



BULLETIN

January 2023

Website: sonorasirs.org
SONORA BRANCH #136

Tuesday, Jan. 10th

Happy Hour at 11:00am

Lunch at 12:00pm

Contact via e-mail:

Jerry Bellefeuille

sirjerry4@gmail.com

Or Call (209) 588-3978

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

**Deadline for reservations is
Jan. 3rd, 2023**

Menu:

**Sirloin Tips with Noodles, Carrots,
Green Salad, Roles & Butter,
Chocolate Pudding**



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

The deadline for the next bulletin is

January 31, 2023



INTERNET CHAIRMAN

Jerry Bellefeuille 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

Eddie Toews

(209) 532-3970

lcoinlady@aol.com

Well, we finally made it through 2022. It was a rough year right up the end, but we made it through. We did end the year with a great Christmas dinner and gathering of members and their wives and friends. There was a lot of visiting and catching up with old friends that they hadn't seen since our last family function. We had several great raffle prizes that were won by several people. I would like to thank the events committee for all the work that was done to make this the success that it was. They are Stan Enos, George Cocores, Rick Bronner, Gene Zanoni and Eddie Toews. I also want to thank all the extra people that helped with the set-up and with running the raffle prizes to the winners. They are Ruth Enos, Pam Krom, Linda Toews, Pam Corcores, Bill Guenza, Dick Aberle and John Salmon. If I missed anyone, please except my apology and let me know who you are. I also want to give a big thank you to "the Cowboy Country Church" for loaning us the center pieces for the tables, it made the decorations looks really nice.

Now, it is good that we are moving into 2023 and hopefully it brings with it new ideas, good health and more participation in our club activities.

Several things will be addressed at our January 10th meeting. Our state leaders have launched an effort to help the branches gain new members and retain the existing members. A lot of good ideas are in the making and you will be hearing a lot about it in the next several months.

Another thing that will be happening, like in July, we will be having a couple of members going around and getting volunteers to help, on occasion, with all our activities and work so that we continue to have a great club. The club is run by the members and for the members, so we need everyone's input to keep the branch going. We are always looking for new ideas. It is your branch, so come to a BEC meeting and see what happens and help out.

As I said earlier, hope to see you at the January meeting and come a little earlier to the BEC meeting to see what happens. Everyone is welcome to attend the BEC meetings.



LITTLE SIR MESSAGE

Rick Bronner

(408) 318-4826

bronnerrick@gmail.com

We wrapped up the year with our annual Holiday Banquet. There were over 100 of us in attendance. The catering provided by Dean's catering was excellent. Dean and staff served up a wonderful meal of prime rib, salmon, or chicken as well as desert. After our meal we held our raffle. I had the pleasure again this year of announcing the winners. Our SIR's members again outdid themselves with so many wonderful raffle donations. I especially want to thank all those that volunteered to help put on our annual event. There are so many of you that helped. Stan and Ruth Enos, Eddie and Linda Toews, George and Pam Cocores, Gene Zanoni, Dick Eberle, John Salmon, Pam Kron, Bill Guenza and Dale Decker for our videos and music. Please forgive me if I missed a name. At our upcoming January meeting we will pass around a signup sheet for volunteers. Many of the positions are just to help with our monthly meetings such as manning our check-in desk, helping with raffle ticket sales for our three special events as well as helping with those special events. I'm also looking to see if there is someone willing to take over one of the three positions I have been doing. The Car Chair, Golf Chair or Bowling Chair. Now that I'm little SIR I've got a lot on my plate. So, when that sign-up sheet comes around won't you, please consider helping out.

Our guest speaker for this January's meeting is our local city councilman and ex-mayor Matt Hawkins. Matt will be discussing topics from our homeless situation to local taxes. We will have an open mic for Q&A. Hope to see you all there.



January 2023 Birthdays

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



RV CLUB NEWS

Eddie Toews (209) 532-3970
lcoinlady@aol.com

The RV Club said goodbye to the year 2022 with our annual Christmas dinner held at the Peppery Bar and Grill. I want to thank Hosts Cheri & Marty Martin and Co-hosts Nancy & Scott Lewis for all the work they did in planning, setting up and decorating for the function. I also want to thank Nancy Lewis for all the cupcakes she made for our dessert. We had a great turnout with 36 RV members and 7 guests attending. A lot of visiting and talking about the past was done by all. We also held our annual Earl Randall can and non-perishable food drive along with cash for Interfaith. We collected several cases of canned and non-perishable food items along with \$1056.00 in checks for Interfaith of which the ELKS Lodge of Sonora will match. We also discussed changing some of the rules of the RV Group to allow people that do not own an RV to join us on our outings. Most of the parks have cabins that you can rent, or you can rent RV's and be able to join us and participate in the outings. We will be working to get this done in the near future. We have several outings to be worked on for the 2023 year with our first gathering being our annual kickoff breakfast in February. (Date to be determined). Until then, everyone be safe on the road and hope to see all at the February breakfast. Happy New Year to all.

Drive safe.



CAR CLUB NEWS

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

There's really not much to report on the car front. Most of us have our cool cars garaged for the winter. One thing we all need to be aware of with the colder temperatures is our tire pressures. Cold temperatures can cause quite a drop in pressure. Tire pressure can decrease about 1 PSI (pounds per square inch) for every 10 degrees the temperature drops. When I recently checked the pressures on our daily driver, I found the pressures had dropped by 5 psi. Low tire pressures can cause damage to your tires as well as diminished handling. So, let's all be safe and keep our pressures up.



PINOCHLE REPORT

Bob Morrison - (209) 588-0994
robert.mrrsn@yahoo.com

In December, we played three tournaments of cutthroat pinochle. Our average scores are shown in the adjacent table. Please join us to play pinochle. We meet each Monday at the Senior Center, 540 Greenley Rd. from 12:45 P.M. to 4:30 P.M. The tournaments start at 1:00 P.M. If you don't know how to play pinochle, we will teach you. You will play with members from all three of our SIR branches. You don't need to come every time. Your first two tournaments are free, but thereafter you will pay \$4 at each session. You will win 10 if you score in the top 50% at the end of one of your free tournaments. The two highest scoring players at the end of a session win cash prizes.

December 2022		
CUTTHROAT PINOCHLE SCORES		
Player	Branch	Average
Delbert		
Rotelli	77	270
Jim Turner	136	245
Tom Long	77	238
Bob Morrison	136	212
John White	77	195
Bob Burkett	136	108
John Quinton	136	54



BOWLING REPORT

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

The first half ended before Christmas with "Triple 7" winning the first half. Rick Bronner, Gene Mendenhall and Paul Linn beat "The Wild Ones" Rich Milano, Rich Rinaldi, and Danny Laureta to take the first half. The second half will begin on January 13, 2023. Remember Friday the 13th! We still could use 3 more bowlers to complete the league. If you or anyone you know is interested in bowling with us please contact me at 408-318-4826 or email bronnerrick@gmail.com. We only need a minimum of two bowlers for a team.

GOLF REPORT



RICK BRONNER - (408) 318-4826

bronnerrick@gmail.com

SIR's golf is on its winter break until springtime. I'll keep you all posted as to when our monthly tournaments will resume. Remember they are always the 3rd Tuesday of the month.
 Happy New Year

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

December Christmas Luncheon
 Luncheon Attendance 115

Current Month Membership

Active Membership (Nov.)	144
Applicants Being Installed	+0
Active Members Lost	-0
Active Membership Dec.	144



2022

Christmas Luncheon



2023 Sonora SIRs Officers and Directors



Rooster Booster Stan Enos



SIR of The Year Jerry Bellefeuille



Outstand Service Award: Jerry Bellefeuille & Jim Botto



2023 Sonora SIR #136 Annual Dues Notice

November 1, 2022

Dear Fellow SIR member,

Below is your Annual Sonora SIR Dues Notice for 2023:

Even though the cost of everything has gone up these days, your SIR dues are the same as the last several years and your Board of Directors continues to strive to make SIR affordable and enjoyable to all of our members.

The Annual Dues for 2023 are **\$25.00**. This amount covers the cost of the State SIR assessment and normal operating costs of the branch. **Annual Dues are due by January 1st and considered delinquent after that date.** Dues not paid by February 28th, 2023 may result in your loss of membership (extenuating circumstances will be considered).

I encourage you to Send in Your Dues Now.

Send checks to:

SIR #136 at Eddie Toews, 21795 El Coyote DR. Sonora, CA. 95370

We appreciate your early remittance so that your Board can budget and plan for our in-person activities in the new year.

Thank You for being a loyal SIR member.

Eddie Toews

Treasurer

PRINT and DETACH with your Remittance

Sonora SIR #136



Enclosed is my check in the amount of \$25.00, made out to Sonora SIR #136. For my 2023 Annual Dues.

Name: _____

Check No: _____ **Checks made payable to Sonora SIR # 136**

Send to: SIR #136 at Eddie Toews, 21795 El Coyote DR. Sonora, CA. 95370

Attention

Great News

Covid Restriction lifted

As of October 11, 2022, the state BEC and Branch 136 BEC and members attending the regular meeting have unanimously voted to drop all COVID 19 restrictions and go back to normal attending of any SIR activities.

The waiver forms that were filled out over the past two years will be kept on file so we do not have to fill them out again if Covid comes back. Let's all hope it stays away.

We want to thank everyone who worked and helped us get through what our state BEC and insurance company required. I also want to thank everyone for their patience in helping us get through this very bad situation.

We hope to see you at the next SIR meeting on January 10, 2023. Watch for the e-mail from Jerry Bellefeuille to make your reservation.

Your SIR Branch 136 BEC.

Propane News Letter to All Sonora SIRs Members

Fall is here, and it's time to fire up the furnace. Everything is going up, gasoline, diesel, and propane. I can help you with one of those, PROPANE!! If you have home delivery from a propane provider that's not JS West Propane you need to change. As a SIR member I can enroll you in our Co-op with JS West. The average cost can be as much as \$1.00 a gallon cheaper than a regular routed JS West customer. The only cost to change is \$15.95 for the delivery of a JS West tank and the annual tank lease is \$75.00 for a 250 gallons tank. (Larger tanks will be more dependent on size). When your tank is delivered, they will move the competitor's tank to the side and set a JS West tank. They will pressure test your system for leaks and relight your pilot lights. So, if you want to save some serious money on your propane bill you need to call me. One of our members told me they saved \$1000 last year. Think of it, get a delivery of 150 gallons that's \$150 less than being in the JS West SIR Co-op. So, give me a call if you have any questions.

Marty Martin Propane chairman
(209) 586-1886
dcmartin715@gmail.com.

Want Some SIRs Apparel?

Having had successive Merchandise Directors over the last decade or so, merchandise sales have never amounted to much. Our sales last year dropped off drastically, to date we have not had one single order since we started the program. With that, our Director over the Merchandise program, Fred Kehr has resigned and we liquidated all of our inventory and will be moving to getting items on the internet. We want to thank for a job well done over the last several years.

Now, how to get SIR Merchandise.

You can also go to <https://sir.ourproshop.com>, peruse the items there. Should your order be large enough to avoid handling and shipping charges, you should be able to handle the order yourself, using a credit card. Of course, if you are willing to pay the handling and shipping charges, you should always be able to handle your order yourself. You might also consolidate your order with friend's and avoid shipping and handling charges that way.

If you don't have access to a computer, etc., a couple of catalogs will be available at our meetings on the table between the bar and dining areas at the Elks' Lodge. Browse through the catalog, and if you find something you like, take an order sheet and fill it out, placing the completed form on the designated clipboard. Don't hesitate asking me about details. Once the order form is completed, I will contact you and the payment (preferably a check) from you. I'll consolidate orders until I have a volume sufficient to avoid the handling and shipping fees, unless, of course, you are willing to pay them. In that case, your order will be processed separately. If I don't get a couple of orders together within a couple of months, I'll contact you to determine if you are willing to wait longer, and we'll go from there.





Dot Popovich

Agent, Lic. #0B12959

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Kelli Slater~Owner
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Instagram~@strands95370

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Sonora, Ca 95370
(209) 536-4380
mkalslaser@gmail.com

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Jon Wright - Owner

(209) 532-7560

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DUTY
RV & TRUCK CENTER INC.

Steve Henley
Owner

(209) 532-7994

(209) 559-3840

After hours/Emergency
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www.sierraheavyduty.com



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TAMARA M. POLLEY

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209-694-3622

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Estate
Planning
Attorney

TAYLOR
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under the clock tower

- wedding ring specialist
- jewelry repair
- custom design

Mike Taylor

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

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 - Dave Gonzales

Vice-President - Dale Decker

Secretary - Russ Salazar

Treasurer - Carl Mason

Area 5 Representative - Paul Squeri

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 - Gene Zanoni - 2020 &

2021- Phil VanSwoll 2022- Phil VanSwoll

BRANCH #136 HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS

Frank Taylor - Treasurer 2001-2015

Dale Decker - Big Sir 2016

Eddie Toews - Treasurer 2016 - current

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: Eddie Towes (209)532-3970

Little Sir: Rick Bronner (408)318-4826

Sec: Gene Zanoni (209)532-1989

Asst Sec: Bill Burnes (209)533-4334

Treas: John Salmon (209)206-6244

Asst.Tres: Eddie Toews (209)532-3970

DIRECTORS

Marty Martin (209) 586-1886

George Cocores (209) 456-9814

Rex Page (209) 533-4501

Stan Enos (209) 533-2928

Steven Holt (209) 928-3072

Melvin Kutsch (209) 533-0384

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 - **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).

DATED MATERIAL

Sons In Retirement, Inc

Sonora Branch #136

22295 Paseo De Los Portales

Sonora, CA 95370



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PROMOTION
OF INDEPENDENCE AND
DIGNITY OF
RETIREMENT**

STAMP

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