



BULLETIN

March 2023

Website: sonorasirs.org
SONORA BRANCH #136

Tuesday, Mar. 14th

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
March 8th, 2023

Menu:

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



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, 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, here we are in March already.

Where is the time going?

The BEC has been busy working on things and planning things for the year. One of the first things was to address the issue of giving a free meal to someone each month for their birthday. As you read below, this is what the BEC wants to try to have something that works and will go on for a while.

At the February meeting the BEC made a change to the Free lunch on your birthday. It has been a confusing method of handling how to recognize a member's birthday and to give a free lunch to one of the members each month. The old way was to draw a name of a person who has a birthday within the month we are in. They would then be given a small piece of paper for them to bring back to the front table the next month and get their free lunch. They would either lose the piece of paper or forget it. Sometimes they wouldn't come back to a meeting and wanted the free lunch. This caused a lot of issues.

So, what we will be doing now is that everyone will pay for their meals when they come to a meeting. I will have a list of members who have a birthday that month. I will check at the front check-in table as to who on the list is present at the meeting (you will have to be present to get the free meal). I will then draw someone's name from the people present and they will get the free meal. That person will then have to see the treasurer at the end of the meeting and get a check for your reimbursement of your meal cost. This should help fix a lot of problems and maybe work. Only time will tell.

The May Ladies Day luncheon is in the works. The event will be on May 9, 2023, and the cost is \$35.00 per person and will be at the ELK'S lodge. The tickets for this event will be on sale at the March and April meetings, so bring your checkbooks and get your tickets early.

We are also working on the annual picnic to be held in August, so mark your calendars for this event.

As you can see, the BEC is very busy working on the 2023 events, along with several other things. As always, we could use help with all the things that we are working on, and any new ideas or suggestions are welcome. Come and be a part of the BEC and help make the branch a fun and enjoyable experience for all the members.



LITTLE SIR MESSAGE

Rick Bronner

(408) 318-4826

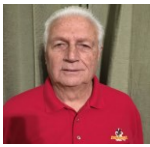
bronnerrick@gmail.com

Our guest speaker at our February meeting was Nancy Scott from Nancy's Hope here in Sonora. I believe we were all impressed by how many services they provide for our local community. Everything from their food bank, thrift store and helping all those in need. It's a wonder how Nancy makes the time to do it all. It had to have taken a lot of extra effort for Nancy to show up as just two nights after her thrift store was very badly vandalized. I'm so proud of our SIR's members when they came thru in a big way by donating several hundred dollars at meetings end. I know this will go a long way in helping put the thrift store back together. I know Nancy was overwhelmed by your support.

We had planned to have both Associate Engineer Jenn Batt and General Manager Don Perkins representing Tuolumne Utilities Water district (TUD) at our March 14th meeting. I was notified on March 1st that due to the severe storms we have recently endured TUD has scheduled a needed board meeting on Tuesday the 14th to work on issues from the storms. Just when I thought we were dead in the water for a guest speaker our Big Sir Eddie Toews calls to tell me while shopping he runs into Frank Smart from the Vietnam Veterans of America. Well guess what? I'm pleased to announce our guest speaker for March will be Frank Smart, founder of chapter 391 of the VVA. Chapter 391 is the largest Vietnam Veterans chapter in California and the 9th largest in all of the US. Vietnam Veterans of America (VVA) is the only national Vietnam Veterans organization congressionally chartered and exclusively dedicated to Vietnam-era veterans and their families. VVA's goals are to promote and support the full range of issues important to Vietnam veterans, to create a new identity for this generation of veterans, and to change public perception of Vietnam veterans. We're looking forward to Frank's presentation.

On another note our March meeting will be your first chance to buy tickets for the upcoming Mother's Day banquet on May 9th. Ticket prices will be the same as last year at \$35. See you all there.





RV CLUB NEWS

Eddie Toews (209) 5323970
lcoinlady@aol.com

The RV Club had its kickoff breakfast in February. We had a good turnout and a lot of discussion about our outings for 2023. Our first outing will be to Bakersfield from March 26th to the 27th. We will be visiting the Crystal palace Dance Hall, where Buck Owens played when he was home. They still have some top name entertainers, like Dwight Yoakum, that will stop by and play for the crowd. Other outings discussed were Bass Lake in May, Jackson Rancheria RV Park in October with a day trip to Apple Valley. There are several other outings in the making, so read the bulletin for more information as it becomes available. The RV Club is now open to any SIRS Member in good standing that would like to join us on an outing. You don't have to have an RV, a lot of the parks have Cabins, tent camping and you can rent an RV or a hotel room close by and spend the week with us enjoying the activities. Just contact Eddie Toews, RV Chairman, at 209-532-3970, or RV Club member for more information. Be safe and see you down the road.



KAYAKING

Sol Robin (707) 315-1284
solrobin57@gmail.com
No Report this Month



PINOCHLE REPORT

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

In February, we played one tournament of cutthroat pinochle and one tournament of partners pinochle. Our 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 12:00 P.M. to 3:45 P.M. The tournament starts at 12:15 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 SIRS 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.

February 2023		
CUTTHROAT PINOCHLE SCORES		
Player	Branch	Average
Jerry Morrow	172	358
Bob Morrison	136	245
Bill Burnes	136	164
John White	77	148
Delbert Rotel	77	124
Tom Long	77	82
PARTNERS PINOCHLE SCORES		
Player	Branch	Average
Bob Morrison	136	411
Jim Turner	136	404
Bill Burnes	136	359
Sonny Tome	77	353
Delbert Rotel	77	349
Jerry Morrow	172	211
Tom Long	77	197
John White	77	182



FISHING CHAIRMAN

Chuck Simons - (209) 532-9550
simons4890@yahoo.com
No Report this month



GOLF REPORT

Rick Bronner - (408) 318-4826

bronnerrick@gmail.com

Big news for golf at Teledi Golf Course. The Tuolumne Band of Me Wuks which own the golf course has hired new a management company. Troon is to replace Sierra Golf management on March 1st. Teledi was closed on February 21st to facilitate the switchover to Troon. Troon manages hundreds of courses in the US as well as 15 just here in California. There are still some questions as to what will happen with the West Wind restaurant. SIRs still have the 3rd Tuesday of the month scheduled for our tournaments at Teledi. If you ant to join in for the fun, please contact Danny Laureta at drlaureta@gmail.com. The Sir's league is all handicapped, so everyone has a fair chance. Danny does a good job of keeping it interesting by mixing it up with games with the best ball, scramble and closest to the pin. Hope to see you there.



BOWLING REPORT

Rick Bronner - (408) 318-4826

bronnerrick@gmail.com

As of the end of February, the "Meat Heads" made up of John Brasesco, Chuck Simons, and Mike Coe are leading the league. The "Turkey Hunters" are currently in second place. We will not be bowling on Friday the 3rd of March and Friday the 10th of March. Black Oak has scheduled senior no tap tournaments for those days.

On March 21-22, in Concord, at Clayton Valley Bowl, there will be singles, doubles, and all events tournaments. Go to sirbowling.org for the application.

On April 17-20, in Carson City NV, at the Gold Dust West Casino, there will be a team, singles, doubles and all events tournaments. The information and application are in Sirbowling.org. As reported by our SIR's Bowling Director Mike Coe.



CAR CLUB NEWS

Rick Bronner - (408) 318-4826

bronnerrick@gmail.com

No Report this Month



MARCH BIRTHDAYS

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



MEMBERSHIP REPORT

February Luncheon

Luncheon Attendance (53%)	76
Excused Absences (47%)	67

Current Month Membership

Active Membership (January)	146
Applicants Being Installed	+2
Active Members Lost	- 5
Active Membership Feb.	143



CHAPLAN'S CORNER

Steve Gregory (209) 533-0309

discogregory@aol.com

No Report This Month



*May luck be your companion
May friends stand by our side
May history remind us all of
Ireland's faith and pride
May God bless us with
happiness
May love and faith abide*



**My kind of meal on
St Patties Day**



Sons in Retirement #136

Ladies Day Luncheon

May 9th 2023



No Host Cocktails
@ 10:30 am
Lunch @ Noon

Menu:

Shrimp Cocktail
Prime Rib w/ Baked Potato
or- Salmon with Rice Pilaf
-or- Chicken Cordon Bleu
with Rice Pilaf
Includes Vegetable, Salad
and Desert

\$35 per Person

Tickets will go on sale at the
March & April Luncheons

MAXIMUM 200 TICKETS AVAILABLE
NO CANCELATIONS AFTER
May 2, 2023

EVENTS COMMITTEE:

Rick Bronner (209) 533-1676
George Cocores (209) 456-9814
Stan Enos (209) 533-2928
Gene Zanoni (209) 770-1235

Want Some SIRs Apparel?

- (A) Get on your computer and go to <https://sir.ourproshop.com> and peruse the items available and order online. Notice that shipping and handling charges are avoided above a certain order amount. If your order is large enough to avoid these charges or you are willing to pay them, process your order. If you know of a friend who also wants SIRs merchandise, consolidate your order with him. You can also go on Branch 136's website, go to the "SIR Apparel" link to get an order form to fill out. Bring the order form, along with your check for the order amount, and give it to Fred Kehr at the next monthly meeting. Fred Kehr will consolidate orders to avoid shipping and handling charges.
- (B) If you don't have access to a computer, a couple of catalogs will be available at our meetings on a table between the bar and dining area at the Elk's Lodge. Browse through the catalog, and if you find something you want, take an order sheet and fill it out, placing the completed form on the designated clip board. Don't hesitate to ask Fred Kehr in person or on 209-840-0719 about details. Once the order form is completed, Fred Kehr will hold on to the orders until sufficient volume to avoid shipping and handling charges have been accumulated. At that time, Fred Kehr will ask you to pay for your order before ordering the merchandise. Of course, if you are willing to pay these charges, your order will be handled separately, once you have paid for it. If Fred Kehr doesn't get enough orders together in a month or two, he will contact you to determine the next course of action, i.e., hold on to it or return your check.





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Fax 209-694-3624
tamara@tpolleylaw.com



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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 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 Banhero
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 - Phil VanSwoll 2022

BRANCH #136 HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS

Frank Taylor - Treasurer 2001-2015
Dale Decker - Big Sir 2016
Eddie Toews - Treasurer 2009 - 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 Toews 532-3970
Little Sir: Rick Bronner (408) 318-4826
Sec: Gene Zaroni 532-1989
Asst Sec: Bill Burnes 533-4334
Treas: John Salmon 206-6244
Asst. Tres: Eddie Toews 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

STAMP



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DIGNITY OF
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