 ball. Some balls curve more than others, depending on how they are “weighed” (constructed). Some balls are called “spare balls” and generally go straight (i.e., don’t curve.) There is a name for guys that have more than 2 balls, or only 1. (You can imagine what that names might be.) Some bowlers show up with SIX balls!!

There are 10 pins, arranged like in the triangle diagram below. The “bottom” of the triangle is the front of in the triangle and called the “HEAD PIN.” A standard pin weighs 3 lb 6 oz. The pin height is 15 inches. Pins are placed by an automatic pin-setting machine. The “system” also does automatic scoring, so, no more manual keeping score (and now no way to “fudge” aka, cheat, in scoring). Well there may still be a way, but I can’t give away that secret.)

7-8-9-10
4-5-6
2-3
1

A split is “bad.” (Split means the pins have big spaces between them after the first ball is thrown.) The hardest “split” to pick up is the 7-10, almost impossible. The key to good bowling is you have to hit the head pin!!! It is VERY hard to get a strike without hitting the head pin first. Right hand bowlers try to curve the ball to hit on the right side of the head pin. Lefties try to hit on the left side of the head pin. If you hit the head pin on the “opposite side, and get a “strike” (knock all the pins down) it is called a “Brooklyn” (I don’ know why.) There are 10 frames in a game. In frames 1-9 a bowler can roll/throw one or two balls (one if you get a strike – 2 if you get a spare). In the 10th frame you can throw up to 3 balls (if you get 3 strikes). The perfect score is 300 (i.e., all strikes). An “open frame” means you did not make a mark. A “mark” is getting a strike or a spare (i.e., knocking down all pins, but using 2 balls). A “clean game” means you got all marks (strikes or spares) in each frame (which for most of us is hard to do).

In our league, the “handicap” is based on a “raw score” of 220, up from 210 last session. Most of our SIR bowlers in the league consider a “good” raw average game score as anything above 165, and a series to be 500 or more. As I have previously reported, several of our SIR 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 3 raffles 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, fall/ winter). We do 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.”

Unfortunately we are full and CANNOT currently accepting substitutes.

**Bob Collins- Bowling Coordinator for Branch 49. Be safe out there.
Good luck and good bowling.**



The Social Corner

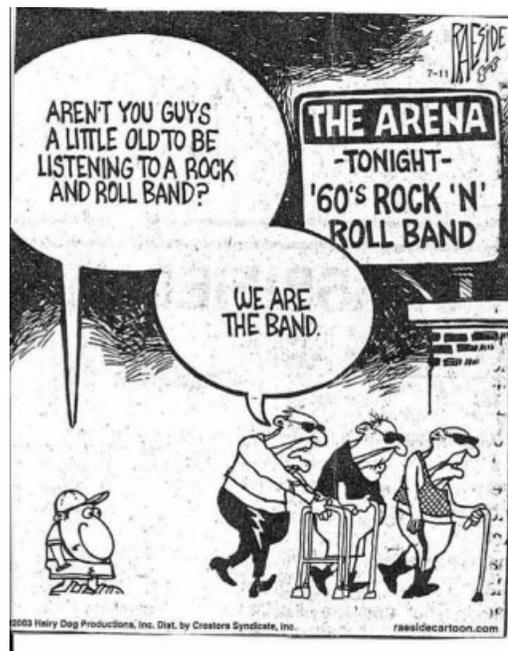
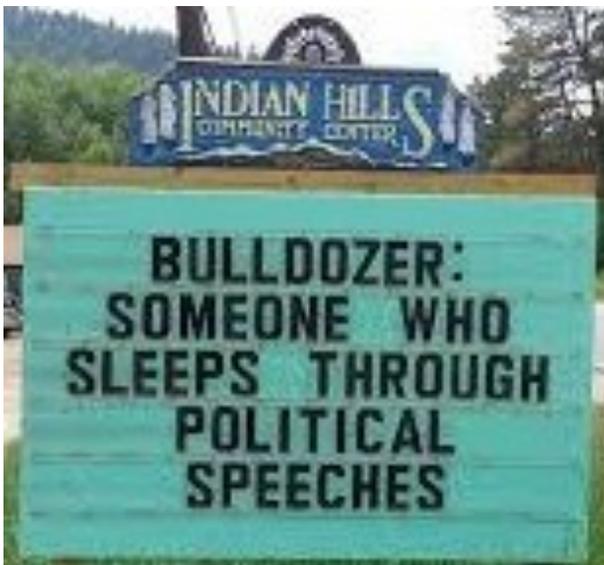
Dave Butt (408) 295-9933

davidwbutt@gmail.com

We returned to the House of Mules for January with the usual suspects in attendance.

With the help of Kim Hammon, the web site now has information on the upcoming monthly Happy Hours and the wine tasting. We use an email list to help coordinate participation for the wine tasting, so if you are not receiving the emails and wish to be involved, please let me know @ davidwbutt@gmail.com.

The next Happy Hour will be held on February 12 from 3-5 at Frends Brewhouse 6608 Folsom Auburn Road. The next wine tasting will be on February 20 from 2-5. Details on what to bring and so on are in the email. RSVPs are needed before February 13.



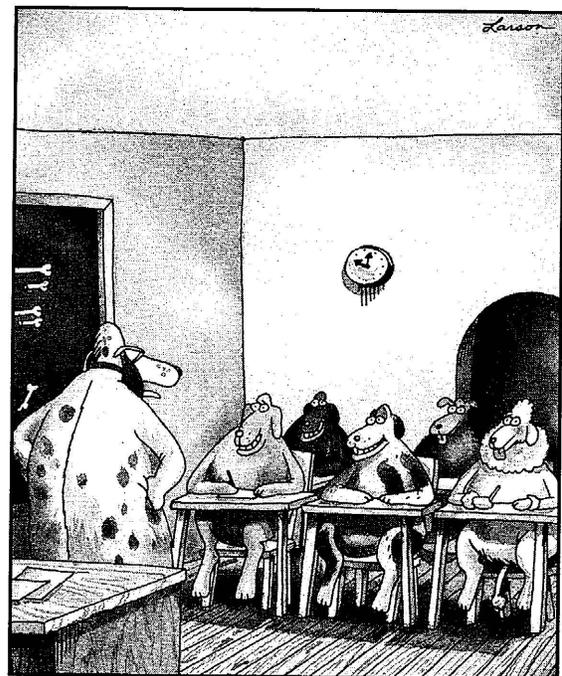
L/R: Joe Artim, Joe Lapilusa, Bob Hedges, Jack Dixon (new member), Dan Bonebrake (new member) Allen Wong



L/R: Mark Funk, Jerry Nakamura, Roland Kleinman, Cory Lindholm, Ed Nishio, Gary Veffredo, Eli Flores



L/R: Gary Rawlinson, Brad Carter, Bill Bertsch, Rick Branchini, Jerry Hudson, Fred Jacobs



"Well, here we go again. . . . Did anyone here *not* eat his or her homework on the way to school?"