



BULLETIN

March 2022

Website: sonorasirs.org
SONORA BRANCH #136

Tuesday, Mar. 8th

Happy Hour at 11:00am

Lunch at 12:00pm

Contact via e-mail:

sirjerry4@gmail.com

Or

Call (209) 588-3978

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

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

Menu:

**Corned Beef & Cabbage, Diced
Red Potatoes, Carrots, Green
Salad and Cake**

**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

The deadline for the next bulletin is

March 31, 2022



BIG SIR MESSAGE

Phil VanSwoll

(209) 532-1133

pvanswoll@outlook.com

For our first two meetings of the year, we have averaged just under 70 members in attendance. That is just less than half our current membership total. Now that the mask mandates are over, and we are all able to move about a little more freely, we would hope that we will start to see even more of you taking part in our activities. Our luncheon last month featured a great program, with representatives from the Tuskegee Airmen giving us the background on their group, and it was well received by all in attendance. If you weren't there – you missed it! This month our speaker will be Todd Simonson, of the Edward Jones Financial Group, who is well known by many of you. Todd has spoken to us before, and always presents helpful and interesting information. Let's have a good turnout and show him how much we appreciate his taking the time to get together with us! SIR wants to become known as a social organization for men, with less focus on the retirement aspect and more on the activities we make available to our members. We hope you are taking advantage of all we have to offer. If you aren't sure as to how to participate in an activity that interests, you – just ask! Do you think we should expand on the social aspect, and also become a service organization? Is there a cause or program in Tuolumne County that you are passionate about that you think our participation would benefit? How can we be of help? E-mail me directly or talk to any member of the BEC and make your thoughts known. We'll be happy to consider any viable suggestion. Have you paid your dues yet? \$25 a year is not a lot of money for all we have to offer. We can't count you as a member unless your dues are paid, so if you haven't done it yet, bring a check to the next meeting and let us know we can count on you for the rest of the year. We look forward to your participation and are very happy to have you as a member!



LITTLE SIR MESSAGE

Gene Bettencourt

(209) 533-1676

genebettencourt@comcast.net

To follow up with the comments in the Big SIR's message, the weight of the covid-19 epidemic appears to be easing. With that in mind, all of us should be able to participate in more of the SIR monthly meetings and the various activities. Also stated by Phil, Todd Simonson, of the Edward Jones Financial Group, will be discussing the ups and downs of the stock market and what is happening in the financial world. It will be a great discussion of what our financial future may look like. For us retired guys, we need to have as much information as we can get on this subject.

On a personal note, I lost my wife of 51 years several years ago. After drifting for a couple of years and thinking about moving into a retirement home, my family and others got me to start living again. One of the things I did was join the SIR's branch in Santa Cruz. Through SIRs I started playing golf again, joined the SIR's bocce group, and I became the travel director for SIRs, etc. It is one of the many things that turned my life around. I also went on an online dating service where I met a wonderful lady which happen to live in Sonora. Long story short, I am now living in Sonora and, as all of you know, am the Little SIR for Sonora branch 136.

Any organization is what you make of it. We need your input and help in making it important to you. It isn't just going to a monthly meeting and having time with friends, although that is very important. It is also an opportunity to get involved in many of the activities that the branch has to offer. And if it doesn't have what you need, let me know and maybe we can make that happen.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

Cannon, Bill	03/04
Taylor, Frank HLM	03/09
Squeri, Paul	03/15
Knisely, Richard	03/15
Vaughan, Bill	03/19
Cannon, Darrell	03/22
Thomas, Stan	03/23
Martin, Marty	03/23
Sehr, James	03/24
Grow, Steve	03/27
Turner, Jim E.	03/27
Mercado, Trini	03/27
Finigian, Steve	03/30
Neiderer, Tom	03/31

CAR CLUB CHAIRMAN

Rick Bronner - (408) 318-4826

bronnerrick@gmail.com

I am looking at putting a drive together on Thursday May the 12th following our May SIRS meeting in Yosemite to see the falls. If you don't already have a Senior Park pass you can buy a 1 year for \$20 or a lifetime for \$80. <https://www.nps.gov/planyourvisit/senior-pass-changes.htm>

If anyone is interested, please contact me at 408-318-4826 or email me at bronnerrick@gmail.com

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Previous Months Membership (January)

Total Active Members 164

February Luncheon

Luncheon Attendance (40%) 67

Excused Absences (60%) 99

Current Month Membership (January)

Active Membership (February) 164

Applicants Being Installed +4

Active Members Lost -2

Active Membership February 166

BOWLING REPORT

Rick Bronner - (408) 318-4826

bronnerrick@gmail.com

Bowling as reported by Mike Coe

The SIR's is in full swing. As of the middle of February, 3 FRIENDS lead the league. The team consists of Tom Turner, Esther Turner, and Mike Wright. They have been very consistent through the year.

Year to Date Highs Scores are;

High Scratch game- Mike Coe- 256

High Scratch series- Mike Coe- 694

High Handicap game- Chuck Simons- 288

High Handicap series- Mike Coe- 730

Elaine Simmons still has the high scratch game, high scratch series, high handicap game, and high handicap series.

There are a number of SIRs Bowling

Tournaments coming up.

March 22-23 Clayton Valley Bowl, Concord, CA, contact Mike Kropf -925-689-1453 or Gary Kaufman- 925-360-9260

April 18-21 Gold Dust West, Carson City, Nevada - Contact Tim Hall -775-241-9000 or Dave Moore -510-825-2654.

Other tournaments that are coming up;

SIRS Annual State Tournament in May at Clayton Valley Bowl, Concord and the SIRS Tournament in Reno, Nevada at the National Bowling Stadium in August, 8-10.

Applications will be out soon for this one.

GOLF REPORT

Rick Bronner - (408) 318-4826

bronnerrick@gmail.com

Looking for a Golf Chairman if you are interested please contact Phil VanSwoll (209) 532-1133 pvanswoll@outlook.com

Golf as reported by Danny Laureta

Hello everyone,

Please see attached file for the SIR 2022 Golf Schedule

Our first golf tournament is Tuesday March 15th at Teledi GC

Format: Two Man Best Ball (I will post all scores)

8:30 am shotgun start

CTH: Hole #5 and Hole #12

\$55.00 fee includes cart & prize

Teledi GC members fee is \$5.00 (pay at the golf course or SIR luncheon)

Make checks out to SIR Golf & mail to me at PO Box 1089 Twain Harte, CA 95383

Deadline is March 10, 2022

Email Danny @ drlaureta@gmail.com

RV CLUB NEWS

Eddie Toews (209) 5323970

loinlady@aol.com

The RV Club had its 2022 kickoff breakfast last week. It was great seeing everyone that attended and a good time was had by everyone. We discussed our outings for the coming year. At this time, we have three outings planned, the first is a trip to the "River Run RV Park" in Bakersfield from March 21st to March 25th. Then we will be going to "49er RV Park" in Plymouth, CA. from May 22nd to 26th. We have a third outing in the making to go to the "Casa-D-Fruta RV Park" in the October time frame. We hope to be able to schedule more outings during the year.

We still have openings in the RV Club, so anyone in SIRs that has an RV and would like to visit the club we would love to have you. Contact Eddie Toews, RV Chairman at 209-532-3970 or 209-770-3776.

Hope to see everyone on the road. Drive safe.

FISHING CHAIRMAN

Chuck Simons - (209) 532-9550

simons4890@yahoo.com

Since waterfowl season has ended I have been on the water 3 times. Twice at Don Pedro and once at Melones. A total of 3 fish were caught. Several bass fishermen have said bass is slow also. The fluctuation water levels and the warmer water do not help. Hopefully things will pick up soon. Any news let me know.

Simons4890@yahoo.com Chuck

INTERNET CHAIRMAN

Jerry Bellefeuille

(209) 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>.

Check in desk help wanted

Are you looking for a fun way to help our branch? We need some part time help at the check in desk. This is a fun job where you get to meet all our members. If you volunteer with a buddy, you can have a great social hour just getting caught up with each other in between checking in members. There will be meetings in the future where help will be needed so if you

can help for even one meeting a year it would be a great help.

KAYAKING/EASY HIKING

Sol Robin (707) 315-1284

solhomes@sbcglobal.net

Spring is just around the corner! Interested is a slow paddle around Pinecrest lake followed by a fun BBQ? I've been asked what is needed to join in. Kayaks are available at retailers like Walmart and Big 5. For our outings a very basic kayak is fine. Kayaks are available for under \$140 at Walmart. Check the weight capacity before you buy! Other than the boat, you'll need a lightweight paddle, and a wide brim hat! Your wife or significant other is welcome! Please contact Sol with any questions, 707-315-1284 or on email at solhomes@sbcglobal.net.

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.

PINOCHLE

Bob Morrison—588-0994

robert.mrrsn@yahoo.com

Please join us to play pinochle. We meet each Monday at the Moose Lodge, 20921 Longeway Road from 12:45 P.M. to 4:30 P.M. From 12:45 P.M. to 1:00 P.M. is for tournament registration. The tournaments start at 1:00 P.M.

To participate in a tournament, you must meet the following requirements: You must have on record with our SIR branch that you have been fully vaccinated (2 shots, if required) against the COVID-19 virus. Alternatively, at the tournament, you must show the pinochle director the original, a copy, or photo (in hardcopy or via a phone) of a COVID-19 vaccination record card that indicates that you have been fully vaccinated. You must have on record with our SIR branch that you have signed a **SIR Event Waiver and Release of Liability** form. Alternatively, at the tournament, the pinochle director will give you the form which you must sign. He will mail your signed form to our SIR branch. If you would like to join us, but don't know how to play, we will teach you. You will play with members from all three of our SIR branches. You don't need to come every time but only when you want to. Your first two tournaments are free, but thereafter you pay only \$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.



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 8TH
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

Ladies Day

Luncheon

May 10th, 2022



No Host Cocktails

@ 11:00 am

Lunch @ Noon

Menu:

Shrimp Cocktail

Rib Eye Steak w/ Baked Potato

-or- Salmon with Rice Pilaf

Includes Vegetable, Salad

and Dessert

\$30.00 per Person

Tickets will go on sale at the
March & April Luncheons

MAXIMUM 200 TICKETS

AVAILABLE

NO CANCELATIONS AFTER

May 3, 2022

EVENTS COMMITTEE:

Gene Bettencourt (209) 533-1676

Paul Squeri Stan Enos

Dick Aberle Bill Guenza

Jim Botto George Cocores



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

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 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



Estate
 Planning
 Attorney



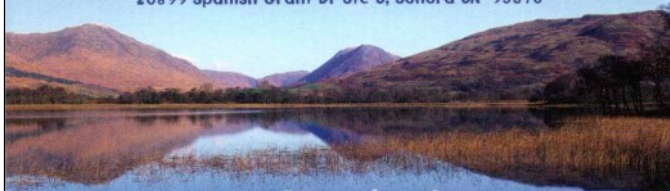
wedding ring specialist
 jewelry repair
 custom design

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.

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
Jim Botto (209) 559-0931
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



DEVOTED TO THE
PROMOTION
OF INDEPENDENCE AND
DIGNITY OF
RETIREMENT

STAMP

ADDRESS LABEL