



JANUARY LUNCHEON INFORMATION

WHEN: TUESDAY JAN 13, 2026

WHERE: Pardini's Catering

TIME: BEC Mtg 1030 , 1100 Social Hour, 1200 Lunch

COST: Lunch \$25. (Annual Dues of \$25 are due beginning January 2026, and must be paid during the first quarter.) Those members celebrating a birthday during the current month and attend the meeting, receive a free luncheon.

GUEST SPEAKER: TBA

MENU: Beef, Chicken or Chef Salad. And if you have other Dietary requirement, please let your caller know so that arrangements can be made.

THE GATEWAY CHAPTER 169

JANUARY BIG SIR REPORT

Writing the January newsletter is both bitter and sweet. First, I want to thank John Elezarian for being the Big Sir for the '24-'25 year. It was so nice to have John as Little Sir during my '22-'23 year. He made the transition into that year very easy. And, now he is making the next transition from '24-'25 to '25-'26 year very easy. I thank him for his organization and leadership in making this transition easy. I also want to thank those on the BEC for volunteering for another year. Having that consistency also makes the transition very easy. I am looking forward to another year as Big Sir. With your help and the BEC's help, we will make this a great year for SIRs in Branch #169.

And now for the bitter. We lost a great friend to Sirs over the holiday. Jim Hiney passed away. As some of you may or may not, Jim was undergoing treatments in the hospital for both liver and kidney problems. The procedures proved to be too much for his heart, as he passed away Christmas morning. Jim not only was a great friend to me, mentoring me through my first year a Big Sir, but great friend personally. He was always there for a joke and a laugh.

Jim was a great friend to SIRs as well. In past years he served as past Big Sir (at least twice), membership chairman, area representative as well as brokering the merger of #175 and #179 with #169. The merger, with the assistance of Ed Dorn was seamless. Jim is survived by his wife Cheryl, daughter Leanne and son Russell. Keep them in your thoughts and prayers as they navigate this new segment of life.

Ernie Sopp. Big SIR

THE GATEWAY CHAPTER 169

DECEMBER TREASURE REPORT

Beginning Balance	\$ 6,331.62
Income	\$ 3,480.00
Expenses	\$ 4,194.91
Ending Checkbook Bal	\$ 5,616.71
Petty Cash	\$ 100.00
Total Balance	\$ 5,716.71

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

THE GATEWAY CHAPTER 169

DECEMBER BOARD MINUTES

SIR CHAPTER 169

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES Date: December 9, 2025

Big SIR, John Eleazarian called the meeting to order at 10:20 am

ATTENDING: Manny Contino; John Eleazarian; Jim Forden; Ted Fox; Bob Large; Nick Lopez; Jackie Lovato; Bill Prince; Luis Rodriguez; Larry Roe; and Ernie Sopp

CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTION OF Guests: No Guests

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: MSC to approve, with corrections.

BIG SIR: 1) The SIR Form 20 to inform the State SIR of membership of our 2026 Board has been submitted. 2) The 2926 Board will be introduced for member approval at today's luncheon.

LITTLE SIR: 1) Wine to serve as gifts to speakers and drawing awards has been purchased for the new year. 2) Efforts to secure a full slate of speakers for 2026 is underway.

SECRETARY: Nothing new to report.

TREASURER: 1) Nick Lopez reported that in November, the receipts for our Chapter totaled \$ 1,920, and the expenses for the month were \$ 2,237.51. The checkbook balance now stands at \$ 6,331.62, which includes Petty Cash of \$100.00. A month's end, the Total Cash Available was \$6,431.62.

ACTIVITIES: Activities Chairman, Ed Dorn was not able to attend today's meeting, as a result no report.

MEMBERSHIP: 1) Membership Chairman, Jackie Lovato, continues to hold a new member application for induction. 2) Big SIR noted that there in some cases, there seems to be continuing issue regarding whether or not some applicants have received Board approval prior to induction. Big SIR suggested that it might be a good idea to note the date of Board approval on each member's application. 3) Ted Fox has a candidate for membership, but who will not be attending today's luncheon.

SUNSHINE: Sunshine Chairman, Bernie Hollenbeck was himself injured in a fall during the month, so was not able to attend today's meeting.

OLD BUSINESS: Nothing to discuss today

NEW BUSINESS: Nothing to report.

ADJOURNMENT: 10:58 am

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED: Jim Forden, Secretary



SIR

BRANCH INFORMATION

THE GATEWAY CHAPTER 169

SIR 169 Executive Board and Committee Chairman

2026 Board Members

Big SIR: Ernie Sopp

Little SIR: Larry Rowe

Secretary: Jim Forden

Treasurer: Nick Lopez

Membership: Jackie Lovato

Activities: Ed Dorn

Bill Prince: Roster

Ted Fox: Newsletter

Luis Rodriquez: Asst Secretary

Duane Evans: Asst Treasurer

Bernie Hollenbeck: Sunshine

Bob Large: Director

Roger Stewart: Director

Frank Bavaro: Director

Branch Website:

SIR169.org

State Website:

SIRINC.org

THE GATEWAY CHAPTER 169



2026

HAPPY NEW YEAR

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

SAM BEGLIN

MANNY CONTINO

JOE GARCIA

BOB HENRY

NICK LOPEZ

ROBERT ANKIN

RONALD PSITACCHIO

BILL PRINCE

MICHAEL TOLBERT

FRANK GONZALES

JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

FRANK AND LeANNE BAVARRO

RON AND MARSHA ELDER

RALPH AND BARBARA HANDLY

BERNIE AND LORNA HOLLENBECK

BOB AND PAULINE LARGE

NICK AND KAREN LOPEZ

MANNY AND CONNIE PERALES

JIM AND MARGARET PETERSON

CLIFF AND MARI RALEY

THE GATEWAY CHAPTER 169

JANUARY ACTIVITY REPORT

GOLF

Golf:

NCGA Dues of 55.00 are now past due: You can pay at the January luncheon or send your check to Ed Dorn, 10418 N. Sinclair Cr., Fresno, CA 93730. Make the check out to: "Sirs 169 golf"

Current schedule can be found on the golf web page:

<https://sirgcarea29br169.memberplanet.com>

December Schedule:

Jan 6th Tues 9:00 Dragon Fly 4man 2bb

Jan 20th Tues 9:00 Ridge Creek Cha Cha Cha

Jan 27th Tues 9:00 Madera CC Scrambles

Ken Myers is the host for January

Thank You, Dave Dinsdale for hosting in December

DATE NIGHTS

Couples' Nite Out: January 15th

Mama Iguana's Mexican Restaurant (formally Bobby Salazar's) located at 1129 E. Champlain Ave., Fresno. Dinner at 6:00. Fresno. Contact Ed Dorn or sign up at the January luncheon.

Diners: 3rd Wednesday, January 21st

Four Season's Restaurant located at 342 N. Clovis Ave., Fresno. Drinks at 5:00. Dinner at 6:00. Contact Don Laines or Tom Lean for more information.

Date-Nite: 3rd Wednesday January 21st

Contact Manny Contino for more information

THE GATEWAY CHAPTER 169

JANUARY ACTIVITY REPORT

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 - 10 am at the Break the Barriers indoor courts.

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

THE GATEWAY CHAPTER 169

DECEMBER MEETING



JOHN ELEZARA-
IAN, BIG SIR ,
BRINGIMG THE
MEETING TO OR-
DER



JOHN ELEZARIAN, CONDUCTS THE INDUCTION OF
NEW OFFICERS FOR NEXT YEAR



THE GATEWAY CHAPTER 169

DECEMBER MEETING



David Ware and our own internal Santa

While it was a little cozy for the luncheon, and performers, it was still a great luncheon and time spent with friends during the Holiday.



THE GATEWAY CHAPTER 169

DECEMBER ENTERTAINMENT

Bullard Talent Entertainment, performed another outstanding ensemble of songs and dance.



THE GATEWAY CHAPTER 169

WINE WINNERS



CHARLENE EVANS



LISA CARRERA



FRANK AND EVONNE GOMES

THE GATEWAY CHAPTER 169

DECEMBER 50/50 WINNERS

DAVE HOFFMAN



JOHN ELEZARIAN



CELINE HENNING