



SIR

July 2025

The Gateway Chapter 169

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AUGUST LUNCHEON DETAILS

WHEN;	TUESDAY AUG 12, 2025
WHERE:	Pardini's Catering
TIME:	1000 BEC Mtg, 1100 Social Hour, 1200 Lunch
COST:	Lunch \$25. No Charge to members celebrating their Birthday in July (Must attend to receive benefit). Branch Dues: \$20.00 are due (if you have not paid)
GUEST SPEAKER:	Mindy Casto, Chief of Police, Fresno Police Department
MENU:	Beef, Chicken or Chef Salad. And if you have other Dietary requirement, please let your caller know so that arrangements can be made.

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BIG SIR REPORT

I found last month's meeting, with Kopi Sotoropolis as our speaker, both entertaining and informative – even though, yet again, I failed to win anything in the raffles. I'm looking forward to hearing our police chief, Mindy Casto, at our August meeting.

As Big Sir, I will be representing our branch at the SIR annual meeting in Lafayette on August 26. While I'm not certain whether I should look forward to it, I hope to contribute on the Branch's behalf. In that regard, if anyone has anything in the overall SIRs world for which they have a particular concern, please let me know.

Finally, on a personal note, this week of mild weather caused me to reacquaint myself with golfing. If I can persuade She Who Must Be Obeyed, I may be joining most of the rest of you in SIRs Golf. You seem to have way too much fun to pass up.

I hope to see all of you at our next meeting on August 12, 2025, at Pardini's.

John Eleazarian

Big Sir

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JULY TREASURERS REPORT

Beginning Balance	\$ 7,803.27
Income	\$ 2,253.50
Expenses	\$ 2,712.32
Ending Checkbook Bal	\$ 7,341.45
Petty Cash	\$ 100.00
Total Balance	\$ 7,441.45

**Treasures report subject to final approval at the
August BEC meeting.**

The Gateway Chapter 169

SECRETARY REPORT MINUTES OF JULY BOARD MEETING

SIR CHAPTER 169
EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES Date: July 8, 2025

Big SIR, John Eleazarian called the meeting to order at 10:01 am

ATTENDING: Frank Bavarro; Manny Contino; John Eleazarian; Duane Evans. Jim Forden; Ted Fox; Roy Grijalva; Bernie Hollenbeck; Bob Large; Nick Lopez; Jackie Lovato;; Roger Stewart; Ernie Sopp; Luis Rodriguez;
NO GUESTS

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: MSC to approve with ATTENDING corrected to reflect that Roger Stewart and Ed Dorn were not able to attend. and the "NNNNNNN Games", corrected to read "AVGAC Games".

BIG SIR: John Eleazarian 1) Reported that he had been in continuing contact with the our Area 19 Representative who him informed that we will be receiving SERVICE Award certificates to be issued to our members who are at or older than 90 years of age.; 2) As Big SIR, John will be representing us at the September statewide meeting of SIR officers to be held in Lafayette, CA.

LITTLE SIR: 1)Referring to the list of the remaining Luncheon presentors for 2025 which he distributed at our last meeting, Mann Contino reminded that today's speaker will be Kopi Sotoropolus who has been a local tv personality and 2) Reported that our list of officer candidates for 2026 has been set, but that he would like to see someone offer to take his place as Big SIR on the slate.

SECRETARY: 1):Jim Forden reported that currently our Chapter has 151 members (which he corrected later in the meeting to read 141 members); 2) As Secretary, he has received a copy of the *Certificate of Liability Insurance* for our caterer, Pardinis, and gave the document to the Big SIR.

TREASURER: 1) Nick Lopez reported that in June, the receipts for our Chapter totaled \$1,897.00 and the expenses for the month were \$2,412.84. The Checkbook Balance at the end of the period totaled \$8,319.11. The checkbook balance is \$7,810.27, with additional Petty Cash of \$100.00,

ACTIVITIES: In the absence of Ed Dorn, (who will not be at this BEC Meeting, but will be attending today's luncheon, Jackie Lovato reminded that our members need should be encouraged to go to Break the Barrier, who have been invited to participate in pickle ball; play pool, swim and enjoy a variety of games at that facility. Dining and golf sign-up sheets will be available during the meeting

SUNSHINE: Bernie Hollenbeck reported that: 1) Anthony Noia wishes to be dropped from the list of Callers; 2) We have told Pardinis, that we are expecting 93 members to attend today's luncheon, and although the entrée choices might not be exactly correct, the count appears to be correct; 3) Following a very lengthy and successful period of service to the roles of membership support and record keeping, Bernie asked that someone step forward to take on the duties related to these responsibilities. On behalf of the Board, Big SIR committed to making this

MEMBERSHIP: As Membership Chairman, Jackie Lovato reported: 1} New Membership Applications have been received from three men: Ray Escobar; Mateo Macias; and William Biggs. If attending today's luncheon, one or more of these fellows will be inducted (**Did we MSC to induct any or all of these fellows?**)

OLD BUSINESS: : No Old Business to discuss.

NEW BUSINESS: As our SIR 169 representative on the SIR Statewide Advisory Board, Roger Stewart reported that he will be attending (via ZOOM) this Friday. He will send out a message providing the link to that session, so that anyone who may be interested in observing the event can do so.

ADJOURNMENT: 10:40 am

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED: Jim Forden, Secretary



SIR

BRANCH INFORMATION

The Gateway Chapter 169

SIR 169 Executive Board and Committee Chairman

SIR 169 Executive Board							
Big SIR John Eleazarian	Little SIR Manny Contino	Secretary Jim Forden	Asst. Secty Luis Rodriguez	Treasurer Nick Lopez	Asst. Treas Duane Evans	Activities Chairman Ed Dorn	Newsletter Editor Ted Fox
							
Bernie Hollenbeck	Frank Bavaro Director	Jim Hiney Director	Bob Large Director	Doug Nowlin Director	Roger Stewart Director	Paul Dehn Director	Ernie Sopp Director
							
Sunshine Chairman		Membership Chairman			Advisory Council Rep		Big SIR 2024

See January 2025 Newsletter for a complete listing of all committee chairmen and contact numbers.

Branch Website:
SIR169.org
State Website:
SIRINC.org

And yes Richard, this is the correct photo.



AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

Kennth Beal

Jerry Long

Stanley Busch

Patrick O'Sullivan

Robert Garcia

Manny Perales

Jim Hiney

Nick Smirnov

Bernie Hollenbeck

AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

Jackie & Diana Lovato

Manny & Maxine Contino

Gregory & Bety Merrill

Paul & Susan Dehn

Erik & Beverly Miller

Dave & Tracie Goodwin

Michael & Mary Panella

Keith & Helen Herzog

Bill & Connie Prince

Daniel & Jessica Kaiser

Lester & PaT Saywell

Daniel & Barbara Lindstrom

Mick & Gayle Smirnov

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AUGUST ACTIVITIES

GOLF

Current schedule can be found on the golf web page:

<https://sirgcare29br169.memberplanet.com>

August Schedule:

August 5th Tues 8:00 Airways Lone Ranger

August 14th Thurs 9:00 Belmont Schambles

August 19th Tues 8:00 Madera Muni Cha Cha Cha

August 26th Tues 9:00 Lemoore flighted

Cliff Raley is the host August.

Thank You, Joe and Jackie for hosting in July

DATE NIGHTS

Couples' Nite Out: August 14th

Max's Bistro and Bar located at 1784 W. Bullard Ave., Fresno. Dinner at 5:30. Contact Ed Dorn or sign up at the August luncheon.

Sirs Diners: 3rd Wednesday, August 20th

George's Bar and Grill located at 6680 N. Blackstone Ave. Drinks at 5:00 Dinner at 6:00. Contact Don Laines for more information.

Date-Nite: 3rd Wednesday, August 20th

Contact Manny Contino for more information



Brian Ohde taking advantage of the newly installed club and bag washer at Pheasant Run Golf Course

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AUGUST ACTIVITIES

POKER GROUPS

1. Formerly Br 169 group. Contact Ed Dorn, Jim Hiney or Ted Fox if you are interested in joining this poker group. We currently play once a month, the Wednesday following the luncheon, rotating houses. Light snacks and beverages supplied by the host. Time: 1 pm to 4 pm . Contact us at the monthly luncheon.
2. Formerly Br 179 group, aka. The SIR George Lane Memorial Poker Group usually plays once a month, on the 4th Wednesday of the month. We rotate houses and the host is responsible for providing snacks and beverages. Time 1200 pm to 300 pm. Contact Chairman Tom Wider at the meeting if you are interested.

POOL

The pool players now meet for BREAKFAST at 9:00am on Thursdays at the Windham Retirement Home, followed by a few brisk rounds of pool at the same location. All members are welcome, skilled or novice. For more details, call Chairman Richard Ewell at 432-7601.

A spin-off group has now established 8:00 am Monday mornings at the new Clovis Senior Center as another opportunity to meet and enjoy a couple of hours of friendly pool. Contact Ted Fox or Ed Dorn or Randy Bushore for information.

PICKLE BALL

Pickle Ball returned, beginning April 15th at Break the Barriers (located at Cedar and Teague Aves) in Fresno. For an introduction to and beginning lessons our Pickle Ball experts Jackie Lovato and Larry Rowe will be offering a program to get you into the Pickle Ball era.

Monday, Wednesday and Fridays from 8:30 - 12 am at the Break the Barriers indoor courts.

No sign up, just show up, no cost to use the facility.

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Medicare Fraud Notice

Beware of scammers, sometimes posing as salespeople, offering "free" services or gifts. They may be trying to trick you into signing up for hospice care without your knowledge.

Here's how it works:

1. Scammers text, call, email, post fake ads, or even knock on your door.
2. They offer "free" gifts or in-home perks, like cooking or cleaning services, protein shakes, medical equipment, or groceries.
3. In exchange, they may ask for your Medicare Number and ask you to sign a paper.

They're tricking you into signing up for hospice care, so they can fraudulently bill Medicare for services in your name.

Remember: Never give out your Medicare Number and don't sign anything for free services — it's a scam.

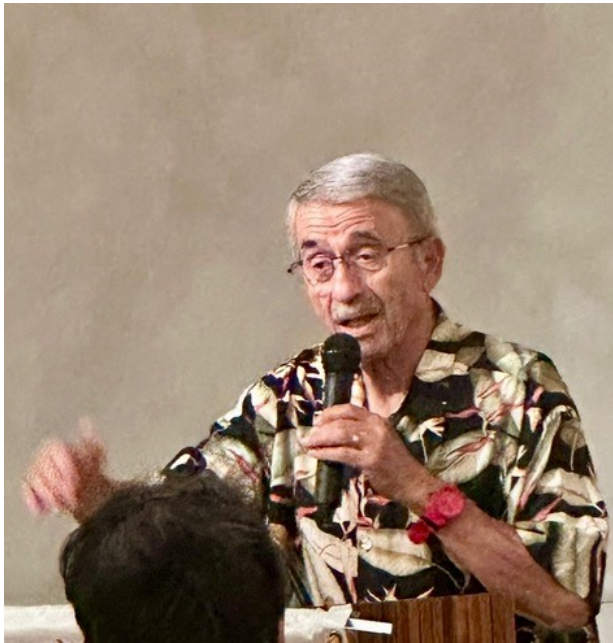
If you think you may have experienced fraud, **call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227) or report it online at [Medicare.gov/fraud](https://www.medicare.gov/fraud).**

Sincerely,

The Medicare Team

The Gateway Chapter 169

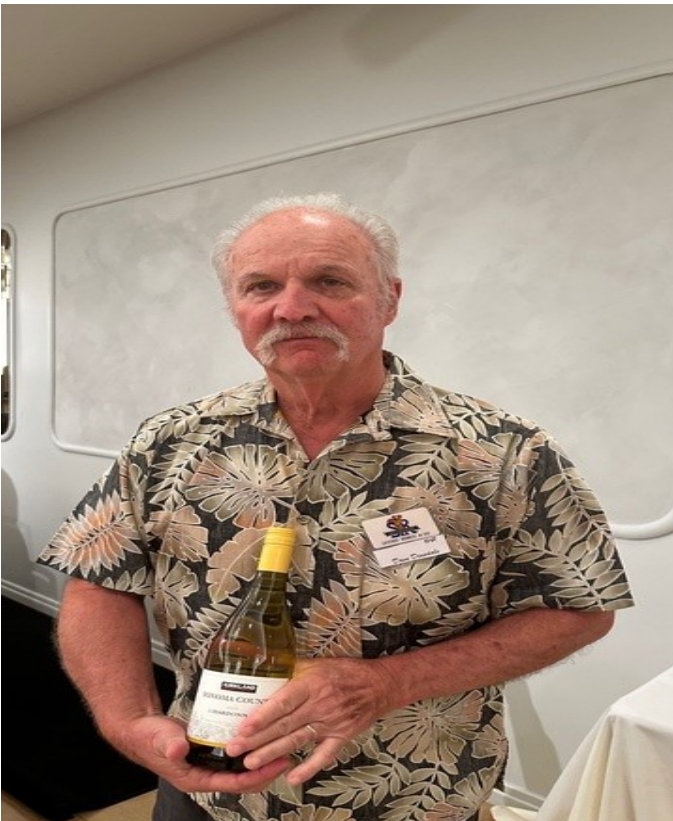
JULY GUEST SPEAKER



Guest Speaker—Kopi Sotoropolus, News and Entertainment Personality. Outstanding presentation held the audience captive,

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JULY WINE WINNERS



Upper Left– Rick Garcia

Upper Right- Dan Nance

Left—Dave Dinsdale

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Committee Reports and New Members



Ed Dorn– Activities

New Member: Bill Biggs, Sponsor: Ralph Handly



Bernie Hollenbeck– Sunshine & Attendance

Sponsor: Jackie Lovato, New Member: Rick Garcia



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50/50 winners

Don Laines



Bob Spain



Tom Thomas