



BULLETIN

November 2015

Website: sonorasirs.org

SONORA BRANCH #136

**Sonora SIR Branch #136
will meet at the Sonora Elks
Lodge on
Tuesday, November 10th
Starts at Noon
(Social Hour Starts at 11:00 am)
The Branch Executive
Committee
meets at 10:00 am.**



MEMBERSHIP MESSAGE LINE

**If you are not able to attend
the regular monthly meeting
OR are bringing a Guest
please call the Membership
Message Line at
536 - 6311
No Later Than Noon on the
Monday Before the
Luncheon Meeting!
and leave a clear message
with your NAME & BADGE
#, GUEST NAME and the
reason you will not be able to
attend if applicable.**

BIG SIR NOTES

Jim Johnson - 536-1595

Here it is, November already. I am on the bell lap, the home stretch, the white flag is being waived. In case you didn't get the clue, I am almost finished with my term. The 2016 team lead by Dale Decker is getting ready to take over. It's exciting to stand back and watch. The current team has done a great job and is still working hard and will continue until the end of the year. Great Job by all!!
The month of November is the start of the Holiday season. It is also a month with an extremely important Holiday, November 11th is Veterans Day. We should all take time on November 11, and every day, to remember our Veterans and say thank you. Then on to November 26th, the national day of Thanksgiving. It is a day of giving thanks for what we have and to be with our families, eat turkey, watch the parades on TV and football. All that rolled up into one day, what a great Holiday. Then there is November 27th, the day after Thanksgiving. If you haven't finished your Christmas shopping by then, this is your day. If we are lucky we will have already received a bunch of rain and snow.
It has been a good year for Branch 136 and we still have some good left so enjoy the last two months of the year, enjoy all of the activities and be involved. Don't forget to buy your tickets to the December Christmas Luncheon.



LITTLE SIR NOTES

Dale Decker - 533-0455

Well, if you've been paying attention to the news and the calendar you've turned your clock back one hour. If not, then you might be an hour early for our next luncheon and no one will be there!

With having 109 veterans in our branch our guest speaker this month should be well appreciated for the work she is involved in.

Pat Padavana, group leader of Operation Mom, will be telling us about her organization and the support they provide to our military and their families.

Once again our special events team will be selling tickets at our November meeting for our annual Christmas Luncheon being held on Dec 8, 2015. Tickets are selling fast and there are only a total of 200 tickets that will be sold. In the case you are first hearing about this here (because your significant other didn't tell you) there are 3 entrees: Prime Rib, Salmon and Chicken Cordon Bleu with great entertainment, wine on the table and drawing prizes - for only \$22 per person.

Starting with our January bulletin we will be including two new sections: Sunshine and In Memoriam both provided by Paul Bullman. The Sunshine section will cover SIR members and their families that are having health or other issues. The In Memoriam section will be devoted to recognizing SIR members and their family members that have passed on. I think it is very important that we, as an organization, recognize and support our SIR families as best we can. With the above in mind please ensure that Paul Bullman (588-8614 or PJBullman@Mlode.Com) is notified in a timely manner.

In our last bulletin I mentioned that I was pursuing a 'fish' option for one of our regular monthly luncheons for those of you that would like something other than beef. If you missed our October meeting this endeavor was successful as our caterer has agreed to offer Baked Cod with rice in March along with the traditional Corned Beef and cabbage. The only caveat: we need to 'poll' the members in attendance at our February meeting to get a 'count' for Dino - so there will be a set number of 'fish' entree available.

Another, although minor but important change in our regular meeting luncheons: Two pitchers of ice tea will now be available at the 'coffee bar' next to the kitchen. These are provided by our BEC and the Elks Lodge staff, not our caterer, so please - no complaints to Dino or his staff.

You know the wheels of progress move slowly but as I reflect back on this year in SIR I think we're starting to get it right. Our Big Sir Jim Johnson, the BEC and all the chairmen and others that support our branch have done a great job. With continued input and suggestions from our members there is no limit to what we can achieve. Let's keep the wheels turning!



GOLF CHAIRMAN

Joint Br. 136 & Br.77 Golf
Committee

Danny Laureta - 586-4567

Asst Jeff Phillips - 588-2977

Asst Paul Padavana - 532-8051

Handicap Tom Nischwitz-694-8624

Results of October 27 Golf Tournament
at Mountain Springs GC

Format: 2 Man Team (6 Best Ball, 6
Scramble, 6 Alt. Shot)

1 st	Rudy Flores & Mike Ross	(net 64)
2 nd	Mike Dolan & Danny Laureta	(net 65)
3 rd	Chace Anderson & John Perrault	(net 66)
4 th	Gene Morales & Joe Zertuche	(net 68)

Closest to the hole #5

1 st	John Perrault	13'3"
2 nd	Ed Wright	26'1"
3 rd	Gene Morales	41'0"

Closest to the hole #12

1 st	Ed Wright	3'7"
2 nd	Jerry Nielsen	8'7"
3 rd	Steve Hagel	12'0"

Next Golf Tournament 9:30 am Shotgun start
Tuesday, Nov. 3 Skins @ Mountain Springs
Tuesday, Nov. 24 Turkey Shoot



Weiland, Harry	11/2
Lively, Tommy	11/8
Sperry, Paul	11/10
Vigil, Fred	11/10
Bartlett, Ken	11/13
Harlan, Bob	11/13
Bacon, Rick	11/13
Kisling, John	11/16
Calef, Jere	11/17
Hagel, James	11/17
Aldridge, Steven	11/20
Milano, Richard	11/21
Lopez, Ralph	11/23
Jacques, Len	11/25
Troedson, Gary	11/28
Hall, Tom	11/29
Davis, Gerry	11/30
Lewis, Ken L.	11/30



MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Angelo Costanza - 588-9529

Active Members	=223
Inactive members	= 4
Total	=227
Oct Lunch attendance	=140
Excused Absences	=14



SUNSHINE - CHAPLAIN

Paul Bullman - 588-8614

Asst Bill Dunlavy - 532-7601

**"Columbus Day" October 12,
1962 Portland Oregon**

We have all experienced a "Red Letter Day" to look back on through the years. Columbus Day 1962 was one of those for a little family of three.

The plan for the evening was to go across town in Portland on a rainy fall afternoon to be with some friends. We were all dressed and excited, when the wind began to blow more and more seriously. So we reluctantly abandoned our hopes for the evening.

Our home was in a camp ground with lots of very tall fir and pine trees surrounding us. Seemingly very quickly the trees leaned more and more to the east. Looking out the windows instantly we became uncomfortable, especially as we looked up at the tops of those trees.

My wife, our two year old daughter and I huddled closely and all held hands and prayed for safety and guidance as the wind blew more vigorously. Strangely, we noticed the wind on the ground level did not blow as loudly as it was in the tree tops. They continued their ominous threat.

Later we realized what had happened. Actually, the wind was confined to the upper portion of the trees, causing our house very little damage. There were some treetops on the ground later, but very few trees were uprooted and none of them fell on our houses in the campground.

This had been a storm that lasted about two-three hours and was labeled a "hurricane". This was not a common word

in the northwest. Millions of dollars of damage was done around Portland from wind and rain. It was something to have experienced. Nearly everyone lost power for extended periods of time. Our power was off for two weeks which was very difficult for us.

We concluded that the power of prayer, coupled with healthy well-watered trees was the reason we were safe at the end of that "Red Letter" "Columbus Day in 1962.



BOWLING CHAIRMAN

Bert Abreo - 736-4804

A couple of bowlers from Branch 136 went to the Brentwood tournament. Don and Janis Banchemo who once again, bowled well enough to come in the money. Nice rolling!

High Scores for Sept 28

High Game - Talf Wynne	246
High Series - Gene Deaver	628
Standings - Misfits	10-2
Drex Wrex	9-3
No Excuses	7.5-4.5

For Oct 5

High Game - Jim Simmons	252
High Series - Gene Deaver	656
Standings - Misfits	13-3
The Wild One & No Excuses	10-5-5.5
Drex Wrex	10-6

Bowling way over his head this week was George Parsons with a 235/578 which is 103/182 pins over average

For Oct 12

High Game - Dave Rossi	246
High Series - Dave Rossi	547
Standings - Misfits	15-5
Drex Wrex	12-8

Georgie's Boys & No Excuses 11.5-8.5

Bowling over their averages this week were George Parsons 78 pins over with 225 and Manny Brager 75 pins over with 243

For Oct 19

High Game - Dave Rossi	256
High Series - Dave Rossi	640
Standings - Misfits	18-6
Bob's Boys	15-9
The Wild Ones	14.5-9.5

Most pins over average in a game to date - George Parsons 103 with 235

Most pins over average in a series to date - George Parsons 182 with 578

High Game to date - Dave Rossi	257
High Series to date - Dave Rossi	744

Upcoming tournaments include:

Modesto on Nov 5 & 6, entry forms available on line and at the lanes

Concord at Clayton Valley Bowl on Nov 17 & 18, entry forms available on line or at the lanes.



RV CLUB NEWS

Jim Botto - 586-0822

Ron Long - 586-1838

On September 27th the RV Club headed out on a 17 day outing. We all met in Bakersfield for a one night rest then off to Loughlin, NV. Extremely hot and full of bugs on the river. The casino was air conditioned and we stayed indoors most of the time. They had a great antique car display and we took several pictures for nostalgia sake. Our group consisted of Jim & Ginny Johnson, John & Dianne Avila, Bill & Cathy Lobdell, Knute & Maryjoan Kleinen, Ron & Bernie Long, Rick & Betty Bacon, Steve & Carolyn Gregory, Jim & Linda Botto. We were accompanied by Jim and Pam Costello. The other stops were Williams, AZ. Fortunately it was an uneventful drive. We stopped for lunch in Seligman, AZ at Lillo's Route 66 Café and had a ½ lb. cheeseburger. We continued on to Williams, AZ. We held a business meeting as prescribed by our by-laws. We discussed the change to our by-laws that was voted on last month and invited Jim & Pam Costello from SIRs Branch 77 to join our RV group. Knute Kleinen will be taking over as RV Chairman for 2016 and is already starting to assume some of the responsibilities. Knute & Maryjoan Kleinen started to plan the 2016 RV outing season and will present the calendar to the general membership at our next meeting. We all drove to the Grand Canyon and met up at the visitors center. The Grand Canyon is truly one of the Seven Wonders of the World. We then drove to Camp Verde just north of Sedona, AZ. Sedona is truly one of the most beautiful towns, surrounded by colorful mountains and cliff dwellings. Tucson was our next stop with the Pima Air Museum and the Titan Missile Museum. Day 13. Friday October 9th we all headed to Karchner Caverns about 50 miles south of Tucson for an 11:00 a.m. tour of the caverns. These caverns were found in the early 1970's and they are spectacular. Our tour was well guided and the stalactites and stalagmites were fantastic. I didn't realize how beautiful

the colors and formations of the minerals could be.

Day 15. Sunday October 11th we all left Tucson early to get to Yuma. Many of the group went into Mexico to do some shopping. That evening we went to Famous Dave's BBQ for a real feast. The next day we all headed home, some to Palm Springs, some to Santa Barbara, and some back to Bakersfield before heading home. This will be our last outing of the 2015 RV Club season. The next official function will be our annual Christmas Party. As Chairman of the SIRS RV Club for the past 2 and a half years, I have come to know and respect every member and their wives. It has been an honor and a pleasure to chair such a wonderful group of friends. I wish Knute Kleinen all the best in his chairmanship in 2016 and will give any support and help he needs. For complete 16 day report with pictures please find it on our web site at www.sonorasirs.org.

**EAT
SLEEP
PINOCHLE**

PINOCHLE

Bob Morrison—588-0994

robert.mrrsn@yahoo.com

Fifteen players showed up for our Grand Pinochle Tournament on October 26th. Sonny Tome, Branch # 72, won the first prize of \$50. Roland Patton and Jerry Kopyn, Branch # 172, won the second prize of \$25 and the third prize of \$10, respectively. You too can have fun playing pinochle. If you don't know how to play pinochle or haven't played for a long time, we will tutor you in our rules. (Most of us had not played in decades, and some had never played before they joined.) You play free for your first two meetings. Thereafter, you pay only \$3 each meeting. (Where else can you have a fun so cheaply?) You win a prize if your score at the end of the meeting is one of the three highest. Moreover, you win \$10 if you score in the top 50% at a free meeting. Some of our players make it to all of the sessions, but others to only 3, 2, or just one session. So please join us. We meet at the Pine Tree Restaurant from noon to 4:30 PM each Monday. We have lunch starting at noon and start playing at 1:00 PM. For more information, go to web site www.sirtwain.org and click on the pinochle icon.



FISHING CLUB

Chuck Simons 532-9550

Branch 136

Let's go fishing Guys!

My name is Chuck Simons and I have taken over the Fishing Group for SIRS 136. I know the drought has not been kind to our sport. What I would like to do is get a list of those of you who would like to resume fishing when the weather puts more water in our lakes. If you are interested, please send via email the following information:

Name, Phone Number, & Email address.

If you own a boat, are you willing to take others on your boat?

Types of fishing trips you are interested in. Perhaps we can get together and discuss how to go from here.

Drop me a line,

Chuck Simons

simons4890@yahoo.com



Home phone: 209-532-9550

Knute Kleinen won 'Best of Class' in the Rods to Rail Jamestown car show.



INTERNET CHAIRMAN

Jerry Bellefeuille -533-3630

You can find this and all our bulletins on line at

www.sonorasirs.org

Operation Mom

Operation Mom is a national military family support group founded in 2001. We were formally recognized in 2003 as the winner of the Jefferson National Award for public service.

Our primary mission is to provide a place where families of those serving our country can find support, encouragement, solace, and be with others who share their heart.

We make heart connections and lifelong friendships with the families of those serving our great nation, and help military families cope emotionally. We also ensure that our proud military service members and veterans will never return home to indifference, ungratefulness or be unsung.

Operation Mom is neither political, religious, for, or against any war or conflict.

We do fully support those who serve and recognize them as heroes for their faithfulness and courage. We honor our troops and love their families.



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 588-9529 (and an application form will be mailed to you), or by downloading the form from our branch website. After the application is filled out, it is to be returned to Angelo Costanza with a check for the amount stated on the application. Angelo's address is 23497 Gold Springs Drive Columbia, CA 95310.



BULLETIN INPUT NOTICE!

Jim Botto - 586-0822
Asst. Jerry Bellefeuille
533-3630

I want to take this opportunity to thank the committee chairman who send in their reports to me on or before the deadline. If I do not receive your report by the deadline it will not be published in the current month. Please send all bulletin input to Jim Botto at

giacamo42@gmail.com

The deadline for the next bulletin is

November 30, 2015



Sons in Retirement #136

Christmas Luncheon

Dec 8th 2015



No Host Cocktails
@ 11am
Lunch @ Noon

Menu:

Prime Rib with Baked Potato
-or- Salmon with Rice Pilaf
-or- Chicken Cordon Bleu
with Rice Pilaf
Includes Vegetable, Salad
and Dessert.

Wine on the table

\$22 per Person

Tickets will go on sale at the Oct &
Nov Meetings

MAXIMUM 200 TICKETS AVAILABLE
NO CANCELLATIONS AFTER
Nov 30, 2015

ENTERTAINMENT

Steve Johnson
Recipient of the Wine & Gold
Country Five Star Service Award
for Best Singer 2014

EVENTS COMMITTEE:

Dale Decker 533-0455
Paul Squeri Dick Aberle
Alan Nix Rex Page
Jake Parsons



SIR STATE OFFICERS

www.sirinc.org

PRESIDENT: Sir Bobbie Hairston
VICE-PRESIDENT: Sir Donald Dill
SECRETARY: Sir Derek Southern
TREASURER: Sir Karl Ryden
REGION 2 DIRECTOR

Russ Salazar , Polloch Pines, Ca
AREA 27 GOVERNOR

Sir Jerry Morrow, Mi Wuk Village, CA

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 Banchemo
2011 - Al Smith/2013 - Phil VanSwoll
2014 - John Bristow

BRANCH #136 HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS

Al Limon - Past Big SIR 2000
Bill Dunlavy - Past Big SIR 2007
Frank Taylor - Treasurer 2001-2015

DIRECTORY of OFFICERS

Big SIR: Jim Johnson 536-1595

jlj32@sbcglobal.com

Little SIR: Dale Decker 533-0455

daledftg@sonnet.com

Sec: Jerry Bellefeuille 533-3630

sirjerry4@gmail.com

Asst. Sec: Angelo Costanza 588-9529

angelof55@sbcglobal.com

Treas: Frank Taylor 532-4480

sonorataylors@gmail.com

Asst. Treas: Eddie 'Ed' Toews 532-3970

Lcoinlady@aol.com

DIRECTORS

First Year

Rex Page 533-4501
Dick Aberle 532-4066
Ray Bailey 532-0444

Second Year

Danny Laureta 586-4567
Jake Parsons - 736-0647
Mariano Garces - 586-9973

COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN & CO-CHAIRMEN

Golf - Danny Laureta 586-4567
Att./Mem. - Angelo Costanza 588-9529
BEC Advisor—Al Limon 533-4544
Bowling - Bert Abreo 736-4804
Branch Photographer - Steve Belochi 533-5315
Bulletin - Jim Botto 586-0822
Caterer - Dean Papapetrou
Fishing - Bert Kronnick-586-7726
Chuck Simons -532-9550
Hon. Life Membership - Al Limon 533-4944
House - Jerry Erath 533-3791
Internet - Jerry Bellefeuille 533-3630
Lunch Tickets - Bert Abreo 736-4804
Luncheon - Rick Bacon 765-8210
Luncheon Drawing - Bill Dunlavy 533-7601
Bert Maxwell 588-1177
Membership Growth - OPEN
Nominating Committee Chairman - Phil VanSwoll 532-1133
Pinochle - Bob Morrison 588-0994
Propane—Al Limon 533-4544
Public Relations - Ray Bailey 532-0444
R.V. Travel Group - Jim Botto 586-0822
SIR Item Sales - Cecil Steen 533-4760
Sunshine - Chaplain - Paul Bullman 588-8614

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).

November 10th MENU

Roast Turkey & Stuffing
Gravy & Cranberry Sauce
Buttered Corn. Candied Yams
Green Salad & Pumpkin Pie

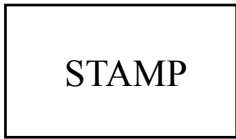
GUEST SPEAKER

Pat Padavana

“Operation Mom”

She and her associates package and ship 'care packages' to our military

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**



DATED MATERIAL