



# BULLETIN

## January 2022

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

**Tuesday, Jan. 11th**

**Happy Hour at 11:00am**

**Lunch at 12:00pm**

**Contact via e-mail:**

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

**Or**

**Call (209) 533-3670**

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

**Menu:**

**Sirloin Tips, Noodles, Carrots,  
Green Salad & Chocolate Pudding**

**Be sure to bring your face masks.  
Sirs State requires we must wear  
masks at our luncheons. You can  
remove your mask to eat or drink  
but must be worn at all times.**

**Committee Meeting will meet  
on January 11 at 10:00 am in  
the Elks lounge SE Corner.**



### **BULLETIN INPUT NOTICE!**

**Jim Botto Editor - 559-0931**

**Asst. Jerry Bellefeuille 533-3630**

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

**January 31, 2022**



### **BIG SIR MESSAGE**

**Phil VanSwoll**

**(209) 532-1133**

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

Heading into the New Year as your Big Sir is somewhat of a dejavu moment for me, as I had this same privilege back in 2013. The big difference this time, of course, is COVID, which manifests itself primarily by reducing attendance at our meetings and events. Back in the day, we regularly had more than 150 members at our luncheons. Now we are doing good to get half that many. Hopefully 2022 will see the effects of the virus diminish to the point that we can again start participating in all our activities and enjoying each other's company without the worry of getting sick. We are quite fortunate in having a facility in which to hold our meetings. I am also the president of two other organizations in the county, neither of which has a place to hold regular meetings and therefore haven't been able to conduct any sort of event for over a year. SIR operates in a very responsible manner, with the highest care taken to ensure the safety of our membership. It may seem like some of the requirements of attendance are a little onerous and somewhat overboard, but if they keep us all safe and well, so much the better. Your branch executive committee is anxious to deliver a rewarding membership experience for you. We will work hard to make this next year one that will stimulate you and make your attendance at our luncheons and events worthwhile. If you have any suggestions, please make them known to us. On behalf of your incoming BEC, it is a pleasure to be of service to you, and I look forward to seeing you at a meeting soon.



### **LITTLE SIR MESSAGE**

**Gene Bettencourt**

**(209) 533-1676**

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

First, I would like to thank Eddie Toews and all the volunteers that made the Christmas party a great success. Also, I would like to thank Gene Zanoni for helping me in my new position of Little Sir. Without his help and others, I would have been like the deer in the headlights. Moving from the coast (Santa Cruz) to Sonora has been quite a change for me. From being a surfing dude to becoming a retired gentleman of the mountains. I am looking forward to a new year. It appears that the covid issue will still be with us, but if we stay safe, we will be able to do everything we want to do. We will be scheduling various speakers for the coming months. If you have any ideas on what speakers you would like to have appear, please let me know. We have a great one this month, representatives of the Tuskegee Airmen. Be sure to be there. Have a Happy New Year!

### **JANUARY 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)





## 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



## DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Grimm, Bob	01/02
Lobdell, Bill	01/03
Bristow, John	01/04
Molinari, Mo	01/05
Payne, Don	01/08
Scialabba, Steve	01/08
Jeppson, Dave	01/10
Botto, Jim	01/12
Garcia, Ray	01/17
Bulich, Otto	01/19
Wallace, Jim	01/21
Robin, Sol	01/25
Dentino, Dick	01/26
Bettencourt, Gene	01/27



## CAR CLUB CHAIRMAN

**Rick Bronner - (408) 318-4826**

[bronnerrick@gmail.com](mailto:bronnerrick@gmail.com)

Happy New Year fellow car enthusiasts. This month I'd like to highlight one of our members cars. I recently had the opportunity to spend some time with Jim Nuzum. Jim is a past Big Sir for our branch 136. Jim and Marylou are the proud owners of not one but two MG sports cars. Jim has a 1973 MGB GT and Marylou has a rare left-hand drive 1951 MG TD. The MGB GT is the fast back version of the MGB sports car which was the bestselling sports car of all time until the Mazda Miata came along. Jim picked the '73 since it was the last year of the chrome bumpers. They are the second owners and both are quite original and are real driver cars. Jim and Marylou have won numerous awards for their cars over the years. These are not garage queens they have driven them to car shows all across the west coast including trips to Colorado, Utah and even Canada. With the hatch back there was even plenty of room for their dog to come along. I'm hoping to discover more hidden gems like Jim and Marylou's. Got a cool car to share? I'd love to write about it.



## MEMBERSHIP REPORT

### December Active Membership

November Active Membership	181
Applicants Installed	0
Active Members Leaving	3
Members Transferring In	0
Active Resigned	3
Active Dropped	0
Active Members Deceased	0
Active Membership Outlook	178



## INTERNET CHAIRMAN

**Jerry Bellefeuille -533-3630**

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

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 <https://wearesir.com>.



## RV CLUB NEWS

**Eddie Toews (209) 5323970**

[lcoinlady@aol.com](mailto:lcoinlady@aol.com)

The RV Club ended the year with a very nice dinner at the Peppery Bar and Gril. Everyone in attendance had a great time and enjoyed visiting. We had several guests in attendance. We held our annual food and money drive for Interfaith. We collected \$805.00 and can goods that Earl Randall delivered the next day. Great job everyone. We discussed outings for next year and will be going to Bakersfield in March and Plymouth in May. We also discussed getting more outings scheduled for next year. Hope everyone has a safe and healthy 2022.

## KAYAKING/EASY HIKING

**Sol Robin (209) 651-1054**

[s.robin@sbcglobal.net](mailto:s.robin@sbcglobal.net)

No report for January

## 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 209-651-1054 or [solhomes@sbcglobal.net](mailto:solhomes@sbcglobal.net).



## PINOCHLE

**Bob Morrison—588-0994**

[robert.mrrsn@yahoo.com](mailto:robert.mrrsn@yahoo.com)

The adjacent table shows our scores for the pinochle tournaments in December. 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.

Our pinochle tournaments have been suspended until after January 15, 2022.

December 2021		
Player	Branch	Average
PARTNER PINOCHLE SCORES		
Del Rotelli	77	582
Bob Morrison	136	564
Roland Patton	172	410
Sonny Tome	77	310
John Salmon	136	296

December 2021		
Player	Branch	Average
CUTTHROAT PINOCHLE SCORES		
Sonny Tome	77	355
Del Rotelli	77	265
John Salmon	136	257
John White	136	253
Bob Morrison	136	211
Roland Patton	172	186



## BOWLING CHAIRMAN

**Michael Coe-(209) 769-3413**

[coemike@sbcglobal.net](mailto:coemike@sbcglobal.net)

No report for January



## FISHING CHAIRMAN

**Chuck Simons - (209) 532-9550**

[simons4890@yahoo.com](mailto:simons4890@yahoo.com)

No report for December





## 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



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 Instagram ~ @strands95370

**Strands**  
 Full Service Salon

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

**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

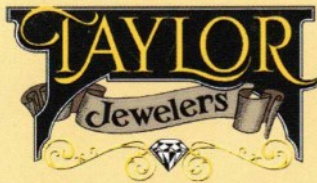


"Home of the Tire War"  
**WRIGHT'S TIRE**

694 South Washington Street  
 Sonora, CA 95370

Jon Wright - Owner

(209) 532-7560



In the Junction Shopping Center  
 under the clock tower

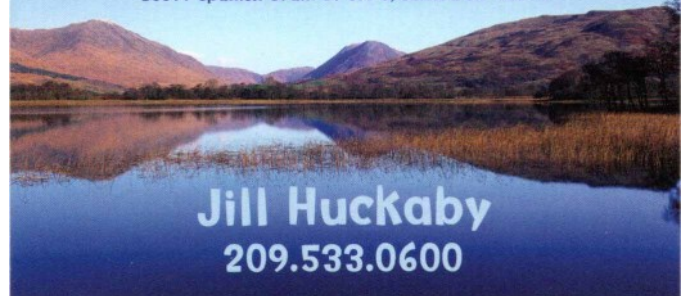
Mike Taylor

- wedding ring specialist
- jewelry repair
- custom design

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

**Hairy's Family Haircuts**

20899 Spanish Grant Dr Ste C, Sonora CA 95370



**Jill Huckaby**  
 209.533.0600



## 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 De Voe  
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 2020 - Gene Zanoni - 2021

## BRANCH #136 HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS

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

### Branch 136 Executive Committee

## 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

**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

**Bill Guenza** (209) 586-7088  
**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

## Behind the Scenes

Photographer - **Steve Belochi** 533-5315  
Bulletin - **Jim Botto** 559-0931  
Internet - **Jerry Bellefeuille** 533-3630  
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