



SIR

AUG 2026

THE GATEWAY CHAPTER 169

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AUGUST LUNCHEON INFORMATION

WHEN:	TUESDAY August 11,, 2026
WHERE:	Pardini's Catering
TIME:	BEC Mtg 1030 , 1100 Social Hour, 1200 Lunch
COST:	Lunch \$25.00, Guests \$25.00
GUEST ENT/SPKR:	Bernetta Sadakov, Outreach Specialist, WelbeHealth
MENU:	Beef, Chicken, 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 JULY MESSAGE

Happy August to all Sirs. Hope the weather finds everyone enjoying summer and having a relaxing vacation. Just a couple of informative tidbits; one is an FYI, the other is information you will be interested in.

The FYI: After reviewing Policy B-7 (Travel) and consulting with the State Director and State Insurance Chairman, the following has been determined for Foreign Travel Insurance. It used to be required for Sirs that traveled abroad, a payment of \$27.00 per traveler was necessary for all sirs traveling with their spouses. After reviewing the foreign traveling program, with NO co-pays for travel, the state board has eliminated the Foreign Travel Rider Insurance Policy.

Effective August 1, 2026, the State Insurance Chairman will be notifying Sirs insurance agent that the rider for foreign travel is being eliminated.

The information you will be interested in: As you are aware, the cost of doing business has greatly increased. Pardini's has worked with our group to keep the price of lunches the same as per our contract for the 2026 year. We are in negotiations with Pardini's for a new contract for 2027. We fully expect there to be an increase in the price of our monthly lunch. The new contract will come up at the next BEC meeting for discussion and I will report out the results to the membership at our meeting in August.

Ernie Sopp

Big Sir Br 169

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jULY TREASURERS REPORT

Beginning Balance	\$ 5,369.08
Income	\$ 2,413.00
Expenses	\$ 3,094.82
Ending Checkbook Bal	\$ 4,687.26
Petty Cash	\$ 100.00
Total Balance	\$ 4,787.26
Treasures report subject to final approval at the next monthly BEC meeting.	

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

No new members last month, please kee3p your eyes and ears open for possible new applicants. Invite someone to a meeting, recruit a golfing buddy, look for other opportunities to add new members.

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JULY SECRETARY REPORT

SIR 169 EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES Date: July 7, 2026

Big SIR called the meeting to order at 10:27 am

ATTENDING: Ed Dorn; John Eleazarian; Ray Escobar; ;Duane Evans; Jim Forden; Ted Fox; Bernie Hollenbeck; Bob Large; Nick Lopez;; Bill Prince; Luis Rodriguez; Ernie Sopp; Roger Stewart;

Guests: No guest

BIG SIR REPORT: Big Sir, Ernie Sopp: 1) Reported that we have received a message from State SIR requesting that we establish a position of Branch Data Coordinator, who could maintain electronic records of the membership and file reports to the State in digital format. Members of SIR, are required to sign and submit Conflict of Interest MSC to establish a Data Coordinator position for our Branch 16(. Jim Forden offered to initially assumed the related duties; 2) Ernie reported that he had received a copy of the insurance certificate for our caterer (Pardinis) from Dibudio and Defendis and will pass a copy along to the State SIR. .E;rnies 3) In receiving the certificate, we are reminded that we will need to begin discussion with Pardinis re a catering contract for 2027. Subsequent to approving a new contract, we will need to consider the impact of the updated pricing may have on our dues structure for the new year. Bernie was assigned the task of meeting with the caterer to negotiate the contract for 2027 4).In closing his report, Ernie reminded that the signed Conflict of Interest forms need to be turned in.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: MSC to approve as submitted.

LITTLE SIR REPORT: On behalf of Larry Rowe, Ray Escobar reported: 1;) Todays luncheon speaker wiii be Warren Armstrong, local news anchorman, who will provide a multimedia presentation re the Honor Flights program; 2) Speakers and programs have been secured for the remaining meetings in this year.

SECRETARY REPORT: Jim Forden reported that our speaker at last month's meeting gave him a suggestion we contact someone from E Clampus Vitus as a future presenter.

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JULY SECRETARY REPORT

TREASURER'S REPORT: Nick Lopez: 1) Reported that after posting of Income in the amount of \$2,242.00 for the month of June 2026, with Expenses for the month totaling \$2408.31, there is a balance of \$5369.08, in the check book. The Total Cash Available is \$55,469.08, which includes \$100 of Petty Cash

ACTIVITIES: Ed Dorn: 1) Announced that the next Golf Outing will be at Madera CC on Tuesday. 2) On Saturday, July 25th, Date Night will be going to Lazy Dog Restaurant. On Wednesday, July 15th, SIR Diners will be dining at Ovidio's Italian restaurant. residence of one of our members (contact Don Lean for info); and Couples Night Out will be dining at La Kabrada Mexican Restaurant this Thursday night, July 16th.

MEMBERSHIP: Jackie Lovato reported that he has not received any new membership applications.

SUNSHINE: Bernie Hollenbeck reported that: 1) A total of 110 members have signed 2) up for today's meeting; 2) Jackie Lovato has been suffering from back spasms and Chick Threlfeld is still undergoing rehab for medical issues

NEW BUSINESS: No new issues.

OLD BUSINESS: None

ADJOURNED 10:55 am

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED: Jim Forden, Secretary

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BRANCH INFORMATION

2026 Board Members

Big SIR: Ernie Sopp

Little SIR: Larry Rowe (LOA)

Secretary: Jim Forden

Treasurer: Nick Lopez

Membership: Jackie Lovato

Activities: Ed Dorn

Bill Prince: Roster/Callers

Ted Fox: Newsletter

Luis Rodriguez: Asst Secretary

Duane Evans: Asst Treasurer

Bernie Hollenbeck: Sunshine

Bob Large: Director

Roger Stewart: Director

Frank Bavaro: Director

Ray Escobar: Interm Little SIR

Branch Website:

SIR169.org

State Website:

SIRINC.org

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AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

ROBERT AMATO

TONY ANELLO

KENNETH BEAL

HENRY BERUMEN

STANLEY BUSCH

FRANK GOMES

BERNIE HOLLENBECK

MARIO JAMES

HOWARD JONES

TOM LEAN (I hope)

MANNY PERALES

NICK SMIRNOV

AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

PAUL & SUSAN DEHN

DAVE & TRACIE GOODWIN

KEITH & HELEN HERZOG

DAN & JESSICA KAISER

TOM & CATHY LEAN

DAN & BARBARA LINDSTROM

ERICK BEVERLY MILLER

MICHAEL & MARY PANELLA

BILL & CONNIE PRINCE

LESTER & PAT SAYWELL

NICK & GAYLE SMIRNOV

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AUGUST ACTIVITIES

GOLF

Golf:

Aug 4th Tues 8:00 Airways Lone Ranger

Aug 18th Tues 8:00 Madera Muni Cha Cha
Cha

Aug 25th Tues 9:00 Lemoore Flighted

Thank You, Joe Russo for hosting in July

Cliff Raley is hosting in August

Sir State Golf Web page: <https://sirgolf.org>

DATE NIGHTS

Couples' Nite Out: August 13th

Piazza Del Pane located at 8043 N. Cedar Ave., Fresno. Dinner at 6:00. Contact Ed Dorn or sign up at the August luncheon.

Sir Diners: 3rd Wednesday, August 19th

Elbow Room Restaurant located in Fig Garden Shopping Center, Fresno. Drinks at 5:00. Dinner at 6:00 Contact Don Laines or Tom Lean for more information.

Date-Nite: 3rd Wednesday August 19th

Contact Manny Contino for more information.

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AUGUST ACTIVITIES

POKER GROUPS

1. Formerly Br 169 group. Contact Ed Dorn 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 free to provide light snacks and beverages, however it is a BYOR. 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/OTHER ACTIVITIES

Pickle Ball/ Badminton, Cornhole or Ping Pong
Friday at Break the Barriers (Cedar and Teague)

Time 8:30 to 10:00

Contact Jackie Lovato, Don Laines or Larry Rowe for more information

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JULY Photo Gallery

WINE WINNERS



RICHARD LARA



DAN NANCE



WOODY WILK

50/50 WINNERS



RALPH HANDLY



JIM PETERSON



RICHARD EWELL

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VETERAN GAMES WINNER



Jackie Lovato, with the medals he won at the recent Veterans Games in Tampa Bay Florida. Jackie will share his experience and tell us about the many events and awards he was able to earn. Very proud of you and of all the other Veterans who made the trip and participated.

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INFORMATION



Don't let a text cost you.

Think you could spot a scam? The best ones don't look obvious. Learn how to recognize the warning signs before you respond.

https://image.mem.usaa360.com/lib/fe34117371640574741672/m/1/NC_0726_hero_desk.png

The article was provided by George Psching, however I was unable to copy the entire article in the Newsletter.. If you are not a USAA Member you may not have received this, but as I read through it it is a good article in regard to 'TEXT Scams. I think you can get to it from the link above.

