



SONORA SIR BRANCH #136

December 2019 Bulletin

Website: sonorasirs.org

SONORA BRANCH #136

Next Branch Luncheon:

Dec 10th

Social Hour starts at 11AM
BEC meeting will not be held
due to Christmas Luncheon.



BIG SIR NOTES
Jim Botto 586-0822



Since joining Sonora SIR Branch #136 in October of 2012, sponsored by Bill Lobdell, I have been active in several positions to support this branch. I replaced Bill Lobdell as RV Travel Chairman in December of 2013. I started to produce a newsletter for the RV group that was picked up by Dale Decker and published in the Branch Bulletin. In December of 2015, I became the Bulletin Editor, taking over from Dale Decker. In January 2016 I was elected to the BEC as a 1st year Director and continuing as Bulletin Editor. In 2018 I was elected to the position of Little Sir with Paul Squeri as Big Sir. Steve Huff took over the position of Bulletin Editor and has done a fantastic job. In 2019 I took over the position of Big Sir with Gene Zanoni as Little Sir. My next assignment will be to chair the nominating committee for 2020. As you can see, I have had several positions in SIR Branch #136 and I only hope that I have helped to encourage and motivate other SIR members to volunteer and work to sustain our outstanding Sonora Sir Branch #136 for many years to come. Has it been difficult? Sometimes, but with the support and help from many of our members who are always ready to offer their assistance, it has not been very hard, only a little challenging. I highly recommend volunteering for any position offered to you in the future. As chairman of the nomination committee, I will be asking for your help to keep this outstanding Sir Branch supplied with current and new members that are not afraid to “step up to the plate and get their hands dirty”. I need to thank my wife Linda for putting up with me while I did my best to support Sonora Sir Branch #136 and all its members. As this will be my last Big Sir Notes, I want to wish everyone a Very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. May the blessings of the season give you and your family joy and comfort.

Christmas Luncheon
Menu
Rib-Eye Steak,
Salmon, or Chicken
Cordon Bleu



MEMBERSHIP MESSAGE LINE

If you are not able to attend
the regular monthly meeting,
or are bringing a Guest, please
call the Membership Message
Line at

536 - 6311

**No Later Than Noon on the
Sunday Before the Luncheon
Meeting!**

**Leave a clear message with
your NAME, BADGE #, and
GUEST NAME; or the reason
you will not be able to attend
if applicable.**

Welcome to New Members installed at the November Luncheon



James Shoemaker #058, Douglas Ramsay #062,
Stuart Wallace #013, & Ray Starkey #056

SIR STATE OFFICERS

www.sirinc.org

PRESIDENT: Sir Ed Benson

VICE-PRESIDENT: Sir Jim Johnson

SECRETARY: Sir Ronald C. Flagel

TREASURER: Sir Roy Hodgkinson

REGION 2 DIRECTOR

Sir Rick Kindle - Denair, Ca

AREA 5 GOVERNOR

Sir Dale Decker, Sonora, CA

PAST BIG SIRs - BRANCH #136 SONORA

| | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|
| 1997 - Dave Holton | 1999 - Al Limon |
| 2000 - Bob Gibbs | 2002 - Jim Nuzum |
| 2003 - Dick Nutting | 2007 - Wil Reich |
| 2008 - Roger Milligan | 2009 - Don Nilan |
| 2010 - Don Banchemo | 2011 - Al Smith |
| 2013 - Phil VanSwoll | 2014 - John Bristow |
| 2015 - Jim Johnson | 2016 - Dale Decker |
| 2017 - Danny Laureta | 2018 - Paul Squeri |

BRANCH #136 HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS

Al Limon - Past Big SIR 2000

Frank Taylor - Treasurer 2001-2015

Jim Johnson—Past Big SIR 2015

DIRECTORY of OFFICERS

Big SIR: Jim Botto 586-0822

giacomo42@gmail.com

Little SIR: Gene Zanoni 532-1989

genevanoni@gmail.com

Sec: Bill Burnes 533-4334

sonorabill401@gmail.com

Asst. Sec: Dick Aberle 532-4066

raaberle2@sbcglobal.net

Treas: Eddie 'Ed' Toews 532-3970

lcoinlady@aol.com

Asst. Treas: Steve Aldridge 770-5287

stevealdr1147@gmail.com

RAMP - Steve Aldridge 770-5287

Recruitment - Larry Matteson 408-691-9393

Activities - Bill Lobdell-586-7145

Member Relations - Phil Baylis-(510)552-7596

Publicity - Bill Guenza - 586-7088

DIRECTORS

Second Year

Larry Matteson (408)691-9393

Serge Peluso 588-9444

First Year

Bill Guenza 568-7088

Steve Huff 770-0678

Marty Martin 568-1886

George Cocores 456-9814

COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN & CO-CHAIRMEN

Attendance Membership - George Cocores 456-9814

BEC Advisor - Al Limon 533-4544

Bowling - Steve Huff 770-0678

Branch Photographer - Steve Belochi 533-5315

Bulletin - Steve Huff 770-0678

Car Club - Rich Rinaldi 532-8366

Fishing - Chuck Simons -532-9550

Golf - Paul Padavana 532-8051

Tom Nischwitz 694-8624

Danny Laureta 586-4567

Honorary Life Membership - Al Limon 533-4944

Internet - Jerry Bellefeuille 533-3630

Asst Danny Laureta 586-4083

Kayaking/Hiking - Sol Robin 651-1054

Lunch Tickets - Roger Swartz 533-0376

Luncheon - Vacant

Luncheon Drawing - Tom Neiderer 569-9003

Nominating Com. Chair. - Paul Squeri

Pinochle - Bob Morrison 588-0994

Poker - George Parsons 533-8637

Propane - Marty Martin 586-1886

R.V. Travel Group - Eddie Toews 532-3970

Senior Member Awards - Jim Johnson 536-1595

SIR Item Sales - Fred Kehr 785-4358

Sunshine - Chaplain - Steve Gregory 533-0309

Travel - Vacant

Wine Tasting - Phil VanSwoll 532-1133

SIR Mission Statement

To improve the lives of our members through fun activities and events - while making friends for life.



LITTLE SIR NOTES Gene Zanoni - 532-1989

Four new members were inducted during the November luncheon and they include the following individuals (along with their respective sponsor indicated in parenthesis): Douglas Ramsey #062, Jim Shoemaker #058, and Ray Starkey #56 (Danny Laureta #036); and Stu Wallace (Jim Wallace #289). Once again, I ask that all members remain cordial to all new members in order to make their acceptance into our branch a pleasant transition. Since Veterans Day is recognized to honor patriotism, during November a deservingly large portion of the luncheon activities was set aside to recognize our members that served during the Vietnam War/ Vietnam Era and later. Lapel pins were issued to approximately one hundred of our valued members for their unselfish displayed of commitment and valor while serving in the armed forces. In addition, military Certificates of Appreciation were issued to those new members that joined our organization subsequent to November 2018. Mr. Rick Kindle, USN, SIR Director, Region 2, Colonel John Deaver, USMC Retired and Mr. Dale Decker, USA, SIR Area 5 Governor all participated as facilitators in the ceremonies (see photos on last page of bulletin). Also honored by way of remembrance were the four young men from Sonora that paid the ultimate sacrifice while in combat serving in Vietnam: they include Thomas Howard Benton, Rex Leonard Frazier, Joseph Gary Galambos and William Walker McConnell.

As I put the finishing touches on this report, it is certain that 183 tickets have been sold for the upcoming December's Christmas Luncheon. Please keep in mind that no cancellation refund nor reservation shall be taken after November 26, 2019. Of alarming concern is the fact that only four members have committed to signing the RAFFLE DONATION REGISTER to bring raffle prizes for this special event. Due to this shallow response effort, I encourage everyone planning to attend to seriously consider bringing a raffle prize to energize our Christmas Luncheon. Keep in mind that in past events the raffle activities have produced both a great deal of interest and enjoyment to all attendees. The act of giving should have the same effect as the act of receiving. A door prize, purchased by your branch, consisting of a large screen television will be given away to a lucky free ticket holder. Valuable coupon prizes have once again been donated by the Black Oak Casino Resort that will be given away as a result from random drawings. In addition, the Chicken Ranch Casino has donated a gift basket for our benefit. Please keep in mind that both the main bar and the East Lounge Bar will remain open as a convenience to everyone during the entire Christmas Luncheon event.

Since we are putting the finishing touches on the 2019 yearly activities, you are reminded to give serious consideration for making yourself available to serve voluntarily for any of the numerous positions that inevitably will become available for 2020. Two positions currently available include the following: Recruitment and Activities Director. All such commitments are on an annual basis and there remains plenty of assistance available from former position holders. Simply identify the vacant position that appeals to you and make your commitment. As a result, you will find that such an experience will reward you with a sense of long-lasting satisfaction. Keep in mind the danger of any position going unfilled for any length of time lends itself to becoming disruptive to our entire organization. This is something that must be avoided.



December Birthdays

* = 90 or older

| | |
|--------------------------|-------|
| Wallace, Stuart (Stu) | 12/02 |
| Derodeff, Brian | 12/03 |
| Caplinger, Larry (Cap) | 12/04 |
| Bell, Allan | 12/05 |
| Eaton, Herman | 12/12 |
| Myers, Frank | 12/15 |
| VanGerpen, James (Doc) | 12/15 |
| Schoenmann, Walter (Bud) | 12/18 |
| Gelber, Bob | 12/20 |
| Long, Ron | 12/21 |
| Bynum, Barry | 12/23 |
| Sudduth, Ed | 12/24 |
| Soules, Fred (Slim) | 12/25 |
| Vanier, Dennis | 12/26 |
| Stevenson, Robert (Bob) | 12/26 |
| Jobling, John | 12/27 |
| LaFrance, Mike | 12/28 |
| Price, Chuck | 12/30 |
| Braida, Robert (Bob) | 12/30 |

**Luncheon and Special
Event photos submitted by
Steve Belochi (except as
noted)**



MEMBERSHIP REPORT

**George Cocores - 456-9814
greekbeek1@aol.com**

November Membership

| | |
|---------------------------|------------|
| Total Active Members | 217 |
| Luncheon Attendance (65%) | 140 |
| Excused Absences (40%) | 31 |
| Guests | 2 |

December Membership

| | |
|----------------------------------|------------|
| September Active Membership | 217 |
| Applicants Being Installed | 0 |
| Active Members Dropped | 0 |
| Active Members Deceased | 1 |
| Active Members Transferred | 0 |
| Active Membership Outlook | 216 |

December 2019 Club and Committee Reports

CAR CLUB

**CHAIRMAN: Rich Rinaldi - 532-8366
farmrich40@gmail.com**



Hi to all our SIR Branch #136 car club participants! Winter has arrived and that means that our chances to drive around in our "classic" cars has diminished. Most of our special antique vehicles will become "garage queens". Till we check in with every body in 2020....I wish all of you a Merry Christmas and of course a very Happy New Year! Rich "GTO" Rinaldi!

RV CLUB

**CHAIRMAN: Eddie Toews 532-3970
lcoinlady@aol.com**

November was a dark month for the RV group with no outings.

Everyone have a great and safe holiday.



BOWLING

**CHAIRMAN: Steve Huff 770-0678
shuff0531@gmail.com**



Winter League is almost at the half-way mark with 9 teams. There are still 2 empty slots to fill on Team 9, so it's not too late to come join the fun. So far Drex Wrex and Hines Pickles continue to lead with the rest of the teams still neck and neck, mired in mediocrity. New Team 9 is making an impressive showing in their first 4 weeks.

Season to-date High scores are as follows:

- High Scratch Game - Gene Deaver 255
- High Scratch Series - Dave Rossi 643
- High Hcp Game - Tim Hurley 269
- High Hcp Series - Rich Rinaldi 733
- Team High Scratch Game - Dennis's Gang 792
- Team High Scratch Series - Dennis's Gang 2206

At the Modesto Tournament on 10/31 & 11/1 Dave Rossi, Kevin Flanagan, and Mike Bowers finished 1st, 3rd, & 4th, respectively, in the "Scratch -All Event". Craig Ringler finished a respectable 5th in Handicap All Events - Division 2. Dave Siudzinski, and yours truly, made this our first SIR Tournament and made an abysmal showing. Dave and I finished dead last in "Doubles - B Division", but faired slightly better in singles. At least we weren't last. I was closer to the bottom than Dave. We had fun and met bowlers from many SIR branches.

| Thru 11/25 | Win | Loss |
|----------------|------|------|
| Drex Wrex | 34 | 14 |
| Hines Pickles | 33 | 15 |
| Misfits | 23.5 | 24.5 |
| The Wild One's | 23.5 | 24.5 |
| Dennis's Gang | 23 | 25 |
| No Excuses | 22 | 26 |
| SS-3396 | 21.5 | 26.5 |
| Andy's Dandies | 20 | 28 |
| Team 9 | 12 | 4 |



SUNSHINE CHAPLAIN
Steve Gregory - 533-0309

Robert Volpi #321 passed away Nov 22.
 Our deepest condolences to Barbara and family. May he Rest in Peace.
 Happy Thanksgiving to all.



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS

Applications for membership in Sonora SIR Branch #136 are to be obtained from the Membership Director at the monthly meetings, online at the Branch website, or by telephoning him at 456-9814. After the application is filled out, it is to be returned to **George Cocores**, along with a check for the amount stated on the application. George's address is 17595 Brentwood Ln, Twain Hart 95383.



INTERNET CHAIRMAN
Jerry Bellefeuille -533-3630
Asst- Danny Laureta—586-4083

Our Branch website is at sonorasirs.org. Here you will find our membership roster, bulletins past and present, activity schedules, BEC meeting minutes, a link to the state SIR website, a link to the SIR promotional video and more. Tell prospective members about our website and encourage them to watch the video. If your phone number or address has changed please let me know so I can update the roster on our website.



BULLETIN INPUT NOTICE

Steve Huff Editor - 770-0678
Asst. Jerry Bellefeuille 533-3630

I want to thank the committee chairmen who send in their reports to me on or before the deadline. When you write your report please use Times New Roman 10 font and No Spacing. Please send all bulletin input to Steve Huff at: shuff0531@gmail.com

Deadline to submit reports for the January bulletin is: Fri, Dec 27

December 2019 Club and Committee Reports (cont'd)

PINOCHLE

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



We need more players, so please join us for the perfect indoor sport: staying cool and playing pinochle. If you don't know how to play, we will teach you. You don't need to come every time but only when you want to. Your first two sessions are free, but thereafter you pay only \$3 at each session. (Where else can you have a fun afternoon so cheaply?) You will win \$10 if you score in the top 50% at the end of one of your free sessions. You will play with members from all three of our SIR branches. The two highest scoring players at the end of a session win cash prizes. We meet each Monday at the Senior Center, Room C, 540 Greenley Rd. We start playing at 1:00 P.M. and finish before 4:30 P.M. Some of us come earlier to have lunch between noon and 1:00 P.M. To have a lunch served by the Senior Center, you must be seated at a table in the lunch room by noon. Or you can bring your own lunch and have it in either the lunch room or Room C. For more information, please call me.

The three adjacent tables show our scores for the pinochle sessions in November. The first one lists for each player the average of the scores for the sessions he played. The second lists the first place winner and his score for each week. The third lists the average score of each SIR branch for the year through November.

| November 2019 | | |
|---------------------------------|--------|---------|
| Player | Branch | Average |
| 3 Monday Session Players | | |
| Bill Lewis | 172 | 308 |
| Bob Morrison | 136 | 301 |
| Art Bartee | 172 | 301 |
| Harold Basey | 77 | 293 |
| Tom Long | 136 | 276 |
| Jerry Kopyn | 172 | 261 |
| John Salmon | 136 | 258 |
| Del Rotelli | 77 | 221 |
| Sonny Tome | 77 | 209 |
| Del Rotelli | 77 | 133 |
| 2 Monday Session Players | | |
| Harold Basey | 77 | 313 |
| Dave Goldemberg | 172 | 298 |
| Henry Beltran | 172 | 273 |
| Sonny Tome | 77 | 225 |
| John White | 136 | 214 |
| Roland Patton | 172 | 201 |
| Al De Neveu | 136 | 188 |
| Jim Turner | 136 | 164 |
| 1 Monday Session Players | | |
| Jerry Morrow | 172 | 80 |

| Weekly First Place Winners | | | |
|----------------------------|--------------|-------|---------|
| Week | Player | Score | Branch# |
| 1 | John Salmon | 346 | 136 |
| 2 | Harold Basey | 456 | 77 |
| 3 | Bob Morrison | 415 | 136 |

| SIR vs SIR vs SIR | |
|------------------------------------|---------------|
| Branch Average Scores-Jan thru Dec | |
| Branch | Average Score |
| 172 | 276 |
| 136 | 237 |
| 77 | 233 |

Notice to Mail Recipients Only

Effective November 2019, those SIR Branch #136 members who receive their monthly bulletin via US Postal Service will receive the bulletin in an envelope instead of folded and stapled. This change is being tested as a quicker way to insure the bulletin is received intact and in a timely matter. Please advise Jerry Bellefeuille or Steve Huff if you have not received your bulletin by the monthly luncheon.



Special Notices

December 2019 Club and Committee Reports (cont'd)

Luncheon prices for 2020 will be \$15.00 for the full lunch, or \$7.00 if you are having salad only. A fish option will be available for regular monthly luncheons. See menu for details.

Luncheon Ticket Drawings

Don't forget the luncheon ticket drawings. Proceeds help with making our three special events more successful (Ladies Day, Family Picnic, and Christmas). Just look for Tom Neiderer coming your way during the Social Hour and just prior to the Luncheon meeting starting.

There are several Branch 136 director and committee positions that need to be filled for 2020. Please contact Gene Zanoni or Jim Botto for more information if you have any interest in becoming Ramp or Activities Director, Bulletin Editor, or Bowling Committee Chairman. You'd be surprised how rewarding the jobs can be.

SIR Happenings

Read the SIR statewide newsletter for informative articles from other SIR branches at the following site:
<http://sirinc.org/sirhappenings/>.

DECLARATIONS:

NON RESPONSIBILITY DECLARATION

All travel and other events/activities arranged for or sponsored by SIR, Inc. and its Branches are for the convenience and pleasure of the members of SIR and their guests who desire to participate. SIR, Inc. and its Branches do not assume any responsibility for the well-being or safety of the participants or passengers or their property whatsoever, in any matters pertaining to said events/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).

GOLF Joint Br. 136 & Br. 77 Golf Committee

CHAIRMAN: Paul Padavana 532-8051

Asst: Danny Laureta 586-4567



Nothing to report on any November Skins Game or Tournaments. Both were cancelled. I want to thank all golfers for their support this very difficult year with the transition from Mountain Springs Golf Course to Teleli Golf Club. We missed out on a few months of golf but with the improvements I think it was well worth it.

I am getting the schedule ready for next year. Tournaments will be held from the months of March through October. Previously they were from February through November but with trying to get games in with weather conditions the March through October schedule will make it easier to get play in. Once the schedule is final, I will be sending out a schedule to all golfers.

On a final note Tom Nischwitz (Our Handicap Chairman) and myself attended a four-hour class on a new handicap system that the NCGA put on at the Del Rio Country Club on November 14th. I cannot get into everything that was discussed at this time, but it will affect handicap of everyone as of January 1st. The main thing is that the handicap system will be the same worldwide. Before different countries had different systems. Before your handicap was based on the best ten of twenty posted scores, in January it will be the best eight out of ten posted scores. This will have a significant change in your handicap. I will be letting everyone know of other changes that you will need to know in a future e:mail.

Again, I want to thank all golfers for your participation in the Skins Games put on by Danny Laureta and the Tournaments that I have put on for you.



FISHING

CHAIRMAN: Chuck Simons - 532-9550
simons4890@yahoo.com

No fishing Report this month.



KAYAKING/EASY HIKING

CHAIRMAN: Sol Robin 651-1054
solhomes@sbcglobal.net

No Kayaking or Easy Hiking Report this month



SIR Area 5 - Combined Group Activities for 2019

Branch 77 as of - 6/22/2019 (C)=Activity Chairman or. (L)=Branch Liaison)

| | | | | |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| Branch Big Sir | Donald Ronalter 984-9383 | Jim Botto 586-0822 | Brian Raley 795-2876 | Dick Chimenti 677-7070 |
| Branch Activity Director | George Kellerman 533-9083 | Bill Lobdell 586-1754 | | |
| Available Activities: | Branch 77-Sierra | Branch 136-Sonora | Branch 152-Arnold | Branch 172-Twain Harte |
| Biking | See Branch 172 | See Branch 172 | See Branch 172 | (L)Steve Happel 532-7240 |
| Bocce Ball | See Branch 136 | Jerry Stefan 925-570-5512 | See Branch 136 | See Branch 136 |
| Bowling | (L)Larry Lund 586-2276 | (C)Steve Huff 770-0678 | See Branch 136 & 77 | See Branch 136 & 77 |
| Car Club | See Branch 136 | (C)Rich Rinaldi 532-8366 | See Branch 136 | See Branch 136 |
| Fishing | See Branch 136 | (C)Chuck Simons 532-9550 | See Branch 136 | See Branch 136 |
| Golf | (L)Kent Kirkland 532-3435 | (C)Paul Padavana 532-8051 | See Branch 136 | (C)Doug Peters 532-3739 |
| Golf 1st Tuesday | See Branch 136 | Danny Laureta 586-4567 | See Branch 136 | See Branch 136 |
| Golf Advisor | See Branch 136 | Danny Laureta 586-4567 | See Branch 136 | See Branch 136 |
| Golf Handicap | See Branch 136 | Tom Nischwitz 694-8624 | See Branch 136 | See Branch 136 |
| Golf Tournaments | See Branch 136 | Paul Padavana 532-8051 | See Branch 136 | See Branch 136 |
| Hiking | (C)Mike Clay 588-1345 | See Branch 77 | See Branch 77 | (C)Pete Hadell 586-3187 |
| Horseshoes | See Branch 172 | See Branch 172 | See Branch 172 | (L)Cas Munoz 536-4044 |
| Kayak | See Branch 136 & 172 | (C)Sol Robin 651-1054 | See Branch 136 & 172 | (C)Dave Kenney davehikes98@sbcglobal.net |
| Pinochle | See Branch 136 | (C)Bob Morrison 588-0995 | See Branch 136 | See Branch 136 |
| Poker | See Branch 136 | (C)George Parsons 533-8637 | See Branch 136 | See Branch 136 |
| RV Travel | See Branch 136 | (C)Ed Toews 532-3970 | See Branch 136 & 172 | Jerry Morrow 586-2979 |
| Theatre | See Branch 172 | See Branch 172 | See Branch 172 | (C)Sprague Edwards 586-2818 |
| Wine Tasting | See Branch 136 | (C)Phil VanSwoll 532-1133 | See Branch 136 | See Branch 136 |
| Woodworking | | | Dick Watson 795-6031 | |

Note: To get details on any activity please contact your 1)Branch Liaison, 2)Branch Activity Director, or the 3)Activity Chairman

Last update: 8/29/2019

2020 LUNCHEON MENU

SONORA SIR—BRANCH 136

All Tuesday luncheons include Green Salad, Roll & Butter, and Coffee

Price is \$15.00 for full luncheon or \$7.00 for Salad Only (except as noted*)

January 14

Sirloin Tips, Noodles, Carrots, Chocolate Pudding

February 11

Roast Pork & Applesauce, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, Cookies

March 10

Corned Beef & Cabbage, Diced Red Potatoes, Carrots, Cake

April 14

Swiss Steak, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, Sherbet

May 12*

Lady's Day Luncheon – Special Menu and price

June 9

Meatloaf, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, Strawberry Shortcake

July 14

Country Pork Ribs, Mashed potatoes, Brown Gravy, Corn, Vanilla Pudding

August 11*

Family Day Picnic – Menu, location, and price to be announced

September 8

Chicken Cordon Bleu, Rice Pilaf, Peas, Chocolate Pudding

October 13

Sirloin Steak, Baked Potato, Green Beans, Peach Cobbler

November 10

Roast Turkey, Stuffing & Gravy, Cranberry Sauce, Buttered Corn, Candied Yams, Pumpkin Pie

December 8*

Christmas Luncheon – Special Menu and price

**A fish option is available for each month's luncheon, only if
Dean's Catering is notified prior to the luncheon.**

If you want the fish option you must notify TBA
@ TBA at least TBA days before the luncheon.



Post this page on your refrigerator for year-round easy reference

This article should be of interest to all members. It was written by Little Sir Glenn Nellman from Port of Stockton, Branch 46

LITTLE SIR RAMBLING - Personal Safety Tools

In this addition to the monthly bulletin I hope to provide information of use to our members that would take up time at a meeting. It may not apply to all, but it will usually provide information to at least some now, and others for future use. Today will be on personal safety tools. In the past few years law enforcement has been forced by the courts to vastly expand the ability of the average citizen to get concealed weapons permits. For some, this is the way to go, but for others there are monetary issues. To get the permits you not only have to pay a nice chunk of change for just the application, but for the actual permit. You have to take and pass a certified private sector class on gun safety, law, and do a range qualification. If you fail the class you have to take the whole thing over again, and, in some cases, pay a new application fee. After you do this, you have to pass the background check and, in some cases, pay another huge chunk of change for the actual permit. Application, class, and permit will run from \$600 to \$1,000 dollars depending on where you live, even if you already have a firearm. A decent handgun will run from \$500 to \$900 plus, depending on brand and caliber. Should you actually have to use the gun, it will be taken as evidence until all legal proceedings are done, and you might not get it back for several months or even a year or more, leaving you without protection unless you possess more than one handgun.

There are other options that may be more suitable One is pepper spray, and the other is a stun gun. Pepper spray dispensers are cheap, and there is no longer a permit or class required. Some are aerosol and some are pump type dispensers. They often come with a little carry case so you don't accidentally activate it. Drawbacks are getting it out on time and being able to get a good squirt or spray into your attacker's eyes. Another drawback is that the spray outlet can be clogged with dried product when you test it periodically and then it won't work when you need it most. Along with cost, the other good thing about them is that if they take it as evidence it is no big deal as you can go right down to the store and buy another. You should replace these automatically every year or so whether you use them or not.


The final item is the stun gun or stun gun flashlight. Periodically they can be found on sale at places like Big Five for around \$50 and come with a charger cord. You can get a black canvas carry case that clips onto your belt. With the flashlight type that I carry, because it looks like a flashlight, the bad guys don't realize what it is at first and just see it as an LED light you are shining in their eyes to temporarily blind them. This will allow you to get close enough to touch them and activate the charge to either momentarily disorient them or, for a longer period, incapacitate them long enough so you can get away or disarm them. With this type you actually touch them with the end of the flashlight to transfer the charge instead of shooting out a wire to try to hit them. You can take this item anywhere except into public buildings, schools, or public meetings. With this item, you can also go down to the store and buy another if yours is taken as evidence. Some people carry them when out for a walk to protect them from dogs on the loose who become aggressive.

No matter what tool you decide upon you need to read what state or local laws may have to say about them, and, of course, you can't carry any on planes through the security lines. They have to be in your checked luggage and retrieved after you leave airport security areas.....Good luck and be safe.....It's a jungle out there.

Little Sir Glenn Nellman

December 2019 Sonora SIR Branch 136 Activity Calendar

Contact Committee Chairman for activity details

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|-----|--|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------------|-----|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 Bowling-Danville | 5 Bowling-Danville | 6 | 7 |
| 8 | 9 Pinochle-Senior Ctr Bowling - Black Oak | 10  | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 15 | 16 Pinochle Senior Ctr Bowling - Black Oak | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 22 | 23 Pinochle-Senior Ctr Bowling - Black Oak | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 Bulletin Reports Due | 28 |
| 29 | 30 Pinochle-Senior Ctr Bowling - Black Oak | 31 | | | | |

Recognition of Veteran's at November Luncheon

