



Branch #49 Folsom

March 2026

Next Luncheon: March 19, 2026 at the Robert H. Miller III Rotary Clubhouse located at 7150 Baldwin Dam Rd. in Folsom.

Speaker: Greg Treible of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

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

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



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	Pat Flynn
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—*State HLM*
Frank Donner emeritus
Joe LaPilusa Sr. HLM
Jack DuBé emeritus
* Roy Estep
* Bob Griggs — *SHLM*
* Frank Reetz
* Bill Staiger— *SHLM*
* Gordon Vinther
* Ralph Housley * Deceased



Our speaker Karen McClafflin gave a great presentation on the California Automobile Museum



Welcome new members Rick Branchini and Jeff Anderson!



President - Mike Panelo
Happy St. Patrick's Day!

Years ago I made a trip to Scottsdale, Arizona, for Giants Spring Training, eager for that spring desert sunshine after a cool, wet winter. Perfect weather, right? Wrong. It rained on game day. Apparently the forecast followed me. Still, I'm a fan, and Spring Training always brings a dose of optimism.

That optimism carries over with springing forward and the extra daylight. Add in the gradually changing weather, and it's hard not to feel a little momentum.

Your Board met this month and continues focusing on keeping Branch 49 healthy and in good standing. We still have members who have not yet paid their annual \$25 dues. Our State assessment is based on our active roster as of March 31, so we are hoping to have everyone current by then. If you have not yet paid, please take care of it at the luncheon check-in table. To those who already have, thank you.

We are beginning to see early results from our recent postcard outreach and have welcomed a new member through that effort. Please join me in welcoming Dave Ishikawa to the gang. As always, the best invitation is personal. If you know someone who might enjoy our lunches or activities, bring them along.

Our Coffee Club held its first gathering and we are off and running. Good coffee, easy conversation, and a chance to slow down for a bit. We will meet again Thursday, March 26 at 9:30 am. If coffee and conversation sound like a good way to start the day, join us.

Steve Sims is in the early stages of forming a Bocce group and would welcome help getting the ball rolling. Pun intended. We hope to introduce a few new activities this year.

It was good to see the familiar faces at the February luncheon. Jim Ramstad was back on his new knee. There are a few of you I have not seen in some time, and I hope you'll be back soon. Steve Alfonso., Sil DeLeon, Dave Farrelly, Mike McCormack, Ron Schultze, we miss you and hope you are well.

As SIR members, we not only live longer, we live better. Staying connected makes a difference. Sometimes life gets in the way and we miss a few gatherings. If you notice someone who has not been around, take a minute to reach out. No Friendly 49ers left behind.



Vice-President—Tom Conrad

March Madness!

Welcome to March! The year is going by fast. While March is known for the NCAA tournament and the start of spring training (go Giants!) it is not just sports that has made "March Madness" for my wife and myself. We have taken on some home renovations that have basically required us to move out but still live at home. If that sounds strange, it is, but we will get through it. For me, it also means missing about 3 weeks of our golf tournaments.

Good news! Our branch is growing. I have had the pleasure of inducting 5 new members in January and February and hopefully, more inductees in March.

Our marketing plan seems to be working and our members continue to invite people to check us out. Keep up the good work. We had a great speaker in February, Karen McClafflin, from the California Automobile Museum highlighting all the interesting programs and fantastic cars the museum has. Once again, we are always looking for quest speakers.

Please let me know if you know of a speaker or if you want to speak yourself. Please remember to continue to look for ways to volunteer at our branch and help us keep growing. See you all at the March lunch.

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

At our March luncheon we will hear from Greg Treible of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. He will walk us through the American River Common Features project. It should be an interesting program.

Branch 49 is in a good place. It's a direct reflection of the people in it. I'm looking forward to seeing you and enjoying the company and camaraderie that make it that way.

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

This year looks very promising for new members.
Keep inviting your friends/acquaintances.

CURRENT MEMBERSHIP: 95

New members added in Feb: 2

Rick Branchini
Jeff Anderson

Members to be Inducted in Mar: 4

Chuck Friedrich
David Ishikawa
David Donner
Glen Campora

Anniversaries for March:

Mike McCORMACK
Bob HEDGES
Tom BAKER
Bob COLLINS
Steve ALFONSO
Dave BROWN

In Memorium . . .

Vic Brewer, our friend and fellow Sir, passed away last week, after suffering a paralyzing back injury from a fall at his home. Vic was an active member, including Big Sir in 2017.

Please keep Vic Brewer in your thoughts and prayers.

Respectfully, Dave Ward
(Sunshine Reporter)



Reminder:

Tickets for the May Branch 49 picnic will be going on sale soon. Tickets will be available at upcoming luncheons.



Our own Roland Kleinman silencing the crowd for Scotty Scheffler's drive at the AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am



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

Spring, oh how I love spring, I think it is my favorite time of the year to play. Hopefully we will not have a lot of rain-outs. Temperatures are warming up and that helps with the hands and the swing.

We have quite a few new members and I welcome you all, I hope you find the group fun, entertaining and reasonably good at golf.

Having said that I wanted to remind you all about our local rules, they are simple and have been designed to accomplish a few things. The first to help make the game more enjoyable, the second to speed up play. We have a six-inch bump, and a lift in place. You may lift your ball and clean it and move 6 inches - no closer to the hole.

We have a "Veffredo" rule - or a "leaf" rule as some may call it. We have extended it to high rough as well until further notice. Simply put, if you hit a ball in the general area and it can't be found in 3 minutes, and the people in your group agree it should have been found, you may take a free drop in the spot you would have expected it to be.

We have rules for preferred lies in bunkers, you may lift your ball, rake the area and place your ball in a preferred lie, it must remain in the bunker, unless your group deems the whole bunker unplayable. In that case you may remove it and place it no closer to the hole outside the bunker.

We have 24-inch gimmies, most guys mark their putter someway to 24 inches, although it is preferred to have such putts given, it is not required.

On a sad note, we say good-bye to our very good friend Vic Brewer, for those of you who may not yet know, Vic passed in late February after a debilitating fall. Vic played college golf back in his younger days and would share a fun story from time to time. If you happened to be in his foursome, he was the kind of guy who would share his sandwich with you. He always had plenty of range balls, and would gladly share them with you as well.

LAST THREE:

Bing Maloney 3/3/26 (Low Net Tom Tseng 72)
 Flight 1 – Tom Tseng **83/71**
 Flight 2 – Jerry Nakamura **86/72**
 Flight 3 – Art Vallerga **95/72**

ChaChaCha- Tseng/Flores/Kleinman/Butt -5/142

CTP- Tom Tseng 7' 1"

Diamond Oaks 2/23/26 (Low Net Art Vallerga 69)

Flight 1 – Brad Carter **86/72**
 Flight 2 – Michael Viksne **86/72**
 Flight 3 – Art Vallerga **102/67**

4X3BB – Bradshaw/Viksne/Dixon/Hammon **212**

CTP – Robin Williams **3' 4"**

Mather 2/20/26 (Low Net Michael Viksne 67)

Flight 1 – Brad Carter **82/70**
 Flight 2 – Michael Viksne **80/66**
 Flight 3 – Vic Brewer **90/71**

CTP – Dave Butt **3' 3"**

NEXT UP (SUMMER SCHEDULE)

3/10/2026	8:03	Bartley Cavanaugh
3/16/2026	8:04	Ancil Hoffman
3/23/2026	8:00	Haggin-Mackensie
3/30/2026	8:00	Lincoln Hills-Hills

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 one's on us.

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE





Branch 49 Bowling

Bowling Chairman: Bob Collins

(916) 983-5246

robertcollins325@comcast.net



3/4/26 Bowling Report SIRs Folsom Chapter 49

MAR 2026 Week 24 of 32

We are now in the “Winter” session. 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. Sometimes the practice helps, sometimes it HURTS!! .

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 03/04/26). NOTE— ALLEN WONG’S team was recently in first place but fell to 16. Long slide. OUCH!

Bowlers	Team	Avg	High Game	High Series	Place (of 16)
Allen Wong	Nuggets	139=	187	474	16=
Roland Kleinman	Gold	150	166	451	6 new guy
Ron Peters	Young at Heart	138=	204	470+	13+
Mike Panelo	Young at Heart	148-	205=	527=	13+
John McKIm	Has Bends	145+	180+	503	7+
Ray Jerd	Has Bends	147-	207=	524	7+
Bob Collins	Has Bends	155+	210***	546***	7+

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

Collins recently had a high game of 177! Ray Jerd also had a recent high game of 170! And their team took 4 of 5 points, and moved up one place! 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 NEW session the high individual game in the league is 221, high scratch individual series score is 624, high scratch team score is currently 589, high scratch team series score is 1618..

(NEW BOWLING FACTS) Bowling is thought to have developed as far back as 3200 BC in ancient Egypt as a children’s game. It has also independently developed in several countries including several in Europe over a few centuries. The 10 pin game developed in the US in the 1800s. The American Bowling Congress was founded in 1895 to standardize the rules and equipment. It became an organized sport (and business) in the US in the early 20th century.

A regulation bowling alley is 60 feet long from the foul line to the head pin. The alley is 42 inches wide and has two gutters, one on each side. The gutters run the length of the alley and are 9.25 inches wide and 1.875 inches deep. You want to avoid throwing a gutter ball because it results in “ZERO pins” on that ball.

Most of our chapter bowlers in the league consider a “good” raw average anything above 165, and a scratch series (before adding in the handicap) 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.

Unfortunately, at this time we are full and NOT 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

Happy hour at Frends was another success as the participation continues to grow. The next happy hour will be on March 12 at Mesquite off Natomas and Blue Ravine. April 9 will be the next one at the El Dorado Saloon on Green Valley in El Dorado. May 14 will be at the University of Beer on East Bidwell. All times are from 3-5.

On Friday, February 20 we had 22 people at the latest wine tasting. The theme was 'Mediterranean', and we had wines from 5 different countries, with a wonderful set of different snacks. We are enthusiastically looking forward to the next tasting event. Anyone who would like to be the next host and set the theme for the event should contact Dave Butt.

We are moving forward with our overnight golf trip to Livermore to play Poppy Ridge and Los Positas April 1 and 2. We still have 2 slots available. It will be a stroke event with two closest to the pin prizes on each date. Anyone interested should contact Dave Butt ASAP.

We are still planning on the second annual Gold Panner Golf Challenge in September so let Dave Butt know if you are interested. This was a very fun two-night, three-day golf event last year and we hope to make it a Branch 49 annual event.





L/R: Ed Nishio, David Donner (Guest), Bill Bertsch, Ed Puchi, Tom Coultas, Jeff Anderson (New member)



L/R: Robin Williams, Tim Hammon, Steve Sims, Kim Hammon, Don Pressley, Tom Baker



L/R: Cory Lindholm, Dave Ishikawa (Guest), Allen Wong, Joe Artim, Jerry Jackson, Dan Bonebrake