



# BULLETIN

## November 2022

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

**Tuesday, Nov. 8th**

**Happy Hour at 11:00am**

**Lunch at 12:00pm**

**Contact via e-mail:**

**Jerry Bellefeuille**

[sirjerry4@gmail.com](mailto:sirjerry4@gmail.com)

**Or Call (209) 588-3978**

**Leave Your Name, Badge No.**

**& Number of guests.**

**Deadline for reservations is**

**Nov. 1st, 2022**

### Menu:

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



## 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

**November 30, 2022**

## 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

**Phil VanSwoll**

**(209) 532-1133**

[pvanswoll@outlook.com](mailto:pvanswoll@outlook.com)

As I discussed in last month's bulletin, a vote was taken at our last general meeting, and there was near unanimous agreement that we eliminate our vaccination certification and go along with the new state SIR guidelines for attendance at SIR events. I have already heard from some of you who haven't been coming to meetings because of the requirements that you will now be able to begin attending again. Wonderful news! We look forward to seeing you.

At our last meeting, we also voted on your new slate of officers for 2023, and they were elected unanimously. Looks to me like you've got a great crew of dedicated, talented guys set to take next year to a new level. We need to bring our participation numbers back up to where they used to be before the pandemic, and I think you've got a team that can do that for you. However, they will need your help, and that means not only coming to meetings, but encouraging your friends to do the same, and also bringing guests to help grow our branch. I hope you and your families enjoy the upcoming holidays, and I will see you at our next meeting!



## NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

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
Hall, Tom	11/29
Davis, Gerry	11/30



## LITTLE SIR MESSAGE

**Rick Bronner**

**(408) 318-4826**

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

Last month we had a very informative presentation by our district 5 supervisor Jaron Brandon. Jaron covered topics regarding our homeless, fire, water and the status of ongoing road upkeep. Jaron also took questions from our members as well. I thought he was very well informed of the situation and had clear and precise answers for our members.

Our guest speaker for November will be Thomas J McDonald, MD an Orthopedic Surgeon. Dr. McDonald is a board-certified, fellowship-trained orthopedic surgeon. Dr. McDonald had experience as a whitewater rafting guide and as a professional ski patroller. Dr. McDonald will be doing a power point presentation touching on upper body ailments. There will also be time for questions from our members. November is also the last monthly meeting to purchase your tickets for our Christmas banquet. For \$35 you can have a Prime Rib, Salmon or Chicken dinner with all the fixings. The raffle is always one of the highlights of the day. The more items we have the more fun it is. Bring something in value around \$25 or so throw in to the mix. I'm looking forward to announcing the winners again this year. We have three special events each year including our Ladies Day, Summer BBQ and our Christmas banquet. These events can't happen without our volunteers. Our Christmas Banquet team is headed up by Stan Enos. I'm especially grateful to Stan and his team as I know we are in good hands.



## MEMBERSHIP REPORT

### MEMBERSHIP REPORT

September Membership	
Total Active Members	152
<b>October Luncheon</b>	
Luncheon Attendance (45%)	67
Excused Absences (43%)	81
<b>Current Month Membership</b>	
Active Membership (Sept.)	152
Applicants Being Installed	+0
Active Members Lost	-4
<b>Active Membership October</b>	<b>148</b>



# In Loving Memories

## RV CLUB NEWS

Eddie Toews (209) 5323970

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

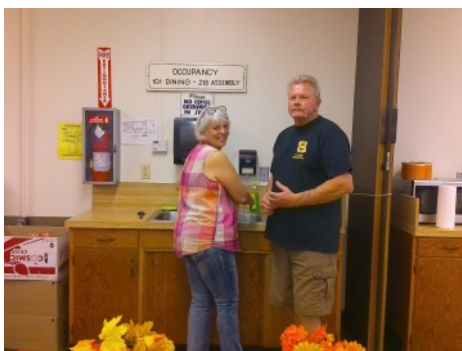
The RV group had an outing to Casa-de-Fruta a week ago. It was great to get together and visit and play games. It was a quiet and relaxing outing, and everyone enjoyed themselves. I want to thank the hosts, Nancy & Scott Lewis and co-hosts Ruth & Sol Robin for all the work they did to set up the outing. There was plenty of good food and drinks for all. There are no additional trips planned for this year, but several people are looking at and planning outings for 2023. Stay safe on the road.



**Oliver Herbert (Bert) Maxwell, 95**, died October 10, 2022, at Avalon Health Care of Sonora. Bert was born in Sonora, CA on August 3, 1927, the son of James Edward Maxwell (born in Canada) and Margret Lucille (Whiting) Maxwell (born in California). In 1929 the family moved to Fairfield, CA where he grew up on the family ranch. After high school he enlisted in the US Navy, was stationed in Long Beach, CA and was honorably discharged in 1946. He attended Santa Rosa Jr College and later UC Berkley where he graduated with a degree in Industrial Engineering in 1951. Bert married Mary Louise Dodrill, and they had three children, two sons (both deceased) and one daughter, Sandra Czapl of Fernley, NV. He worked as an Industrial/Mechanical Engineer in the Aerospace Construction Industry. After a long illness, Mary died on April 4, 1998. In 2002 Bert moved back to Sonora and on May 3, 2003, he married Diane Louise Impink who passed away on December 24, 2013. On July 7, 2016. Bert married his loving and devoted wife Carolyn Matthews in Sonora, CA. Bert was active in several local organizations including SIR branch 136, Elks lodge 1587, Sonora Geezers, Newcomers, and Edelweiss Club. Terzich & Wilson Cremation-Funeral Home has been entrusted with cremation arrangements.

**Lorenzo (Larry) Miguel Guzman (July 5<sup>th</sup>, 1943 - October 4<sup>th</sup>, 2022)**

Larry Guzman, from Murphys, CA, passed away on October 4<sup>th</sup>, 2022. He was 79 years young. He was born and raised in San Bernardino. Larry retired from the San Bernardino City Schools in 1999, after working on the grounds crew for 22 ½ years. He then he moved to Murphys, and he really loved this little town. He often attended St. Patrick's Catholic Church. Larry coached football at Bret Hart for a couple of years, and this was a dream come true, as football and coaching were his passion. He was an active member of Sons in Retirement for many years. He was in 2 bowling leagues in Sonora. Larry was very social, and could make friends with a tree if need be. Everywhere he went, he knew someone. For 4 ½ years, Larry battled non-Hodgkin's lymphoma. He NEVER GAVE UP! Although Larry's death is preceded by many of his family members, he also leaves behind many friends, his wife of 45 years, Maralene, and his daughter, Bee Ann. Larry will never be forgotten and will truly be missed. Until we see you again. **REST IN PEACE!!**





## KAYAKING

**Sol Robin (707) 315-1284**  
[solrobin57@gmail.com](mailto:solrobin57@gmail.com)

The October kayak outing was cancelled due to the cool temperatures and low water level at Pinecrest. We are looking forward to kayaking again in the spring!



## CAR CLUB

**Rick Bronner - (408) 318-4826**  
[bronnerrick@gmail.com](mailto:bronnerrick@gmail.com)

Summer is over and it seems as all the car shows have come to an end. If anyone has any interesting trips they took during the summer and want to write about let me know and I'll get it in the newsletter. It's probably time to start thinking about winterizing your collector cars. In the next couple of newsletters, I'll touch on tips for winterizing. Until then happy motoring.



## GOLF REPORT

**Rick Bronner - (408) 318-4826**  
[bronnerrick@gmail.com](mailto:bronnerrick@gmail.com)

### SIR's October Golf Results

Great turn out for the Sir's October Golf at Teledi Golf Course.

Format: six-six-six

1<sup>st</sup> - Gene Morales & Danny Laureta (net 67)

2<sup>nd</sup> - Jeff Juhl & John Perrault (net 69)

3<sup>rd</sup> - tie - Tom Neiderer & Mike Wright (net 70)

- Pete Larkin & Dennis Land (net 70)

Hole #5 CTH 142 yds par 3

1<sup>st</sup> - Mike Baumgartner 11'-4

2<sup>nd</sup> - Danny Laureta 12'-10

3<sup>rd</sup> - Rod Salvi 13'-3

Hole #12 CTH 123 yds par 3

1<sup>st</sup> - Tom Neiderer 5'-0

2<sup>nd</sup> - Pete Larkin 10'-2

3<sup>rd</sup> - Mike Wright 10'-10

Our next event will be Tuesday November 15<sup>th</sup>.

For signups, please contact:

Danny Laureta at [dlaureta@gmail.com](mailto:dlaureta@gmail.com)



## PINOCHLE REPORT

**Bob Morrison - (209) 588-0994**  
[robert.mrrsn@yahoo.com](mailto:robert.mrrsn@yahoo.com)

In October, we played three tournaments of cutthroat pinochle and one tournament of partners pinochle. Our average scores are shown in the adjacent tables.

Please join us to play pinochle. We meet each Monday at the Senior Center, 540 Greenley Rd. from 12:45 P.M. to 4:30 P.M. The tournaments start at 1:00 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.

October 2022		
CUTTHROAT PINOCHLE SCORES		
Player	Branch	Average
Jerry Kopyn	172	416
Bob Morrison	136	369
Tom Long	136	343
Delbert Rotelli	77	314
Jim Turner	136	276
Bill Burnes	136	230
John White	136	189
John Quinton	136	141

October 2022		
PARTNERS PINOCHLE SCORES		
Player	Branch	Average
Jim Turner	136	470
Delbert Rotelli	77	419
John Quinton	136	376
Tom Long	136	309
Bill Burnes	136	288



## BOWLING REPORT

**Rick Bronner - (408) 318-4826**  
[bronnerrick@gmail.com](mailto:bronnerrick@gmail.com)

The SIR's winter league is starting to heat up. Going into week 7 two teams are tied for first. Triple 7 and The Wild ones are both 20-4. The competition is getting fierce! The SIR's league also would like to welcome our newest participant Bob Burkett from Branch 136. Bob hasn't bowled for many years but I'm it will come back to him shortly. Just like riding a bike! There's still room for another team so if you would like to join in the fun let just give me a holler. SIR's league bowls on Fridays starting at noon at the Black Oak Casino Lanes.



## FISHING CHAIRMAN

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



Dale Decker and Pam Krom won the Bocci Ball Championship Trophy at the Casa-De-Fruita RV outing last week.



*Happy Thanksgiving*



## 2023 Sonora SIR #136 Annual Dues Notice

November 1, 2022

Dear Fellow SIR member,

Below is your Annual Sonora SIR Dues Notice for 2023:

Even though the cost of everything has gone up these days, your SIR dues are the same as the last several years and your Board of Directors continues to strive to make SIR affordable and enjoyable to all of our members.

The Annual Dues for 2023 are **\$25.00**. This amount covers the cost of the State SIR assessment and normal operating costs of the branch. **Annual Dues are due by January 1<sup>st</sup> and considered delinquent after that date.** Dues not paid by February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023 may result in your loss of membership (extenuating circumstances will be considered).

I encourage you to Send in Your Dues Now.

### Send checks to:

SIR #136 at Eddie Toews, 21795 El Coyote DR. Sonora, CA. 95370

We appreciate your early remittance so that your Board can budget and plan for our in-person activities in the new year.

Thank You for being a loyal SIR member.

Eddie Toews

Treasurer

**PRINT and DETACH with your Remittance**



**Sonora SIR #136**

Enclosed is my check in the amount of \$25.00, made out to Sonora SIR #136. For my 2023 Annual Dues.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Check No: \_\_\_\_\_ **Checks made payable to Sonora SIR # 136**

Send to: SIR #136 at Eddie Toews, 21795 El Coyote DR. Sonora, CA. 95370

# Attention

## Great News

# Covid Restriction lifted

As of October 11, 2022, the state BEC and Branch 136 BEC and members attending the regular meeting have unanimously voted to drop all COVID 19 restrictions and go back to normal attending of any SIR activities.

The waiver forms that were filled out over the past two years will be kept on file so we do not have to fill them out again if Covid comes back. Let's all hope it stays away.

We want to thank everyone who worked and helped us get through what our state BEC and insurance company required. I also want to thank everyone for their patience in helping us get through this very bad situation.

We hope to see you at the next SIR meeting on November 8, 2022. Watch for the e-mail from Jerry Bellefeuille to make your reservation.

Your SIR Branch 136 BEC.





Branch #136

# Christmas Luncheon

December 13, 2022



Elks Lodge  
100 Elk Dr., Sonora, CA

Raffle prizes will be appreciated.

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 Dessert  
Wine will be provided at  
the table

**\$35 per Person**

Tickets will go on sale at the  
Oct. 11th & Nov. 8th Luncheons

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**SEATING IS LIMITED**

**DEADLINE FOR RESERVATIONS AND  
CANCELLATIONS IS DEC. 6, 2022**

**ALL SALES ARE FINAL AFTER THAT DATE**



## Want Some SIRs Apparel?

If you have a computer and are on the internet, no problem! Just go to the SIRs Branch 136 website and look at the catalog, choose what you want, including the embroidery, print a simplified order form for each item you want, fill out the form and give it to me, Fred Kehr, your Merchandise Chairman, at the next meeting, along with your check, and I'll consolidate orders to avoid chipping and handling charges. Upon arrival of the package, I'll bring the items to the next meeting for distribution.

You can also go to <https://sir.ourproshop.com>, peruse the items there. Should your order be large enough to avoid handling and shipping charges, you should be able to handle the order yourself, using a credit card. Of course, if you are willing to pay the handling and shipping charges, you should always be able to handle your order yourself. You might also consolidate your order with a friend's and avoid shipping and handling charges that way.

If you don't have access to a computer, etc., a couple of catalogs will be available at our meetings on the table between the bar and dining areas at the Elks' Lodge. Browse through the catalog, and if you find something you like, take an order sheet and fill it out, placing the completed form on the designated clipboard. Don't hesitate asking me about details. Once the order form is completed, I will contact you and the payment (preferably a check) from you. I'll consolidate orders until I have a volume sufficient to avoid the handling and shipping fees, unless, of course, you are willing to pay them. In that case, your order will be processed separately. If I don't get a couple of orders together within a couple of months, I'll contact you to determine if you are willing to wait longer, and we'll go from there.





**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®**  
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 Sonora, CA 95370  
 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

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 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

**TMP**

Estate  
 Planning  
 Attorney

**TAYLOR**  
**Jewelers**

- 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 - Dale Decker  
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  
Eddie Toews - Treasurer 2016 - 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.** 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:** Rick Bronner (408) 318-4826  
**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 - **Steve Gregory** 533-0309

## 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