



# BULLETIN

## February 2022

Website: [sonorasirs.org](http://sonorasirs.org)  
SONORA BRANCH #136

**Tuesday, Feb. 8th**

**Happy Hour at 11:00am**

**Lunch at 12:00pm**

**Contact via e-mail:**

**[sirjerry4@gmail.com](mailto:sirjerry4@gmail.com)**

**Or**

**Call (209) 588-3978**

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

**Deadline for reservations is  
February 2, 2022**

**Menu:**

**Roast Pork & Apple Sauce,  
Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans,  
Green Salad and Cookies**

**BEC Meeting will meet on  
February 8th at 10:00 am in  
the Elks lounge SE Corner.**



### **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](mailto:giacamo42@gmail.com)**

The deadline for the next bulletin is

**February 28, 2022**



### **BIG SIR MESSAGE**

**Phil VanSwoll**

**(209) 532-1133**

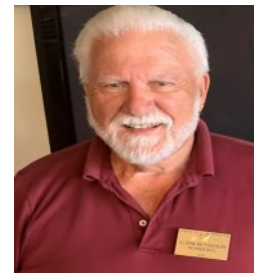
**[pvanswoll@outlook.com](mailto:pvanswoll@outlook.com)**

I know that for many of you, the thought of getting together in a large group is not something you are willing to do right now, given the large number of Covid infections in the county. We understand, and we hope that things will settle down quickly enough to allow you to feel more comfortable about participating again. We are getting about half our membership at each meeting, and that is a good start, but we are really looking forward to seeing the other half of you soon!

Many of us enjoy being able to take part in the activities we sponsor. Unfortunately, without good leadership, we are unable to do some of the things we would like to do. We need a chairman for bowling and also one for golf. That's where our members come in. We know that there has to be someone out there with the desire and ability to take over the direction of these activities and get them going again. Who's going to step up and get these activities going again? Give any one of us on the BEC a call and we'll be happy to explore the possibilities in depth with you. These jobs are not all-consuming, and don't need to take up a punitive amount of time. Help is available from other members, and all we need is someone to keep everything going in the right direction. Let us hear from you!



## Happy Valentine's Day



### **LITTLE SIR MESSAGE**

**Gene Bettencourt**

**(209) 533-1676**

**[genebettencourt@comcast.net](mailto:genebettencourt@comcast.net)**

We are now at the beginning of the New Year, and it appears that Covid may soon be behind us. But in the meantime, be careful and stay safe so all of you can enjoy the upcoming presentations and activities. Speaking of activities, we are still looking for volunteers to help with or start new ones. It also appears that we may need someone to take over as a chairman for an activity or two where there is a vacancy. We had to wait an extra month, but we will finally get to hear from the representatives of the "Tuskegee Airmen" during our February meeting. Be sure to attend. I know that you will enjoy the presentation.

For the Star War fans: *May the force be with you!*

For the Star Trek fans: *Live long and prosper!*

And for you football fans: *We had the best playoff season ever!*

**That is if you are not a 49er's fan**



### **FEBRUARY GUEST SPEAKER:**

**Leigh Roberts,**

Daughter of 1Lt. George S. "Spanky" Roberts, who graduated in the first class of the Tuskegee Airmen with Capt. Benjamin O. Davis Commanding Officer of the 99th Fighter Squadron.

The BEC has approved our ladies to be invited to join us at our monthly luncheons if there is a guest speaker that they would like to hear. A reservation must be made as you are bringing a guest. Make your reservations with Jerry Bellefeuille (209) 588-3978 or [sirjerry4@gmail.com](mailto:sirjerry4@gmail.com)



**Major George S. Roberts,  
Leigh's Father**



## FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

Phillips, King	02/06
Rodrigues, Jim	02/06
Stoddard, Andy	02/06
White, Gene	02/12
Harm, Ray	02/23
McGuigan, Dave	02/25
Toews, Eddie	02/27

## INTERNET CHAIRMAN

**Jerry Bellefeuille**  
**(209) 588-3978**  
[sirjerry4@gmail.com](mailto:sirjerry4@gmail.com)

## BOWLING CHAIRMAN

Looking for a Bowling Chairman, if interested please contact Phil VanSwoll at (209) 532-1133  
[pvanswoll@outlook.com](mailto:pvanswoll@outlook.com)  
 No report for January



## CAR CLUB CHAIRMAN

**Rick Bronner - (408) 318-4826**  
[bronnerrick@gmail.com](mailto:bronnerrick@gmail.com)

Hello again fellow car enthusiasts. Lately we've been enjoying some very mild weather this winter. My guess is many of you have pulled your weekend cars out during this break for a nice drive. Have you checked your tires lately? It's been rather cold on the morning and ill bet many of you have low air pressure readings right now. We all know low pressure contributes to poor handling as well as poor mileage. It can even cause premature damage to your tires. Remember your tires are part of your suspension. Your car needs that air cushion to safely navigate those potholes and other obstacles. Most cars have the tire pressure recommendations in the driver's side door jam. If you don't know most tires today recommend 32-35 psi cold. Also do a tire inspection. Do you see any small cracks in the side walls? Typical tire life is 6-10 years. A properly stored car in a garage can get several years longer but to play it safe I would recommend 10 years as the max life span. So let's all get out and safely hit the road.

Our Branch website is at [sonorasirs.org](http://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 <http://wearesir.com>.



## KAYAKING/EASY HIKING

**Sol Robin (707) 315-1284**  
[solhomes@sbcglobal.net](mailto:solhomes@sbcglobal.net)

The Twain Harte group has not reinstated the "Easy Hike" group, and that should be deleted. It is a casualty of Covid. The Kayak group will start up again in the Spring, maybe April, certainly by May. If there are any questions about any of these potential activities anybody can contact me at this email or (707) 315-1284

## 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](mailto:solhomes@sbcglobal.net).



## PINOCHLE

**Bob Morrison—588-0994**  
[robert.mrrsn@yahoo.com](mailto:robert.mrrsn@yahoo.com)

Our pinochle tournaments are suspended until after February 15, 2022.



## FISHING CHAIRMAN

**Chuck Simons - (209) 532-9550**  
[simons4890@yahoo.com](mailto:simons4890@yahoo.com)  
 No report for January



## RV CLUB NEWS

**Eddie Toews (209) 5323970**  
[lcoinlady@aol.com](mailto:lcoinlady@aol.com)  
 No report for January



## GOLF CHAIRMAN

Looking for a Golf Chairman if you are interested please contact Phil VanSwoll (209) 532-1133

[pvanswoll@outlook.com](mailto:pvanswoll@outlook.com)

No report for January



## MEMBERSHIP REPORT

### MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Previous Months Membership (January)

Total Active Members 178

### November Luncheon

Luncheon Attendance (39%) 64

Excused Absences (61%) 00

Current Month Membership (December)

Active Membership (October) 178

Applicants Being Installed +0

Active Members Lost -14

**Active Membership January 164**



**ATTENTION ALL**

**2022 DUES**

**ARE DUE AND PAYABLE AS**

**OF JANUARY 2022**

**DUES ARE \$25.00**

**DUES WILL BE DELINQUENT**

**AFTER FEBRUARY 8, 2022**

**IF DUES ARE NOT PAID BY THE MARCH 8<sup>TH</sup>  
MEETING THE DELINQUENT MEMBERS NAME  
WILL BE POSTED IN THE APRIL BULLETIN.**

**Make Checks Payable To “SIRS Branch 136**

**Pay Dues To: Eddie Toews at back table or Mail to:**

**21795 El Coyote Dr., Sonora, Ca. 95370**

**Thank You, Eddie Toews, Treasurer**



## How to Get SIR's Merchandise Sales

As we have announced, the Branch will no longer be stocking merchandise. That does not mean that you will no longer be able to get shirts or other items with the SIRs logo, branch or even your name embroidered.

Rather than having the merchandise on hand, you can select items from a catalog available at a table at our meetings. For those of you having computers, you can also go the Branch 136's web site and find the catalog online. Of course, you can always go to <https://sir.ourproshop.com> and view and even buy the items (if you want to buy directly, make sure that your order exceeds the free handling and shipping threshold).

Unless you order directly online, select the item you wish to order and fill out the Abbreviated SIR's Merchandise Order Form in duplicate for each item. Forward your completed Order Forms, along with your check, to me by mail at the address shown or hand deliver it to me with your payment at our meeting. The second copy of the Order Form will be your receipt. As we do not have a Branch credit card, I will have to use my personal charge card to pay for the orders.

Because shipping and handling charges apply for orders below \$50, I will have to hold orders until that threshold is met. To avoid too long a wait time, we will take orders periodically, say every three months (February, May, August and November). Reminders will appear in the bulletin and be announced at the meeting preceding the order month.

Feel free to call Fred Kehr 785-4358 with any questions about the procedures at our meetings.





**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.



## Sonora SIR Branch #136 2022 Luncheon Menu

Price is \$19.00 for full luncheon or \$9.00 for salad only (except as noted\*)

- January 11 Sirloin Tips, Noodles, Carrots, Green Salad and Chocolate Pudding
- February 8 Roast Pork & Apple Sauce, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, Green Salad and Cookies
- March 8 Corned Beef & Cabbage, Diced Red Potatoes, Carrots, Green Salad and Cake
- April 12 Swiss Steak, Mashed Potatoes, Corn (substitute Green Beans), Green Salad and Sherbet
- May \*10 Ladies Day Luncheon ([Special Menu & Price: to be determined](#))
- June 14 Meatloaf & Gravy, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, Green Salad and Strawberry Shortcake
- July 12 Country Pork Ribs, Mashed Potatoes, Brown Gravy, Corn (substitute Peas), Green Salad and Vanilla Pudding
- August 9 Chicken Cordon Blue, Rice Pilaf, Peas, Green Salad and Chocolate Pudding
- September 13 Annual Family BBQ Picnic
- October 11 Roast Beef, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, Green Salad and Peach Cobbler
- November 8 Roast Turkey & Stuffing, Gravy & Cranberry Sauce, Mashed Potatoes, Buttered Corn, Green Salad and Pumpkin Pie
- December \*13 Christmas Luncheon (Special Menu & Price: to be determined)

**All meals include dinner roll, butter, salad dressing, coffee and water.**

Fish may be substituted as an alternative to any of the monthly entrees shown above.

### **Your 2022 Officers & Directors**

<b>BIG SIR:</b> Phil VanSwoll	209-532-1133	Rick Bronner	<b><u>Directors:</u></b> 408-318-4826
<b>LTL. SIR:</b> Gene Bettencourt	209-533-1676	George Cocores	209-456-9814
<b>SECRETARY:</b> Bill Burnes	209-533-4334	Stan Enos	209-533-2928
<b>Asst. SEC:</b> Dick Aberle	209-532-4066	Rex Page	209-533-4501
<b>TRESURER:</b> Eddie Toews	209-532-3970	Marty Martin	209-586-1886
<b>Asst. TRES:</b> Steve Aldridge	209-770-5287	Ray Starkey	209-814-0187

## 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  
**Ray Starkey** (209) 814-0187  
**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

STAMP



DEVOTED TO THE  
PROMOTION  
OF INDEPENDENCE AND  
DIGNITY OF  
RETIREMENT

ADDRESS LABEL

