



# BULLETIN

**May 2023**

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

**Tuesday, May 9th**

**Happy Hour at 11:00am**

**Lunch at 12:00pm**

**Contact:**

**Sir Eddie Toews (209) 532-3970**  
or [lcoinlady@aol.com](mailto:lcoinlady@aol.com)

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

**Deadline for reservations is May 1st, 2023**

**Lady's Day Luncheon**

**Your choice: Prime Rib, Salmon, or Chicken Cordon Bleu**



## 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

**May 30, 2023**



## INTERNET CHAIRMAN

**Jerry Bellefeuille 588-3978**

[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>.



## BIG SIR MESSAGE

**Eddie Toews**

**(209) 532-3970**

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

April was another busy month for the BEC. We had several changes that were discussed and voted on. Everything was passed by a unanimous vote.

If you haven't heard, Paul Squeri has stepped down from our Area 5 Representative position due to personal reasons. Sir Richard Watson has volunteered to take the position for the remainder of Paul's term. He is from the Arnold SIR's and has been an SIR since 1989. He was voted and approved to take the position.

The State SIRs sent out a request for our branch to consider and vote on allowing women join SIR's. We discussed it and by unanimous vote of no, it was denied. A second part of the request was considered and rejected also. It was to allow women that are allowed to join other branches be able to transfer to branch 136. Thereby, allowing only a male member to transfer into Branch 136; while denying Branch 136 membership to the spouse/significant other that may have held joint membership in their former branch.

The ELKs Lodge and our caterer Deno Papapetrou has raised our rental fees and our meal prices. The Elk's rent was raised from about \$250.00 to \$300.00. This includes the setup and cleanup fees. This increase brings us back to the rental costs that we were paying prior to Covid 19. Our meal costs went up as follows: Full lunches went from \$15.00 to \$17.00 and Only salads went from \$7.00 to \$8.00. Thus, the cost for member lunches will be: Full lunch \$20.00 and only salads \$10.00. These increases will take effect at the June Luncheon.

We also had a booth at the Home and Garden show at the fair grounds with Branch 172. We picked up one new member and handed out several membership applications to people that were interested in SIR's. Hopefully, we will get several new members in the near future.

This month we will be honoring our wives/significant others at our annual Ladies Day Luncheon. Hope to see all the ladies/significant others there. Remember, raffle prizes are always needed and appreciated at all our group functions.

Our annual picnic is in the works and will be on August 8, 2023, so mark your calendars. It will be at the Indigency Reserve and tickets will go on sale at the June and July Meeting/luncheons. More information will follow.

See you at the Ladies Day Luncheon.



## LITTLE SIR MESSAGE

**Rick Bronner**

**(408) 318-4826**

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

I'm always on the lookout for guest speakers that keep us informed and in touch with our community. Last month Dot Popovich took time out from her busy schedule to update us on homeowners' insurance. Dot is an agent for State Farm and has a local office here in town on Washington Street. There were several questions from our members regarding damage from the winter storms and questions about fire coverage. State Farm is one of the few insurers still writing policies for fire. However, as Dot pointed out not everyone can qualify. It seems that homeowners east of town higher up in the hills most likely will need to use the State fair plan for fire coverage. Dot invited anyone interested to give her a call (209-532-4120) and see if you qualify.

I did some volunteer time at the Home and Garden show at the fairgrounds on Sunday morning the 16<sup>th</sup>. I chatted with quite a few people interested in who we are and what we do. It still seems like SIR is a well-kept secret here. After explaining what we are all about I handed out a few applications as well. From what I understand we got at least one new sign up. I also spent some time checking out the rest of the show. It seemed to be quite well attended. I even entered several contests. Will see. I also ran into Don Perkins from TUD. Don will be one of our guest speakers at our June meeting. More on that in next month's newsletter.

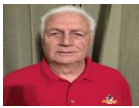
May is our Ladies Day luncheon. I'm looking forward to seeing you all there and don't forget, if you can please bring something for the raffle. At last count I believe we are close to 100 signups!



## MAY BIRTHDAYS

Line, Paul	05/05
Joachim, Alan	05/06
Keeler, Les	05/08
Galka, Stu	05/19
Bronner, Rick	05/24
Houser, Jack	05/28
Deaver, Dave	05/30





## RV CLUB NEWS

**Eddie Toews (209) 5323970**  
[lcoinlady@aol.com](mailto:lcoinlady@aol.com)

The RV Club made it back from Bakersfield. It was a good trip considering the rainy weather. We still had games and visiting in the clubhouse. We had an excellent dinner at the Shogun Restaurant. The Cook was very entertaining. Our next outing will be in May. We will be going to Bass Lake for 4 days.

The RV Club is now open to all 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 209-770-3776, or RV Club member for more information.

Be safe and see you down the road.



## GOLF CLUB NEWS

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

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

After several re-scheduling's the 2023 SIR Golf season has finally started. However, several of us missed the event since we were at the SIR bowling tournament in Carson City that day. You will need to read my bowling report to see how our local members fared. Here are the results of the April Golf tournament held at Teleli golf course.:

### Flight - A

- 1-st Danny Laureta net 63
- 2-nd Chace Anderson net 69
- 3-rd Matt Clay net 72

### Flight - B

- 1-st Tie Bob Bader net 71  
Allan Bell net 71
- 3-rd Rudy Flores net 73
- #5 CTH 142 yds
- 1-st Derle Davis 19'-10  
(Derle is the only golfer on the green)
- #12 CTH 123 yds
- 1-st Matt Oliver 8'-11
- 2-nd Jim Walczak 10'-8
- 3-rd Chace Anderson 13'-1

Our next scheduled golf day will be Tuesday May 16<sup>th</sup> again at Teleli Golf course. If you want to join the fun just contact Danny Laureta at [dlaureta@gamil.com](mailto:dlaureta@gamil.com) or call him at 209-586-4567

## FISHING CHAIRMAN

**Chuck Simons - (209) 532-9550**  
[simons4890@yahoo.com](mailto:simons4890@yahoo.com)  
**No Report this month**



## PINOCHLE REPORT

**Bob Morrison - (209) 588-0994**

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

In April, we played three tournaments of partners 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 12:00 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 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.

April 2023		
PARTNERS PINOCHLE SCORES		
Player	Branch	Average
Bill Burnes	136	496
Bob Morrison	136	427
Tom Long	77	421
Jerry Morrow	172	404
Sonny Tome	77	396
Jim Turner	136	349
John White	77	346
Delbert Rotelli	77	331
Bill Lewis	172	261



## CAR CLUB NEWS

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

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

Good weather is finally upon us. I'm happy to report the Hot Copper Car show is right around the corner. On Saturday May 6<sup>th</sup> at the town square in Copperopolis. Here is a link to the website: <https://copperopolisliions.org/events/hot-copper-car-show/spectator-information/> This is a free event for spectators. It runs from 8 am to 3pm. The hot copper show is one of the largest in Northern California. Expect to see all types of Hot Rods, Custom built cars, Motorcycles, and exotic cars. There are several restaurants in the town square so you can make a day of it looking at classic cars and have a nice lunch to boot.

Next up is the annual Rods to Rails car show in Jamestown on Saturday May 20<sup>th</sup>. This will run from 7am to 3pm. They close the main street in Jamestown and line the cars up. Hundreds of custom and classic cars from all over California line Main Street. All Day raffle for 40" Flat TV and donuts and coffee courtesy of the Promotion Club of Jamestown. Jamestown has many shops featuring antiques and homemade goods, and the best restaurants in Tuolumne County. Don't forget wine tasting at Jamestown's wine-tasting rooms.



## CHAPLIN'S CORNER

**Steven Gregory - (209) 533-0309**

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

Keith Kofoed #065 passed earlier this April. He is survived by his wife Linda and resting in Eternal Peace... 🙏



## BOWLING REPORT

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

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

The SIR bowling league wrapped up the winter league on April 28<sup>th</sup>. The team of John Brasesco, Chuck Simons, and Mike Coe took the honors and won first place this year. They had won the second half and bowled against Paul Line, Gene Mendenhall, and Rick Bronner, who had won the first half. If you haven't already heard Black Oak Casino is doing a major renovation to the Bowling Center this summer. The plan is to close in early July and re-open by early September. They are spending close to 1 million on the renovation which will include all new lanes, racks, pins and seating. Everyone is hoping that Black Oak will return to being open 7 days a week next year so that our league can go back to Monday. We will know later this summer.

Branches 77 and 136 were well represented at Carson City SIR Bowling Tournament. There were 20+ bowlers and guests entered. Some hi-lights were Jim Simmons and Gene Mendenhall taking 1st and 2nd in singles. Gene Mendenhall and Rick Bronner coming in first in doubles in Division I. John Brasesco and Mike Coe coming in first and Jim Simmons and Elaine Simmons coming in second in doubles in Division 2. In the team event John Brasesco, Gene Mendenhall, Mike Coe and Rick Bronner took first. In all events, Rick Bronner was 1st, Mike Coe, 2<sup>nd</sup> and Bob Thomas, 3<sup>rd</sup> while Bruce Peterson Came in 4<sup>th</sup> in Division I. In division 2 Gene Mendenhall came in 1st and Jim Simmons came in 4th. Jim Simmons also won all 6 brackets he entered, earning him an additional \$150. It was a great showing for all the SIR bowlers from our area. Congratulations to everyone!



## MEMBERSHIP

### April Luncheon

Luncheon Attendance (53%)	68
Excused Absences (47%)	62

### Current Month Membership

Active Membership (February)	135
Applicants Being Installed	+3
Active Members Lost	-5
<b>Active Membership Mar.</b>	<b>133</b>

# 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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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 - Rich Carlson  
Treasurer - Carl Mason  
Area 5 Representative - Richard Watson

## 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 - Phil VanSwoll 2022 - Eddie Towes  
2023

## BRANCH #136 HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS

Frank Taylor - Treasurer 2001-2015  
Dale Decker - Big Sir 2016  
Eddie Toews - Treasurer 2009 - current

## 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](http://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:** 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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