



BULLETIN

April 2022

Website: sonorasirs.org
SONORA BRANCH #136

Tuesday, Apr. 12th

Happy Hour at 11:00am

Lunch at 12:00pm

Contact via e-mail:

sirjerry4@gmail.com

Or

Call (209) 588-3978

**Leave Your Name, Badge No,
& Number of guests.**

**Deadline for reservations is
April 6, 2022**

Menu:

**Swiss Steak, Mashed Potatoes,
Corn (substitute Green Beans),
Green Salad and Sherbet**

**BEC Meeting will meet on
April 12th at 10:00 am in the
Elks lounge SE Corner.**

ATTENTION:

**LUNCHEON RESERVATION
DEADLINE**

The deadline each month to make a reservation is 6 days before the meeting. We are aware that you may not receive the bulletin before this deadline. If you could make an effort to remember to make your reservations on time it would be greatly appreciated.



BULLETIN INPUT NOTICE!

Jim Botto Editor - 559-0931

Asst. Jerry Bellefeuille 588-3978

If you have any photos of your activity please attach them to your reports. If I do not receive your report by the deadline I will just report no activity for the month. Please send all bulletin input to Jim Botto at

giacamo42@gmail.com

The deadline for the next bulletin is

April 30, 2022



BIG SIR MESSAGE

Phil VanSwoll

(209) 532-1133

pvanswoll@outlook.com

Our March meeting was our best turn-out of the year. Things are looking up! There are still about 1/2 of our membership that aren't coming out, so we hope that as the Covid threat eases, more and more of you will feel comfortable in joining us. Good food, good speakers, and good friends – what more could you ask for?

Please remember that it is vital that you call in and reserve your spot for each meeting. We must give a count for the venue and also for the caterer, so they know how many seats to set up and how much food to prepare. If we don't know you are coming, it becomes impossible to make proper plans. Several people showed up unannounced at our last meeting, and while we are certainly happy to see you, it creates a lot of last-minute uncertainty as far as making sure there is a place for you is concerned. The instructions on how to make your reservation are on the top left corner of each month's bulletin – please help us out by sending an email or making a call. Thanks for your cooperation!

We are working hard to find good speakers with topics of interest for you. Unfortunately, there are some in attendance who appear to prefer having their own conversations with others at their table while the speaker is making a sincere effort to engage the entire audience. This is very disruptive to all concerned. If there is something so important you must discuss it while the program is being conducted, please have the courtesy to step outside until you are done. We would all appreciate it! Bring a friend to the next meeting – we'd love to meet them! Hope to see you soon.

Our Guest Speaker

Cathy Peacock of Interfaith Services.

Interfaith is a non profit organization serving Tuolumne County residents with food, clothing, other assistance.



LITTLE SIR MESSAGE

Gene Bettencourt

(209) 533-1676

genebettencourt@comcast.net

.Spring is here and now is the time to get involved with our outdoor activities, such as the Car Club, Golf, RV, Fishing, Kayaking, etc. Bocce may also be in the works. Staying active helps keep us all healthy. Starting this month, flyers will be available to members giving information on various travel possibilities. This information is provided by Milt Smith, the State Travel Chair. The first package contains information on ocean and river cruises suggested by members of other SIR branches. In the next coming weeks, I will be meeting with various members to see what is available locally and at a lower cost. I hope to find tours that consist of one or two day bus trips to local attractions or facility tours that our members could drive to on their own or in groups. Please send me any ideas you might have. Anyone that would like to help me put this together would be greatly appreciated.

In Loving Memory of:

It is with great sadness that I wish to inform you that former Big Sir, Little SIR and Branch Secretary and my friend. John Bristow passed away Sunday

Barbara requested the following be sent out: John passed away peacefully this afternoon in the hospital from natural causes and that Barbara, and their daughter were with him. Information will be sent out at a Later date regarding a service. Thank you everyone for your support and prayers.
Barbara

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

Zanoni, Gene	04/01
Burnes, Bill	04/01
Bowers, Michael	04/03
Harrelson, Ray	04/05
Rossi, David	04/06
Wright, Mike	04/07
Deaver, Gene	04/07
Avila, John	04/07
Basham, Darell	04/09
Abbott, Blair	04/15
Tuganov, Sasha	04/23



RV CLUB NEWS

Eddie Toews (209) 5323970
lcoinlady@aol.com

The RV Club just returned from a very nice outing to Bakersfield, CA. There was a lot of catching up and visiting with old and new friends. Of course, we ate and drank a lot and just enjoying being out on the road again. Some did get out and do some sightseeing and enjoy the area. Some visited the cobbler shop (shoe repair shop) where the building is shaped like a shoe. Others went shopping while others visited with family members that live in the Bakersfield area. A fun time was had by all.

Our next outing will be to Plymouth, CA. in May. Anyone in SIRs that has an RV and wants to get out and travel can visit the club outings and join us. Contact Eddie Toews, RV chairman at 209-532-3970. He will get you the information and welcome you to the outing.



MEMBERSHIP REPORT

MEMBERSHIP REPORT
Previous Months Membership
(February)

Total Active Members	166
March Luncheon	
Luncheon Attendance (46%)	75
Excused Absences (54%)	88
Current Month Membership (February)	
Active Membership (February)	166
Applicants Being Installed	+2
Active Members Lost	-4
Active Membership March	164

KAYAKING/EASY HIKING

Sol Robin (707) 315-1284
solhomes@sbcglobal.net

Spring is just around the corner! Interested is a slow paddle around Pinecrest lake followed by a fun BBQ? I've been asked what is needed to join in. Kayaks are available at retailers like Walmart and Big 5. For our outings a very basic kayak is fine.

Kayaks are available for under \$140 at



Walmart. Check the weight capacity before you buy! Other than the boat, you'll need a lightweight paddle, wear personal floatation devices, and a wide brim hat! Your wife or significant other is welcome! Please contact Sol with any questions, 707-315-1284 or on email at solhomes@sbcglobal.net.



Music Group Interest

Do you play a musical instrument, at any skill level? Would you like to play music with other folks, learn from each other and improve your skills? If so, please contact Sol Robin at (707) 315-1284 or solhomes@sbcglobal.net.



Happy Easter



CAR CLUB CHAIRMAN

Rick Bronner - (408) 318-4826
bronnerrick@gmail.com

I'm still planning on a drive to Yosemite on Thursday May 12th. I'm not going to let the hike in gas prices stop me from having fun! The plan is to meet at the Masonic Lodge at 9am that morning. Anyone interested in joining me please contact me at bronnerrick@gmail.com or call me at 408-318-4826.



GOLF REPORT

Rick Bronner - (408) 318-4826
bronnerrick@gmail.com

Looking for a Golf Chairman if you are interested please contact Phil VanSwoll (209) 532-1133 pvanswoll@outlook.com

Last months SIRS golf tournament was cancelled due to rain. Those of you that paid last month can have that money used towards the next tournament on April 19th at La Contenta Golf course. La Contenta is located at 1653 State Rte. 26, Valley Springs, CA 95252. If you want to sign up contact Danny Laureta at drlaureta@gmail.com.



BOWLING REPORT

Rick Bronner - (408) 318-4826
bronnerrick@gmail.com

The bowling season will be coming to an end on the last week of April. Due to Black Oak having a no-tap tournament on the first Friday of the month, the league lost a number of bowling opportunities. As of the end of March, Three Friends lead the league by 10 games. If they hold their lead, they will bowl against The Wild Ones for the league title. The Wild Ones won the first half.

Hopefully, next year the league will get more bowlers to participate, and Black Oak will be back open on Monday and Tuesday so the league can move back to the early Monday slot they had for a number of years.

Mike Coe



PINOCHLE

Bob Morrison—588-0994
robert.mrrsn@yahoo.com

The adjacent table shows our scores for the pinochle tournaments in March. The table lists for each player the average of his scores for playing cutthroat pinochle and the average of his scores for playing partners pinochle. Please join us to play pinochle. We meet each Monday at the Moose Lodge, 20921 Longway Road from 12:45 P.M. to 4:30 P.M. From 12:45 P.M. to 1:00 P.M. is for tournament registration. The tournaments start at 1:00 P.M. To participate in a tournament, you must meet the following requirements: You must have on record with our SIR branch that you have been fully vaccinated (2 shots, if required) against the COVID-19 virus. Alternatively, at the tournament, you must show the pinochle director the original, a copy, or photo (in hardcopy or via a phone) of a COVID-19 vaccination record card that indicates that you have been fully vaccinated. You must have on record with our SIR branch that you have signed a *SIR Event Waiver and Release of Liability* form. Alternatively, at the tournament, the pinochle director will give you the form which you must sign. He will mail your signed form to our SIR branch. If you would like to join us, but don't know how to play, we will teach you. You will play with members from all three of our SIR branches. You don't need to come every time but only when you want to. Your first two tournaments are free, but thereafter you pay only \$4 at each session. You will win \$10 if you score in the top 50% at the end of one of your free tournaments. The two highest scoring players at the end of a session win cash prizes.

March 2022		
Player	Branch	Average
CUTTHROAT PINOCHLE SCORES		
Sonny Tome	77	274
John White	136	246
Roland Patton	172	188
Tom Long	136	187
Del Rotelli	77	183
Bob Morrison	136	180
Bill Burnes	136	103
March 2022		
Player	Branch	Average
PARTNER PINOCHLE SCORES		
Tom Long	136	477
Bob Morrison	136	472
Del Rotelli	77	454
John White	136	419
Bill Burnes	136	292



FISHING CHAIRMAN

Chuck Simons - (209) 532-9550
simons4890@yahoo.com
No Fishing Report for April



INTERNET CHAIRMAN

Jerry Bellefeuille
(209) 588-3978
sirjerry4@gmail.com

Our Branch website is at sonorasirs.org. Here you can look at current as well as old bulletins, BEC meeting minutes and more. Please let me know if you have a new email address so I can get timely branch information to you. I hope to see you all at the next meeting. Our state sir bulletin can be viewed at <https://wearesir.com>.

Check in desk help wanted

Are you looking for a fun way to help our branch? We need some part time help at the check in desk. This is a fun job where you get to meet all our members. If you volunteer with a buddy, you can have a great social hour just getting caught up with each other in between checking in members. There will be meetings in the future where help will be needed so if you can help for even one meeting a year it would be a great help.

Your 2022 Officers & Directors

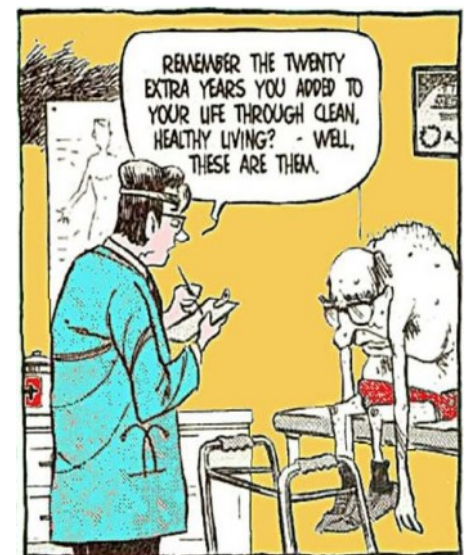
BIG SIR: Phil VanSwoll 209-532-1133
LTL SIR: Gene Bettencourt 209-533-1676
SECRETARY: Bill Burnes 209-533-4334
Asst. SEC: Dick Aberle 209-532-4066
TRESURER: Eddie Toews 209-532-3970
Asst. TRES: Steve Aldridge 209-770-5287
BULLETIN Editor: Jim Botto 209-559-0931
Asst. Editor: Jerry Bellefeuille 209 588-3978

Directors:

Rick Bronner 408-318-4826
George Cocores 209-456-9814
Stan Enos 209-533-2928
Rex Page 209-533-4501
Marty Martin 209-586-1886
Jim Botto 209-559-0931



God gave us our lives and our veterans protect our freedom!





Want Some SIRs Apparel?

If you have a computer and are on the internet, no problem! Just go to the SIRs Branch 136 website and look at the catalog, choose what you want, including the embroidery, print a simplified order form for each item you want, fill out the form and give it to me, Fred Kehr, your Merchandise Chairman, at the next meeting, along with your check, and I'll consolidate orders to avoid chipping and handling charges. Upon arrival of the package, I'll bring the items to the next meeting for distribution.

You can also go to <https://sir.ourproshop.com>, peruse the items there. Should your order be large enough to avoid handling and shipping charges, you should be able to handle the order yourself, using a credit card. Of course, if you are willing to pay the handling and shipping charges, you should always be able to handle your order yourself. You might also consolidate your order with a friend's and avoid shipping and handling charges that way.

If you don't have access to a computer, etc., a couple of catalogs will be available at our meetings on the table between the bar and dining areas at the Elks' Lodge. Browse through the catalog, and if you find something you like, take an order sheet and fill it out, placing the completed form on the designated clip board. Don't hesitate asking me about details. Once the order form is completed, I will contact you and get the payment (preferably a check) from you. I'll consolidate orders until I have a volume sufficient to avoid the handling and shipping fees, unless, of course, you are willing to pay them. In that case, your order will be processed separately. If I don't get a couple of orders together within a couple of months, I'll contact you to determine if you are willing to wait longer, and we'll go from there.



Ladies Day

Luncheon

May 10th, 2022



No Host Cocktails

@ 11:00 am

Lunch @ Noon

Menu:

Shrimp Cocktail

Rib Eye Steak w/ Baked Potato

-or- Salmon with Rice Pilaf

Includes Vegetable, Salad

and Dessert

\$30.00 per Person

Tickets will go on sale at the
March & April Luncheons

MAXIMUM 200 TICKETS

AVAILABLE

NO CANCELATIONS AFTER

May 3, 2022

EVENTS COMMITTEE:

Gene Bettencourt (209) 533-1676

Paul Squeri Stan Enos

Dick Aberle Bill Guenza

Jim Botto George Cocores



Dot Popovich

Agent, Lic. #0B12959
 558 S. Washington St.
 Sonora, CA 95370-5116
 Bus 209 532 4120
 www.dotpopovich.com
 dot@dotpopovich.com



Providing Insurance and Financial Services



Todd Simonson, AAMS®, CFP®
 Financial Advisor

1311 Sanguinetti Road Ste B
 Sonora, CA 95370
 Bus. 209-533-1307 Fax 888-305-1959
 todd.simonson@edwardjones.com
 www.edwardjones.com
 California Insurance License OC24309



Sean Breaux
 30+ years of experience

209-768-1882
 16546 Sallander Dr.
 Sonora California 95370
 www.410automotive.com
 410automotive@outlook.com

410 Automotive
 Foreign & Domestic
 (Specializing in Honda & Acura)
 B.A.R. Lic.# ARD 288499

Honda & ASE Certified Master Technician

Kelli Slater ~ Owner
 Stylist & Color Specialist
 Instagram ~ @strands95370

Strands
 Full Service Salon

14570 Mono Way, Suite J
 Sonora, Ca 95370
 (209) 536-4380
 mkalslater@gmail.com

"Home of the Tire War"
WRIGHT'S TIRE
 694 South Washington Street
 Sonora, CA 95370

Jon Wright - Owner (209) 532-7560

Sierra HEAVY DUTY
RV & TRUCK CENTER INC.

Steve Henley
 Owner
 (209) 532-7994
 (209) 559-3840
 After hours/Emergency
 shop@sierraheavyduty.com
 www.sierraheavyduty.com
 18968 Waylon Way Sonora, CA 95370

TAMARA M. POLLEY

162 W. Stockton Street
 Sonora, CA 95370

209-694-3622
 Fax 209-694-3624
 tamara@tpolleylaw.com

TMP

Estate
 Planning
 Attorney

TAYLOR
Jewelers

- wedding ring specialist
- jewelry repair
- custom design

In the Junction Shopping Center
 under the clock tower

Mike Taylor

209 • 533 • 9302
 13769 Mono Way, Suite N
 Sonora, CA 95370

Hairy's Family Haircuts
 20999 Spanish Grant Dr Ste C, Sonora CA 95370

Jill Huckaby
 209.533.0600

To all our members, if you frequent any of these businesses, please remember to thank them for their gracious support to our Branch.

SIR STATE OFFICERS

www.sirinc.org

President - Rick Kindle
Vice-President - Dave Gonzales
Secretary - Dick DeVoe
Treasurer - Roy Hodgkinson
Region 2 Director - Dale Decker
Area 5 Governor - Paul Squeri

PAST BIG SIR'S BRANCH 136 SONORA

1997 - Dave Holton 1999 - Al Limon
2000 - Bob Gibbs 2002 - Jim Nuzum
2003 - Dick Nutting 2004 - Bill Dunlavy
2007 - Wil Reich 2008 - Roger Milligan
2009 - Don Nilan 2010 - Don Banchemo
2011 - Al Smith 2012 - Baci Frecceri
2013 - Phil VanSwoll 2014 - John Bristow
2015 - Jim Johnson 2016 - Dale Decker
2017 - Danney Laureta 2018 - Paul Squeri
2019 - Jim Botto - Gene Zaroni - 2020 &
2021

BRANCH #136 HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS

Frank Taylor - Treasurer 2001-2015
Dale Decker - Big Sir 2016

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS

Applications for membership in Sonora SIR Branch #136 are to be obtained from the Membership Director at the monthly meetings, by telephoning him at 456-9814 and ask for an application form that will be mailed to you, or by downloading the form from our branch website.

www.sonorasirs.org. After the application is filled out, it is to be returned to George Cocores with a check for the amount stated on the application. George's address is 17595 Brentwood Ln. Twain Harte, CA 95383

Branch 136 Executive Committee

Big Sir: Phil VanSwoll 532-1133
Little Sir: Gene Bettencourt 533-1676
Sec: Bill Burnes 533-4334
Asst Sec: Dick Aberle 532-4066
Treas: Eddie Toews 532-3970
Asst.Tres: Steve Aldridge 770-5287

DIRECTORS

Marty Martin (209) 586-1886
George Cocores (209) 456-9814
Rex Page (209) 533-4501
Stan Enos (209) 533-2928
Jim Botto (209) 559-0931
Rick Bronner - (408) 318-4826

Behind the Scenes

Photographer - **Steve Belochi** 533-5315
Bulletin - **Jim Botto** 559-0931
Internet - **Jerry Bellefeuille** 588-3978
SIR Items Sales - **Fred Kehr** 785-4358
Chaplain - **Open at present**

Looking for a volunteer

DECLARATIONS NON RESPONSIBILITY DECLARATION

All activities arranged for or by, Sons In Retirement, Incorporated, and its Branches, are for the convenience and pleasure of the members and their guests who desire to participate, Sons In Retirement, Incorporated, and its Branches do not assume any responsibility for the well being or safety of the participants or their property, in any matters pertaining to said activities (Rule 345).

Checks, money orders or credit cards for Travel for one day or less (no overnight), where a bus/busses is/are used as the primary means of transportation, may be made payable to the Branch sponsoring the event. All other checks, money orders or credit cards for travel must be made payable to the travel agency (Rule 429 & 421).

DATED MATERIAL

Sons In Retirement, Inc
Sonora Branch #136
22295 Paseo De Los Portales
Sonora, CA 95370



DEVOTED TO THE
PROMOTION
OF INDEPENDENCE AND
DIGNITY OF
RETIREMENT

STAMP

ADDRESS LABEL