



BULLETIN

November 2021

Website: sonorasirs.org
SONORA BRANCH #136

Tuesday, Nov. 9th

Happy Hour at 10:00am

Lunch at 12:00pm

Reservation only!

Deadline for Reservations

November 4, 2021

Contact via e-mail:
sirjerry4@gmail.com
Or

Call (209) 588-3978

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

Full Meal \$16.00 or Salad \$8.00

Menu:

Roast Turkey & Stuffing
Gravy & Cranberry Sauce
Buttered Corn & Mashed Potatoes
Green Salad & Pumpkin Pie

**Branch Executive Committee
will meet at the Elks Lodge**

Tuesday, November 9th

Starts at 10:00 am

Ends at 11:00 am



BULLETIN INPUT NOTICE!

Jim Botto Editor - 559-0931

Asst. Jerry Bellefeuille 533-3630

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

November 30, 2021



BIG SIR MESSAGE

Gene Zanoni

(209) 532-1989

genevzanoni@gmail.com

With the current year fast approaching its conclusion, preparation for the December 14th Christmas Luncheon is underway in only the manner deserving of such special consideration. With tickets initially going on sale during last month's luncheon activities, whereby thirty tickets were sold, we aim to duplicate the number of tickets that were sold for the Annual Family BBQ Picnic held in September. That is, a minimum of one hundred tickets is our lofty goal. Once again ticket sales will be made available at the November 9th luncheon for those wishing to purchase them.

The committee in charge of decorations has begun making progress in ensuring that a festive hue is apparent at the Elks Lodge for this annual special event. Not to be overlooked is the notion of donating a gift (s) for the poplar drawing activity that is planned for during the afternoon activities. You may wish to review the Christmas Luncheon flyer in this edition of the Bulletin for additional information should you desire to do so.

Members and guests alike that have attended at least one of Branch 136's 2021 events, and fully complied with the mandate of demonstrating proof of double vaccinations, signed and submitted an SIR EVENT WAIVER AND RELEASE OF LIABILITY FOR EXPOSURE TO COVID-19 (the "waiver") are not required to re-submit such documentation for the December 14th Christmas Luncheon. However, those individuals that chose to submit proof of a negative test results regarding Covid-19 at any time during the current year for a Branch 136 activity, will once again be required to show proof of an additional negative test results administered 72 hours prior to December 14th. Otherwise, the acceptable alternative to such a mandate would be to show proof of double vaccinations. In those instance whereby signed waiver documents were previously obtained by Branch 136, a duplicate waiver will not be necessary. Nevertheless, waiver forms will be made available to all those individuals that will be attending their initial 2021 Branch 136 event.

I wish to extend a special belated "thank you" to two ladies that figured prominently in our Annual Family BBQ Picnic held on September 14th at the Indigency Reserve, they include both Leah Decker and Pam Cocores. To Leah, for the numerous pictures taken that captured the festive moments that were shared with everyone by appearing in our October Bulletin. Also, to

Pam for rendering diligent assistance in both the setup and takedown activities associated with this memorable event.

With the impact of autumn fully upon us, including the cooler weather accompanied by modest rainfall, we would be remiss not to pause from time to time to simply observe the splendor that we are afforded by the changes in the fall colors that abound in our local communities. Thus, everyone is wished a cozy and thankful Thanksgiving.



LITTLE SIR MESSAGE

Gene Bettencourt

(209) 533-1676

genebettencourt@comcast.net

I hope everyone enjoyed the rain. I also hope that everyone is getting their Christmas tickets for the December meeting.

I had the opportunity to attend the October golf tournament and had a great time. It was best ball for our team, so the pressure was off on making a great shot every time. It also helped that my partner was a great player. We had 26 players attend from the 3 branches in the Sonora area.

It was surprising to me to find that in January of 2020, this branch had 216 members and had 136 members at the January meeting. In comparison, this branch was reduced to 177 members in August and only had 67 members at our August meeting. Obviously, the covid-19 pandemic was a major player in the reduced numbers.

The good news is that the numbers are starting to go up, although slowly. Presently, we now have 181 members, and it appears that our members are working on getting more men to joint this organization. But we also need to get more members coming to our monthly meetings.

Hopefully, our guest speakers for the next few months will help get more member to the meeting. For November, we have Mike Lella. He is the son of the main individual in the novel "Beneath a Scarlet Sky". Therefore, he knows the workings behind the novel. He was here several years ago and did such a great job, that we have invited him back again. The December meeting is ladies' day. In January, we will have Leigh Roberts who will give a talk on The Tuskegee Airmen Group. And I am hoping to have a financial adviser for the February meeting.

I want to thank Jim Botto for all his help in setting up these speakers.

So, please get out there and speak to your friends and others about this organization. We need to build back our membership.

P.S. The individual that spoke to me about helping on the travel club, please see me at the next meeting. I need to follow up with this subject with you.



GOLF CHAIRMAN
Danny Laureta (209) 586-4567
drlaureta@gmail.com

Great weather and fantastic turnout (26 golfers)
 We welcomed three new Sir's golfers -
 Dave Simons, Tab White &
 Little Sir Gene Bettencourt
 Golf format: Two Man Scramble
 1st - (71) Rod Salvi & Danny Laureta
 2nd - (73) Chace Anderson & Jeff Juhl
 3rd - (75) Pete Larkin & John Perrault
 4th tie - (76) Gene Morales & Joe Zertuche
 Allan Bell & Matt Clay
 #7 - 145 yds Par three CTH
 1st - Felix Espino 10' - 5
 2nd - Tom Neiderer 48' - 9
 3rd - Rod Salvi 61' - 0
 #12 - 123 yds Par three CTH
 1st - Rick Bronner 4' - 6
 2nd - Dave Simons 4' - 10
 3rd - Jeff Juhl 9' - 10
 Next golf tournament - Tuesday November
 16, 2021 Format: six - six - six



PINOCHLE

Bob Morrison—588-0994
robert.mrrsn@yahoo.com

The adjacent table shows our scores for the pinochle tournaments in October. The table lists for each player the average of his scores for playing cutthroat pinochle and the average of his scores for playing partners pinochle.

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 \$3 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.

October 2021		
Player	Branch	Average
CUTTHROAT PINOCHLE SCORES		
Del Rotelli	77	336
Sonny Tome	77	330
John White	136	281
Roland Patton	172	200
Bob Morrison	136	175
Jim Turner	136	171
PARTNER PINOCHLE SCORES		
Del Rotelli	77	575
Dave Goldem-berg	172	484
Jim Turner	136	464
Bob Morrison	136	419
Roland Patton	172	361
John White	136	344



NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

White, Jay	11/01
Hurley, Tim	11/07
Sperry, Paul	11/10
Vigil, Fred	11/10
Bacon, Rick	11/13
Hagel, James	11/17
Salmon, John	11/18
Cunningham, Hal	11/19
Aldridge, Steven	11/20
Milano, Richard	11/21
Hall, Tom	11/29
Davis, Gerry	11/30
Coe, Mike	11/30



MEMBERSHIP REPORT

October Luncheon

Luncheon Attendance	(39%)	69
Excused Absences	(61%)	108

October Active Membership

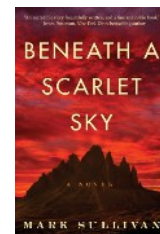
September Active Membership	178
Applicants Installed	3
Active Members Transferring Out	0
Members Transferring In	0
Active Resigned	0
Active Dropped	0
Active Members Deceased	0
Active Membership Outlook	181



INTERNET CHAIRMAN

Jerry Bellefeuille -533-3630
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>.



Our Guest speaker for November is Mike Lella the son of the main character of this book. His father Pino Lella was a seventeen year old boy in Malan Italy during the occupation of the Nazi's. The story tells how Pino becomes a spy for the American Allies. This is a great read. Once I started to read it I couldn't put it down.



MEMBER'S CORNER



OUR NEW CAR CLUB CHAIRMAN

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

I've been given the honor of writing the first article for the new members column. I'll try not to screw it up. I joined SIRS three years ago after retiring from spending 50 years of my life in the audio video industry in San Jose. My wife retired from nearly 30 years working at Safeway. We made the move up here to Sonora in 2018. My sister-in-law lives around the corner, and I have nieces, nephews, and their families here in Sonora as well. I'd like to thank Bob Thomas who I met bowling for bringing me to my first SIRS meeting. Through SIRS I'm finding retirement to be thoroughly enjoyable. I am currently bowling two leagues and Golfing as well. My real love though is cars. Especially Corvettes. I currently own two, a 2000 C5 and a 2015 C7. My C5 is set up for the track. It all started out as a father-son project after I bought the car back in 2002. Over the course of a few years my son and I completely replaced the factory suspension with Coil Overs, Solid Bushings and competition sway bars. I've since also upgraded to Wildwood brakes. The big change came back in 2012 after I dropped a valve that went right thru the cylinder wall leaving me with a big lump of aluminum. I replaced the engine with a LS3 HP480 crate motor. With a few tweaks I'm getting just shy of 480hp at the rear wheels. I've been auto crossing with this car since 2004. I've managed to win class championships in SCCA as well as over 10 championships in the WSCC Corvette championships series. My C7 is totally stock and is my weekend cruiser. I'm hoping to find more like-minded car enthusiasts like myself to explore the car scene around here. I've attended the Hot Rod show here in Jamestown which I really enjoyed and am looking forward to discovering more.



FISHING CHAIRMAN

Chuck Simons - (209) 532-9550
simons4890@yahoo.com
No report for October



BOWLING CHAIRMAN

Michael Coe-(209) 769-3413
coemike@sbcglobal.net

The bowling league got started in September at Black Oak. We have 6, three person teams presently hitting the lanes. We were recently able to fill all the teams out and have no vacant bowlers. We are always looking to add teams, contact me if you are interested. We are bowling on Friday afternoons, since the bowling center is closed on Monday and Tuesday and doesn't open till noon on the other days. The league starts warm up at 12:20 and the league lasts until 3:00pm. Next month I will post the league standings along with individual and team high scores. Upcoming bowling tournaments are the SIRS Annual State Tournament at McHenry Bowl in Modesto, Ca, November 4th and 5th. In December, at Danville Bowl, Danville, Ca on the 1st and 2nd.



KAYAKING/EASY HIKING

Sol Robin (209) 651-1054
s.robin@sbcglobal.net
No report for October



MERCHANDISE CHAIRMAN

Fred Kehr—(209) 785-4358
mrkehr@caltel.com

Merchandise Liquidation Sale

Since Merchandise Sales have been very slow over the years, the Board of Directors has decided to liquidate existing inventory. The sale will take place at our October and, if necessary, November meetings.

This will be a "once in a lifetime" opportunity for you to purchase polo shirts and sweat shirts with a SIRS logo for just \$10 each, while supplies last. Sales will be limited to items and colors on hand. To sweeten the deal, you will be able to choose a baseball cap with the purchase of a shirt or sweat shirt while supplies last. In addition, you may also pick up a magnet, rooster pin, rooster patch and/or bolo tie clip, again, while supplies last.

Look for the merchandise spread on the table when you arrive at the October meeting. I will be there to help you.



RV CLUB NEWS

Eddie Toews (209) 5323970
lcoinlady@aol.com
No report for October



Officers and Directors for 2022

BIG SIR: Phil VanSwoll 209-532-1133
LTL. SIR: Gene Bettencourt 209-533-1676
SECRETARY: Bill Burns 209-533-4334
Asst. SEC: Dick Aberle 209-532-4066
TRESURER: Eddie Toews 209-532-3970
Asst. TRES: Steve Aldridge 209-770-5287

Directors:

Rick Bronner	408-318-4826
George Cocores	209-456-9814
Stan Enos	209-533-2928
Marty Martin	209-586-1886
Rex Page	209-533-4501
Ray Starkey	209-814-0187





Sonora Branch 136

Christmas Luncheon

December 14, 2021

No Host Cocktails
@ 10:30 am
Lunch @ Noon

Menu:

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

\$30 per Person

Tickets will go on sale at the
Oct. 12th & Nov. 9th Luncheons



Elks Lodge
100 Elk Dr., Sonora, CA

SEATING IS LIMITED

**DEADLINE FOR RESERVATIONS AND
CANCELLATIONS IS DEC. 8, 2021**

ALL SALES ARE FINAL AFTER THAT DATE

SIR STATE OFFICERS

www.sirinc.org

President - Stu Williams
Vice-President - Rick Kindel
Secretary - Ron Flagel
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 2020 - Gene Zanoni

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: Gene Zanoni 532-1989
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

Bill Guenza (209) 586-7088
Marty Martin (209) 586-1886
George Cocores (209) 456-9814
Rex Page (209) 533-4501

Robert Morrison (209) 588-0994

Behind the Scenes

Photographer - **Steve Belochi** 533-5315

Bulletin - **Jim Botto** 559-0931

Internet - **Jerry Bellefeuille** 533-3630

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

STAMP



DEVOTED TO THE
PROMOTION
OF INDEPENDENCE AND
DIGNITY OF
RETIREMENT

ADDRESS LABEL