



BULLETIN

April, 2024

Website: sonorasirs.org

SONORA BRANCH #136

Next Meeting:

Tuesday, April 9th

Reserve your spot(s) with:

George Cocores -

greekbeak1@aol.com

Or Call (209) 456-9814

Leave Your Name, Badge No. & Number of guests. **Deadline** for reservations is: **April 4, 2024**

Menu:

Swiss Steak, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, Green Salad and Cake

Come hear our exciting Guest Speaker:
Chief Whitson of Cal Fire



BULLETIN INPUT NOTICE

Don Herzer Editor - (209) 586-3078

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 Don Herzer at:

corvdon@wsccpubs.net **The deadline for the next bulletin is:**

March 31, 2024



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>.



BIG SIR MESSAGE

Rick Bronner

(408) 318-4826

bronnerrick@gmail.com

I recently Attended the SIR State Summit held at the Lafayette Veterans Memorial Center. In attendance were the BIG SIR and several Little SIRS from multiple branches throughout Northern California. Currently SIR has appx. 8,600 members within its 84 branches. There were several topics of discussion on how to improve and grow our branch membership. After updates from our state reps, we all broke into round table discussions comparing what each branch has found successful for improving our meetings and growing our membership. I wasn't surprised to find activities like golf and bowling are the large source of new members. Several branches found special events like local community events and shows worked well. Some of the branches felt their website was a big draw. After comparing notes, we all came to the same conclusion; It's OUR OWN MEMBERS word of mouth and inviting friends to our meetings that brings in the most new members! Yes, were counting on you to help keep SIR alive!

Since our Little SIR Mike Krom is still on his temporary leave of absence I'll update you on our guest speakers. We were privileged to have Officer Steve Machado from the California Highway Patrol take time to meet with us. Steve covered many topics concerning not just the CHP's coverage and patrolling in Tuolumne County but also invited our members to join him in a senior driving class. As we get older our reflexes just aren't what they used to be so his class helps us to adjust for it. Steve also invited our members to volunteer to help with the CHP in our community. Anyone interested can contact Steve at smachado@chp.ca.gov or you can call his office at 209-984-3944.

At our upcoming April meeting I'm pleased to announce we will have Chief Whitson from Cal Fire. I'm sure the Chief will cover topics like their ongoing fire preventative measures here in Tuolumne County and what you can do to minimize fire hazards. I'm sure you will have many questions for the Chief. I hope to see all of you at our April Meeting it should be a good one.

Rick Bronner



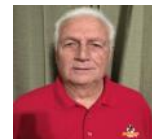
LITTLE SIR MESSAGE

Mike Krom

(209) 586-1533

mmowers@mlode.com

[Mike is on Medical leave. We wish him well.]



RV CLUB NEWS

Eddie Toews (209) 770-3776

lcoinlady@aol.com

The RV Club just returned from a very successful outing to "Betabel RV Park" near by Gilroy. Everyone enjoyed and participated in several games and activities such as, Bocci Ball, Corn Hole, puzzles and a special game of "Not So Newlywed Game". Barny and Beth Barnes were the winners of the game. The weather was great except for one day that we had on and off rain. We had the clubhouse so that wasn't much of an issue. [See pictures on page 4]

Our next outing will be from July 14th to July 19th to Sugar Barge RV park in the Delta. The RV Club is now open to all Sirs Member in good standing that would like to join us on an outing. You don't have to have an RV, as a lot of the parks have cabins or tent camping and you can rent an RV or a hotel room close by and spend the week with us enjoying the activities. Just contact Eddie Toews, RV Chairman, at 209-770-3776, or a RV Club member for more information.

Eddie Toews





MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN

George Cocores - (209) 456-9814
greekbeak1@aol.com

MEMBERSHIP REPORT MARCH 2024

March Luncheon

Luncheon Attendance (57%) 72
Excused Absences (43%) 55

Current Month Membership

Active Membership (February) 129
Applicants Being Installed +1
Active Members Lost -3
Active Membership March 127



GOLF CLUB NEWS

Raul Santana - (925) 451-7351
rsantana01@yahoo.com

Our first tournament for 2024 was a great time had by all. The weather at Teledi GC could not have been better. We had 28 golfers participating. Special mention to Branch 136's own John Marrs for Low Net and also Closest to the Pin on hole #12. The next tournament is scheduled for April 16 at Teledi GC.. Hope to see you out on the course.

Raul Santana



FISHING CHAIRMAN

Chuck Simons - (209) 532-9550
simons4890@yahoo.com

No report this issue

Chuck Simons



BOWLING CLUB NEWS

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

We had two SIR bowling tournaments in March. First up was at Citrus Heights at Fireside Lanes. There were 29 entries in group A and 25 in group B. Darren Chan from branch 55 took first place in group A with a 796 series and Randy Kelly also with branch 55 took first place in group B with a 783 series. Darren received a nice payout of \$84 and Randy scored \$81. For his efforts.

On March 19-20th there was a tournament in Concord at Clayton Valley Bowl. They had 36 entries in Division 1 and 36 in Division 2. Gary Kaufmann from Branch 19 took first place with an 849 series in division 1. Veronica Palmer with branch 142G took first place with an 827 series. They each took home \$78 for their efforts. Not bad for a fun day of bowling!

Coming up this April is the Tournament in Carson City at Gold Dust West. This year the dates are April 22nd thru the 25th. There will be Singles, Doubles and Teams. Here is the link to the application;
https://sirbowling.org/tournament_applications/2024/2024-04-22_Carson_City_Fields.pdf

Room rates at the GDW are quite reasonable at \$99. Here is the contact info for the GDW;
Gold Dust West, 2171 E. William St., Carson City, NV 89701
(775) 885-9000, ext. 1
gdwccinfo@bhwk.com
Hopefully you'll all join me in Carson City!

Rick Bronner



CAR CLUB NEWS

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

The Car Show season is upon us already. On Saturday April 6th the Knights Ferry Classic Car Show will be held on Main Street in Knights Ferry. The show will run from 9am to 3pm and will feature cool cars, live music, family fun and the best part is its free admission.

(continued next column)

Next up is the Hot Copper Car Show held at the Town Square at Copper Valley Shopping center in Copperopolis. The show runs from 8am to 3pm on Saturday May 4th. This is one of Northern California's largest car shows with appx. 300 cars on display. With well over a dozen award categories there will be many trophies handed out. Not only are their classic and custom cars and trucks, hot rods and even modern cars but motorcycles as well. It's a great venue with tons to see several places to grab a bite as well as a cold drink. Highly recommended.

And no sooner than two weeks later on Saturday May 18th is the 12th annual Rods to Rails Car show in held on Main Street in Jamestown. You can expect up to 200 entries including classic cars, hot rods and more. There also is a great raffle in the park on main street. Main Street is lined with shops and restaurants to explore as well. You can easily make a day of it with so much to see.

Rick Bronner

PINOCHLE REPORT

No Report this month
Chairman Position now open



CHAPLIN'S CORNER
Steven Gregory - (209) 728-5707
discogregory@aol.com

Easter Blessings to all members and their families. HE is risen

Steven Gregory



KAYAKING

Sol Robin (707) 315-1284
solrobin57@gmail.com

The kayak group will begin our schedule for 2024 in either April or May, depending on weather. Our outings are slow paddles around Pinecrest Lake followed by a BBQ or picnic. Spouses or significant others are welcome and encouraged to join in!

Sol Robin

Ladies Day Luncheon

May 14, 2024



No Host Cocktails
@ 11:00 am

Lunch @ Noon

Menu: Choice of
New York Steak w/Baked Potato
or Chicken Picatta or Salmon with
Rice Pilaf, Salad, Vegetable
and Dessert.
Shrimp Cocktail

\$35:00 per Person

Tickets will go on sale at the
March & April Luncheons

MAXIMUM 224 TICKETS AVAILABLE
NO CANCELLATIONS AFTER
May 6, 2024

EVENTS COMMITTEE:

Rick Bronner 408-318-4826
Stan Enos Gene Zannoni
Eddie Toews George Cocores

**Anyone wanting wine, it will be
available at the bar for \$10.00 per
bottle.**



Big Sir Rick Bronner welcomes two new members, Martin Sampson and Ron Atkins



April Birthdays:

- Zanoni, Gene 04/01
- Burnes, William V. (Bill) *DSA 04/01
- Bowers, Michael 04/03
- Harrelson, Raymond 04/05
- Rossi, David 04/06
- Wright, Michael (Mike) 04/07
- Deaver, Eugene (Gene) 04/07
- Avila, John 04/07
- Basham, Darell 04/09
- Abbott, Gerald (Blair) 04/15
- Bender, Thomas (Tom) 04/21
- Tuganov , Alexander (Sasha) 04/23
- Clawson , Tom 04/28



Our March Guest Speaker, Officer Steve Machado, explained that CHP Academy graduates have no say in where they are assigned. He feels lucky that he was assigned to Sonora.. They are short staffed with only 14 officers in the office, yielding 3-4 units on the road per 12 hr. shift. Starting pay is \$107K/yr.

The CHP has no say in road infrastructure or speed limits - they just report incidents.

The traffic circle at Chicken Ranch was discussed - too soon to make judgement of its effect, but there may be more circles coming in the County.



RV Club Betabel RV Park Outing



Group dinner at a Mexican Restaurant



Hosts Eddie and Linda Toews,
(right)
Co-host George and Pam Cocores
(left)



Francesca Simons, Linda Toews,
Cheri Martin and Beth Barnes
with the finished puzzle
(see RV article)



Chuck Simons winner of
Cornhole game



Winners of Bocce Ball: Mike
Krom and Pam Cocores



SIR Classifieds

SIR Members are now invited to place ads for **items** that they want to sell—services are not allowed. A 10% fee will be charged based upon the selling price, up to a maximum fee of \$100 per item. If you are just donating an item, there is no charge.

FREE—FREE--FREE

Pioneer PRO 141 FD 60" HD Flat Panel
Originally \$ 7000---This was the best of the best at the time
Wall Mount Only (Bracket Included) Monitor -
No speakers
Contact-Rick Bronner-408-318-4826—Here's a link to the brochure;
<https://www.pioneerelectronics.com/ephox/StaticFiles/PUSA/Files/PRO-141FD.pdf>



Rockler Cast Iron Router Table with ProMax Fence, Rock-Steady Stand, Dust Bucket Kit and Pro Lift.
Rockler Item #BMX63592
New \$1,250.

Sale price \$600.00 which includes the wall mounted router cabinet with 50 assorted 1/4" bits. **Offered by Jim Botto (209) 559-0931**



Ryobi 10" top Bench Drill Press
New \$175.00
Sale price with adjustable stand \$100.00
Offered by Jim Botto (209) 559-0931



Delta BS100 Shopmaster 9-inch Top Band Saw.
New \$265.90
Sale price with accessories
\$150.00
Offered by Jim Botto (209) 559-0931



PORTER-CABLE 4-in x 6-in Belt 5-Amp Benchtop Sander
New \$249.00
Sale Price \$175.00 Includes Replacement Sanding Belts
Offered by Jim Botto (209) 559-0931



Delta Planer Model 22-560 New \$509.99
The Metal Table New \$75.00
Sale Price \$350.00
Offered by Jim Botto (209) 559-0931



Delta 10" 15-amp Chop Saw New \$179.99.
Sale Price \$80.00
Offered by Jim Botto (209) 559-0931

In Remembrance:

Sonora, California

OBITUARIES

James Edward 'Jim' Hagel

1928 - 2024



James Edward "Jim" Hagel, of Sonora, born Nov. 17, 1928, passed away Jan. 28, 2024.

Jim moved from Nebraska to Corvallis, Montana, at age 7 and spent his youth working on the family farm and neighboring farms. In 1946, he enlisted in the U.S. Navy, serving two years. He returned home and married Laverne Thomas in 1949.

His adventures in California started in 1951 when they moved from Montana to Southern California, and he learned the tool and die trade. In 1957, they moved to San Leandro, where he started Hagel Form Tool and later took a partner and became Hagel and Zeller Special Tools Inc. He owned the company for 35 years, and also started Cut Edge Inc. in Jamestown, California, before selling both and retiring in 1991.

Jim enjoyed his retirement on Lake Tulloch, and loved fishing and playing horseshoes with friends. He also enjoyed golfing, hunting, bowling and sports of any kind. Jim and Laverne traveled across the United States and also took many cruises around the world. Jim was active in the Aahmes Shrine Temple, serving on the Divan and as a screening clinic chairman for many years. He was also a member of the Blue Lodge, Scottish Rite, and Court 6 Jesters. Jim served as President of the Mother Lode Shrine Club and also played golf and enjoyed activities with the Sonora chapter of SIR.

Jim is survived by his sister, Helen Whisnand Fallbrook, of California; children Steve Hagel, and his wife, Frances, and Cindy (Hagel) George; grand-children Jennifer Poree, Tracy Montes, Kristen Colley, Brent George, Brandon George, Brittany (George) Ashcraft and Sarah Hagel; nine great-grandchildren; and many beloved nieces and nephews.

Jim was preceded in death by his wife, Laverne, in 2019; brother William Hagel in 2016; and sister Annabelle McKay in 2023. Remembrances may be sent to Shriners Hospital for Children, in care of Aahmes Temple, 170 Lindbergh Ave., Livermore, CA 94550.

This tribute appeared in the March 7th Union Democrat





2024 Local SIR Branches Combined Social Activities:
 All SIR members are welcome to join in any other branch activity.
 Many items are for couples so please contact the Event Chair.
 Please start and chair a new activity-if it's not listed.

Area Big Sir Roster	77 136 172	Donald Ronalter Rick Bronner Mark Knapp	(209) 984-9383 (408) 318-4826 (209) 613-7767
<u>Activity</u>	<u>Branch #</u>	<u>Activity Chair</u>	<u>Telephone (209)</u>
Biking	172	Steve Happel 2nd Tuesday of the month	532-7240
Bowling	77	Mike Coe	769-3413
Car Club	136	Rick Bronner	(408) 318-4826
Fishing	136	Chuck Simmons	532-9550
Golf	77	Danny Laureta	586-4567
	136	Raul Santana	(925) 451-7351
	172	Richard Broddie	586-3151
Hiking	77	Mike Clay	588-1345
Horseshoes	172	Rich Brandau	352-4320
Kayak	136	Sol Robin	(707) 315-1284
	172	Dave Kenney	(650) 867-4671
Pinochle	136	Looking for a Chairman	
RV Travel	136	Eddie Toews	770-3776
Tech/Computer	172	Dick Chimenti	677-7070
		Rich Nedbal	247-6497
Theatre	172	Dave Tibbets	532-2453
Travel	143	Bill Stires (Modesto)	988-5445
	172	Charles Luke	533-3683

As of March 2024

Want Some SIRs Apparel?

Here is how to get it:

Get on your computer and go to <https://sir.ourproshop.com> and peruse the items available and order on-line. Notice that shipping and handling charges are avoided above a certain order amount. If your order is large enough to avoid these charges or you are willing to pay them, process your order. If you know of a friend who also wants SIRs merchandise, consolidate your order with him.

If you don't have a computer, find a friend who does and have him help you.





SIR Branch Travel Chair Trips and News

Milt Smith State Travel Chair miltsmith549@gmail.com 925-285-2897c

March 2024

Princess 11 Nigh Inside Passage Cruise from San Francisco Rt Alaska May 26 – June 6, 2024. Ketchikan, Juneau, Skagway AK and Victoria, Canada. Cabins start \$2590 pp to \$3322 pp double occupancy. **Contact John Cardoza Branch 143. 209-483-7722 or johncardoza@hotmail.com**

Best of Spain and Portugal April 27 – May 12, 2024. Branch 146. Cost \$7,895pp. Madrid, Segovia, Porto, Lisbon, Seville, Gibraltar, Costa Del Sol, Alhambra, Valencia, Barcelona, round trip airfare, 15-day guided tour with Travel Director, 14 nights at centrally located 4star hotels, 5 dinners and 2 lunches including wine, all tips, transfers and baggage handling. **Contact Glenn Breslin Branch 146 925-288-6520 glennbreslin@gmail.com**

Venice & Croatian Islands Cruise Sept. 30 – Oct. 12 '24 cost approx. \$6,645 - \$7,145pp. depending on cabin. Highlights: 2 nights hotel each in Venice and Rijeka. 7 night cruise of the Croatian Islands Venice, Murano Island, Collio Wine Region, Hum, Olive Oil tasting, Farm to table dinner, Sailing through Kornati National Park and more. **Contact Bill Britton Branch 101, 925-200-1062 bill.britton@comcast.net**

Fall Mexican Riviera Getaway Oct. 15 – 26, '24 11 Days. Branch 98 Cost \$844 - \$944 - \$1074 - \$1424 - \$6083pp. depending on cabin. Highlights: Departs from and returns to San Francisco, ports of call Cabo San Lucas, Mazatlán, Puerto Vallarta, Manzanillo. **Contact Katherine Gervais Branch 98. 916-337-1623 Kathig@shipsandtrips.com**

Prague to Budapest River Trip November Dates: 11/6/24 thru 11/20/24

Serenade A: \$3995 / Serenade B: \$3895 /Sonata C: \$3795 Sonata D: \$3695/Cantata E: \$3595 /Cantata F: \$3495/Prelude G: \$3395/Prelude H: \$3195/Air from SFO: \$1100. **Ports and cities:** Prague, Linz, Krems, Vienna, Bratislava, Budapest. **Pre-trip US departure date: 11/1/24. Post-trip to Budapest return date: 11/23/24**

Dresden and Berlin: \$995pp PRE-TRIPM - Warsaw and Krakow: \$1095 PRE-TRIP. Budapest: \$745 POST-TRIP. **Contact Milt Smith 925-258-2897 ASAP for more info. miltsmith549@gmail.com or book directly Group Code G4-23630 call 1-800-221-2610**

Panama Canal Cruise San Francisco to Ft. Lauderdale. Jan. 20 – Feb. 5, 2025 17 days. Cost from \$4,185 - \$6,295 depending on cabin choice. Ports of Call: Puerto Vallarta Mexico, Puerto Quetzal Guatemala, Puntarenas Costa Rica, Fuerte Amador Panama, Full Transit through the historic locks, and Cartagena Columbia. Includes transfers from Modesto to Port of San Francisco and airfare from Ft. Lauderdale to Sacramento. For more information **contact John Cordoza 209-483-7722 johncordoza@hotmail.com Branch 143**



Sonora SIRs Branch 136 Advertisers:

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emhunterRE@gmail.com

Michael O. Bowers
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www.edwardjones.com
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242 S. Washington Street
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209-694-3622
Fax 209-694-3624
tamara@tpolleylaw.com



Estate
Planning
Attorney

Sierra HEAVY DUTY
RV & TRUCK CENTER INC.

Steve Henley
Owner
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(209) 559-3840
After hours/Emergency
shop@sierraheavyduty.com
www.sierraheavyduty.com
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20999 Spanish Grant Dr Ste C, Sonora CA 95370

Jill Huckaby
209.533.0600

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Emergency: (209) 614-8344

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 - Dale D. Decker
Vice-President - Leland Lamp
2nd Vice President - Rich Carlston
Secretary - Rich Carlston
Treasurer - Carl Mason
Area 5 Representative - Dale Decker
(Acting)

PAST BIG SIRs 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 Banchero
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
2020 & 2021 - Gene Zanoni
2022 - Phil VanSwoll 2023 - Eddie Toews

BRANCH #136 HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS

Dale Decker - Big Sir 2016
Eddie Toews - Treasurer 2009 - current
Gene Zanoni - Big Sir 2020 & 2021

HONORARY LIFE EMERITUS

Frank Taylor - Treasurer 2001-2015
We are all so sorry for his passing on

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

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 Cocreos with a check for the amount stated on the application. George's address is 17595 Brentwood Ln. Twain Harte, CA 95383

Jan. 24, 2024

Branch 136 Executive Committee

Big Sir: Rick Bronner (408) 318-4826

Little Sir: Mike Krom (209) 586-1533

Sec: Steve Holt (713) 842-0083

Asst Sec: Gene Zanoni (209) 532-1989

Treas: John Salmon (209) 206-6244

Asst.Tres: Eddie Toews 532-3970

Directors

Jim Botto (209) 559-0931

Bill Burnes (209) 533-4334

George Cocreos (209) 456-9814

Stan Enos (209) 533-2928

Melvin Kutsch (209) 533-0384

Marty Martin (209) 586-1886

Raul Santana (925) 451-7351

Paul Squeri (209) 586-4083

Behind the Scenes

Photographer - **Steve Belochi** 533-5315

Bulletin - **Don Herzer** 586-3078

Internet - **Jerry Bellefeuille** 588-3978

SIR Items Sales - **Fred Kehr** 785-4358

Chaplain - **Steve Gregory** 728-5707

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).

STAMP

ADDRESS LABEL