



BULLETIN

December 2014

Website: sonorasirs.org

SONORA BRANCH #136

Sonora SIR Branch #136 will meet at the Sonora Elks Lodge on

Tuesday, Dec 9th

(Starts at Noon, Social Hour Starts at 11:00 am)

Annual Christmas Luncheon

ADVANCE TICKETS REQUIRED

The Branch Executive Committee **will NOT** be meeting this month.

If a meeting of the BEC is required it will be held during the luncheon.



MEMBERSHIP MESSAGE LINE

If you are not able to attend the regular monthly meeting please call the Membership Message Line at

536 - 6311

and leave a clear message with your NAME & BADGE # and the reason you will not be able to attend.

BIG SIR NOTES

John Bristow - 588-8066

I can honestly say that this could have been the best job in the organization but mother nature had other ideas so I want to thank all those members that did such a great job without my help. One thing I did have was plenty of time to think about what I would have done if I could have. I guess that unlike some people they think that the best job in the Sir Branch 136 is being a past Big Sir.

I almost did not make it to that stage of life. Now it is my turn to offer all the help I can when I can. I was looking at some of the Plaques and Certificates of appreciation that that I have collected for having served as a Member of Lions International for 30

years and I thank the good Lord for allowing me to spend all that time doing such good things,

Hope everyone has a great 2015 and if I can Help in anyway please let me do so. Soon to be Past Big Sir John Bristow.

LITTLE SIR NOTES

Jim Johnson - 536-1595

Where did the time go? It is December already and soon to be a new year. Speaking of time, you only have about 20-shopping days to Christmas. In reflection it has been a pretty good year here at Ol' Branch 136. We had a net gain of new members, some interesting speakers, good meals prepared by Deano and his staff, the bowlers are rolling along thanks to Bert, pinochle is going strong and the golfers had a decent year. They are however still trying to get the concept of closest to the hole down, well Danny, you have your hands full next year. Oh and, we are in the process of reviving the Fishing Group, good luck Jim Nuzum. Maybe we can get a couple of new activities going next year, like a monthly theatre and dinner night, a book exchange and yes starting in February maybe a raffle drawing at our monthly luncheon meetings. Little SIR Elect, Dale Decker, is already chomping at the bit to plan next year's special events. Can't wait to see what's coming in 2015. Our January luncheon meeting is going to be a look ahead to 2015 instead of a guest speaker, we will keep it short. And starting this month, no more Joke Master, sorry Bert the rooster didn't fly.

For those of you that missed our November Luncheon, you missed a great tribute to our veterans. A big thanks to the veterans program team Dale Decker, Ben Teal, Rich Rinaldi, Steve Gregory and John Bristow. Also, a big thank you to the Sonora VFW Commander Ralph Lopez and Frank Hurst. Our Area Governor Jerry Morrow even got into the act by signing each veteran certificate, thank you Jerry. Our resident Chef, Deano, and his staff prepared a great traditional turkey lunch, good job Deano! We had a great turn out for the event.

Ginny and I want to wish every SIR Branch 136 member and their family a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Be safe and enjoy the holiday season, it is definitely the best time of the year!!

That will do it for this month, I have rambled enough. See you at the Christmas Luncheon on Tuesday, December 9. We will try to have some fun, have another good meal, listen to some good music and those of you who feel young can even show off your fancy foot work. We will

also be recognizing the 2015 Sonora SIR of the year. Oh, by the way **we are all sold out - no tickets at the door**, good job.



GOLF CHAIRMAN

Joint Br. 136 & Br.77 Golf Committee
Danny Laureta - 586-4567

Assistant Jeff Phillips - 588-2977

Handicap Tom Nischwitz - 694-8624

Results of the November Golf Tournament at Mountain Springs

Format: Scramble Turkey Shoot

1st Place

Bob Nath, Ed Wright & Sam Castle
Net 60

2nd Place

Jim Hagel, John Parrault & Dennis Land
Net 61

3rd Place

Gene Morales, Gene Deaver & Jim Simmons
Net 62

Closest to the hole #5:

Team: Bob Nath, Ed Wright & Sam Castle
3' - 7"

Closest to the hole #12

Team: Kent Kirkland, Melvin Slife & Mike Clay
8' - 0"

Next Golf Tournament December 30th @ Mountain Springs GC

Note Later Tee Time!

9:30 am Sharp! - Shotgun Start

NOTE:

There will not be a golf tournament in January. The first Tournament in 2015 will be in February.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Angelo Costanza - 588-9529

As of November 30, 2014:

Current Active membership	219
Inactive Members	6

PINOCHLE

Bob Morrison—588-0994

robert.mrrsn@yahoo.com

Please join us in playing pinochle. If you don't know how to play or haven't played for a long time, we will tutor you in our rules. You play free for your first two meetings. Thereafter, you pay only \$3 each meeting. (Where else can you have a fun afternoon so cheaply?) You win a



prize if your score at the end of the meeting is one of the three highest. Moreover, you win \$10 if you score in the top 50% at a free meeting. You need not attend every meeting. Typically, 15 to 20 of us meet each Monday at the Moose Lodge. We have lunch together starting at noon. We start playing no later than 12:30 P.M. and finish by 4 P.M. For more information, go to web site www.sirtwain.org and click on the pinochle icon.

**VIEW FROM HIGHWAY 49 BRIDGE
WATER SHORTAGE
PLEASE CONSERVE**

New Melones Reservoir water level continues to drop as water is being released in 'surges' to stimulate the fish down river. Although we are receiving a little rain it's doubtful that it will get us over this drought.



BULLETIN INPUT NOTICE!

Jim Botto - 586-0822

Assistant Jerry Bellefeuille - 533-3630

NOTE:

SIR Jim Botto is assuming responsibility as Bulletin Editor in 2015.

Please send all bulletin input to Jim at GIACAMO@GMAIL.

The deadline for the next bulletin is

January 4, 2015



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

George Williams 7th
John Whited 7

Lou Njirich	9
William Hines	9
Herman Eaton	12
John Morgado	12
Doc Van Gerpen	15
Frank Myers	15
Bud Schoenmann	18
Bob Gelber	20
Don Nilan	20
Ron Long	21
Barry Bynum	23
Bill McEntire	23
Paul Bullman	23
Ed Sudduth	24
Paul Becker	27
Dennis Vanier	28
Mike LaFrance	28
Bob Laukat	29
Frank Kilpatrick	29
Bob Braida	30

SUNSHINE - CHAPLAIN

Paul Bullman - 588-8614

**"JESUS IS THE REASON FOR
THE CHRISTMAS SEASON"**

This short phrase has become more and more popular with Christians during Christmas time. The goal is to quickly summarize Who Jesus is, in a busy SEASON in people's lives when so many things cry for time, thinking, and attention.

Detailed information on the birth of Jesus Christ can be found in the Bible. See: Matthew chapters 1 and 2 and Luke chapters 1 and 2.

INTERNET & ROSTER

Jerry Bellefeuille - 533 - 3630

sirjerry@Sonnet.Com

Our Branch website is at <http://sonorasirs.org>. Visit anytime you would like. There you can review current and past bulletins and other branch information.

Please feel free to contact Jerry about any changes or additions in internet pages or the Branch #136 membership roster.

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 588-9529 (and an application form will be mailed to

you), or by downloading the form from our branch website. After the application is filled out, it is to be returned to Angelo Costanza with a check for the amount stated on the application. Angelo's address is 23497 Gold Springs Drive Columbia, CA 95310.



RV CLUB NEWS

Jim Botto - 586-0822

Ron Long - 586-1838

Friday, December 6th, the RV Club will be holding its Sonora SIR's 2014 Holiday Party for club members.

If you have an RV and would like more information about the RV Club and/or would like to join please contact Jim Botto.



BOWLING CHAIRMAN

Bert Abreo - 736-4804

November 17:

High Game – Dave Rossi 279

High Series – Dave Rossi 735

Standings – The Wild Ones 26-18
Misfits 24-20

November 24:

High Game – Mike Bowers 257

High Series – Mike Bowers 640

Standings – The Wild Ones 27-21
Georgie's Boys 26.5-21.5

High Game to date – Bert Abreo 268

High Series to date – Dave Rossi 735

Herman Schmitz bowled his highest series ever with a 609 which was also 126 pins over average.

Bert Abreo bowled 98 pins over average with a 268.

Next SIRS Tournament is in January at Pacific Bowl. Entry forms should be available soon, both on line and at the Black Oak Lanes.



SIR Mother Lode

#77 Sierra

#136 Sonora

#172 Twain Harte



Travel News - November 2014

SIR Travel events require a minimum number of participants. Small for local, 1-day trips and greater for any 2, 3 or 4 day events. Most trip deposits SIR has to pay are non-refundable.

Here are some events that ARE NOT BOOKED, but are listed for members to respond so we can tally a head count. The Per Person cost could decrease for large groups.

Please call or Email the responsible SIR Travel Chairman if you want to attend their trip.

SNOW TRAIN TO RENO

When: February 24-26, 2015
Includes: Bus to and return from train station
Train Fare, Sacramento to Reno
2 Hotel Nights at Eldorado Hotel, 1 buffet bkfst
Reno luggage handling, all tips
Snacks on train, cocktail party at hotel



Cost: Approximately \$400* Per Person
*early bird discount (\$15) if paid in full by December 1, 2014
*\$10 cancellation fee if cancelled within 48 hours of trip

Contact: Wil Reich (#77), E: wil36he@directv.net, C: 209-533-2626

Want to go? Email or call Wil Reich to confirm.
When we reach the trip member minimum and the trip is officially booked,
you'll receive a required consent form to complete and sign to send with your payment

Cactus League SPRING TRAINING (Tempe, AZ)

When: March 2015 (Tuesday thru Friday, dates TBD)
Includes: Bus to and return from Sacramento Airport
Coach Airfare to Phoenix
2 or 3 Hotel Nights
1 Game Ticket



2 Hotel Night Per Person Cost: \$1,050
3 Hotel Night Per Person Cost: \$1,250

Note: Spring Training is extremely popular meaning flights, hotel rate your own online research to compare to what we're offering.

Contact: Paul Halek (#172), E: sierra.red@sbcglobal.net, C: 209-352-7399

Want to go? Email or call Paul Halek to confirm.
When we reach the trip member minimum and the trip is officially booked,
you'll receive a required consent form to complete and sign to send with your payment

Branch	Travel Chair	Phone#	Email
Sierra	Wil Reich	533-2626	wil36he@directv.net
Sonora	Rich Lundin	586-5632	wondjinaman@gmail.com
Twain Harte	Paul Halek	352-7399	sierra.red@sbcglobal.net



FISHING CLUB
Jim Nuzum - 533-2729
jminuzum@comcast.net

The "Fishing Club" is being re-activated

We will be joining members of Sierra Sir Branch #77 and I will be coordinating activities as liaison for Branch #136.

In the past we have had contests taking place on New Melones, on Charter boats in the S.F. Bay and in "The Delta". We also had an annual 3-day trip to the Klamath River and one trip to Smith River for Steelhead.

When we are joining other clubs on outings to one of our local lakes (Tulloch, Don Pedro, Melones, etc.) we will have to provide our own boats. Therefore, I need a list of people who are interested and whether or not they have a boat and, if so, how many passengers they can accommodate.

Also, your preference: stream, lake, delta, bay or ocean.

Please let me know ASAP.



Many of our veterans wore uniforms, or at least parts, and a great time ensued.

The winner of our Picture of a Veteran in Uniform drawing was SIR David Martin who received a free lunch .

The winner of our Veteran in Uniform drawing was SIR Bruce Peterson who will receive a free lunch at our January meeting.



Thanks to Bert Maxwell, Bill Dunlavy and Dick Pland for presenting the Top 10 Reasons to Join the Military.

2015 Annual Assessments

It is that time of the year again. The 2015 annual assessments are due by February 10. As a convenience, Frank Taylor and Blair Abott will be in the Lobby of the Elks Lodge before our January Luncheon Meeting to collect your assessment and give you your Sonora SIRs Branch 136 Membership Card. They are the same as last year, \$25.00.

Sonora SIRs
2015
Annual
Assesments
Are Due In
January
\$25

NOTICE
 Due to the increase in our meal costs.
Starting January 1, 2015
Our Monthly Luncheon Costs will increase to \$13

WHO SAYS MEN CAN'T DESIGN?



VETERANS!

Our Veteran's Recognition Luncheon was a huge success and included Frank 'Ziggy' Ziegenhein who was in the U.S. Navy during World War II and was the model for 12 Navy Recruitment posters.

On the day of the luncheon, Nov 11- which was also Veterans Day, personalized Certificates of Appreciation were presented to all veterans in attendance. Highlights, such as most decorated, highest ranking, shortest service, etc. were also presented.

In addition, 10 of our WWII veterans were featured in the November 14th issue of the Union Democrat.



SIR STATE OFFICERS

www.sirinc.org

PRESIDENT

Sir Maynard Rodland Pres. Sacramento, CA

VICE-PRESIDENT

Sir Bobbie Hairston Vice Pres. Napa, CA

SECRETARY

Sir Richard F. DeVoe, Walnut Creek, CA

TREASURER

Sir Michael Berry Windsor, CA

REGION 3 DIRECTOR

Sir Jimmie A. Johnson, Fair Oaks, CA

AREA 27 GOVERNOR

Sir Jerry Morrow, Mi Wuk Village, CA

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 Banchemo
- 2011 - Al Smith/2012- Baci Frecceri
- 2013 - Phil VanSwoll

BRANCH #136 HONORARY LIFE AND CHARTER MEMBERS*

- *Baci Frecceri - Past Big Sir 1986-2012
- Al Limon - Past Big SIR 1992-2012
- Bill Dunlavy - Past Big SIR 2004

DIRECTORY of OFFICERS

- Big SIR - John Bristow-588-8066
- Little SIR -Jim Johnson-536-1595
- Secretary – Dale Decker - 533-0455
- Asst. Secretary - Jerry Bellefeuille-533-3630
- Treasurer - Frank Taylor - 532-4480
- Asst. Treasurer - Gerald Abbott-694-0323

DIRECTORS

First Year

- Angelo Costanza 588-9529
- Jake Parsons 736-0647
- Mariano Garces 586-9973

Second Year

- Bert Maxwell - 588-1177
- Bob Gelber - 532-0199
- Maurice Rollins - 532-9170

COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN & CO-CHAIRMEN

- Attendance/Membership - Angelo Costanza - 588-9529
- Bulletin - Dale Decker - 533-0455
- Sunshine - Chaplain - Paul Bullman - 588-8614
- Fishing - Jim Nuzum 533-2729
- Area 27 Golf - Danny Laureta 586-4567
- Hon. Life Membership - Al Limon - 533-4944
- House - Jerry Erath - 533-3791
- Internet - Jerry Bellefeuille - 533-3630
- Luncheon - Rick Bacon-765-8210
- Lunch Tickets - Bert Abreo - 736-4804
- Bowling - Bert Abreo - 736-4804
- Public Relations - **OPEN**
- R.V. Travel Group - Jim Botto - 586-0822
- Travel - Rich Lundin - 586-5632
- SIR Item Sales - Cecil Steen - 533-4760
- Pinochle - Bob Morrison - 588-0994

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).



DECEMBER 9th MENU

**New York Steak w/baked
Potato -or- Salmon Filet w/
Rice Pilaf, Vegetable, Salad,
Bread and Dessert
Wine on the Table**

Advance Tickets Required

EVENT SOLD OUT!

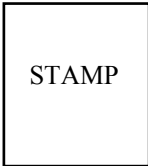
NO TICKETS

AVAILABLE!

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



**DEVOTED TO THE
PROMOTION
OF INDEPENDENCE
AND
DIGINTY OF
RETIREMENT**



DATED MATERIAL