



# BULLETIN

October 2015

Website: [sonorasirs.org](http://sonorasirs.org)

## SONORA BRANCH #136

**Sonora SIR Branch #136  
will meet at the Sonora Elks  
Lodge on  
Tuesday, October 13th  
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**

Good old 2015 is winding down and 2016 will be here before you know it. Our 2016 Board Members are in the process of getting their assignments and Dale is busy making sure he is ready for January. I am betting that he and the new Board will be ready when the bell rings on January 1. But for now we have 2015 business to attend to. We have some new members to welcome this month and a Christmas luncheon to enjoy. Don't forget to bring your wallets, the Christmas luncheon tickets go on sale at the October meeting.

Ginny and I are in Arizona on an extended RV trip so I won't be at this month's luncheon. See you in November.



### LITTLE SIR NOTES

**Dale Decker - 533-0455**

Well, here we are already into October and the cooler fall weather. It's been a very busy year for me but I've enjoyed every minute of it.

We have a very interesting and talented guest speaker for our luncheon this month: Chris Bateman, Associate Editor and Writer for Friends and Neighbors Magazine. Chris was a Senior Reporter & Columnist for the Union Democrat, retiring after 38 years in April of 2011.

The one thing I encourage and urge you to do is Google Chris Bateman; he has written so many enlightening columns and articles that will bring a smile to your face and make you think.

At both the October and November luncheons the special events team will be selling tickets for our annual Christmas Luncheon, Dec 8, 2015.

As a first for our branch this year we are offering 3 entrees that you may select from: Prime Rib with baked potato, Salmon or Cordon Bleu, either one with rice pilaf. And, to perk your interest, we've held the cost to \$22/person (same as last year) by offsetting the cost with the profit that we made with the picnic. Many thanks to our BEC for allowing us to do this.

Additionally, we have some great entertainment in store: Steve Johnson, recipient of the Wine & Gold Country Five Star Service Award for Best Singer 2014.

As I am getting ready to take over as Big Sir in January I've had a whole bunch of new responsibilities to address. One of which is to write job descriptions to cover four new Program Director positions that I am implementing: Activities, Member Relations, Membership Growth and Theater/Dinner.

My objective with three of these new positions is to enable offering some new activities for our members, hopefully, some in which you and your partner can participate in, i.e. coed activities. Additionally, since we typically lose 25 members per year through attrition we need to focus on bringing in new members to maintain our branch health, give us new ideas and establish new friendships (besides replacements for our BEC members that term out).

The remaining position is one I feel is very strongly about to our well being: Member Relations. The director in this position will gather information from you, in one way or another, and compile your suggestions, your complaints and your ideas for what we should be doing and/or how we could be doing it better. He will also survey new members subsequent to installation within 6 months of active membership so their thoughts and suggestions will be included.

As a side note to this one of our current directors, Mariano Garces, has already suggested that we look at offering a 'fish' entree during some of our regular lunches. This is the kind of 'input' we're looking for and I will take this up with our caterer Dino at a meeting scheduled at 2:00 pm on October 8, 2015 to set our 2016 regular luncheon menu.

The results of these four new positions will be reviewed by the BEC on a regular basis and the overall results reported to all of you. Action plans based on the results will be implemented as needed.

Your participation in these 4 key endeavors is paramount to our success -

**SO PLEASE PARTICIPATE  
WHEN ASKED**



## 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 September 29 Golf Tournament at  
La Contenta GC

Format: 4 Man Best Ball

1st Place Kent Kirkland/Mike Ross/Dan  
Cassaro/Ed Wright (net 125)

2nd Place Rudy Flores/Matt Clay/Jeff  
Phillips/Jake Parsons (net 129)

3rd Place Dick Nutting/George Parsons/  
Trini Mercado/Tony Vega (net 136)

Next Golf Tournament:

Oct. 9:30 am Shotgun start

Tuesday, Oct 6 Skins @ Mountain Springs

Tuesday, Oct 27 6-6 @ Mountain Springs

NCGA

2016 Dues: \$38.00

(\$48.00 after Dec. 15, 2015)

Make check to: SIR Golf/NCGA

Happy  
Birthday!

|                         |       |
|-------------------------|-------|
| Cyrus, (Cy) Oliver E.   | 10/1  |
| Flores, Rudy            | 10/2  |
| Camfield, Roland E.     | 10/8  |
| Lundin, Rich            | 10/11 |
| Simons, Charles (Chuck) | 10/11 |
| Brown, Delyle E. (Bob)  | 10/14 |
| Leal, Maury             | 10/14 |
| Diggle, Frank           | 10/14 |
| Harrington, Tom         | 10/15 |
| Cassaro, Dan            | 10/20 |
| McGinnes, John          | 10/20 |
| Simmons, Jim E.         | 10/23 |
| Silva, Michael          | 10/24 |
| Morrison, Bob           | 10/24 |
| DiFabio, Dominic (Dom)  | 10/26 |
| Oliver, Drexel (Drex)   | 10/26 |
| Guenza, Bill            | 10/26 |
| Hoy, Paul (Skip)        | 10/27 |
| Jimenez, Levi           | 10/27 |
| Kleinen, Knute          | 10/28 |

## MEMBERSHIP REPORT Angelo Costanza - 588-9529

September Membership

Active = 221

Inactive = 4

Total = 225

Sept luncheon attendance = 153

Excused absence = 30



## SUNSHINE - CHAPLAIN

Paul Bullman - 588-8614

Asst Bill Dunlavy - 532-7601

Temptation is a common issue in life. We have all had our experiences we could tell about. The dollar value seldom has all to do with temptation. It is deeper than that.

I read about a man who while eating alone in a nice restaurant saw an eye catching set of pewter salt and pepper and creamer setting on the table in front of him. He immediately thought how he could put them in his travel bag and no one would ever know. (Beside that, the large café had lots of them sitting on adjacent tables which afforded him security and justification). His loot would never be missed.

As he continued to finish his meal the temptation grew. He mused how thrilled his wife would be when he presented them to her upon coming home. He also considered how he would receive a reward for being so thoughtful.

Then, he thought "I can't do that".

Quickly, he had fully realized the implications of this seemingly easy feat. There would be explanations required, possible accusations, temptations to lie to save face, and more. He suddenly felt a sigh of relief!

He had made the decision "to remember...not regret!"



## BOWLING CHAIRMAN

Bert Abreo - 736-4804

Sonora SIRS 136 bowlers - the league started on September 14 with a bit fewer bowlers than last season. There are now nine teams - some with vacancies - rather than the ten teams from the past.

A couple of bowlers from Branch 136 went to South Lake Tahoe's tournament and a few more went to the Fremont tournament. Coming home with winnings from Fremont were Dave Rossi, Billy Oliver and Bert Abreo. Don and Janis Banchemo went to the Tahoe one and Janis feels she might have won some \$\$\$.

High Scores for the first week include:

High Game - Dave Rossi 257

High Series - Dave Rossi 642

Standings - Drex Wrex & Hines Pickles tied at 4-0

For Sept 21:

High Game - Dave Rossi 268

High Series - Dave Rossi 744

Standings - Drex Wrex 8-0

Hines Pickles 7-1

Misfits & Bob's Boys

(formerly Jim's Jokers) 6-2

Most pins over average in a game to date

- Mel Lawrence 54 with 217

Most pins over average in a series to date

- Bert Abreo 107 with 638

**Upcoming tournaments include:**  
Brentwood on October 13 and 15 at  
Harvest Park Lanes, entry forms available  
on line or at the lanes

Modesto on Nov 5 & 6, entry forms not  
yet available

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



## FISHING CLUB

Chuck Simons 532-9550

Branch 136

Let's go fishing Guys!



## RV CLUB NEWS

**Jim Botto - 586-0822**

**Ron Long - 586-1838**

On Wednesday September 9<sup>th</sup> four rigs drove to the Elks Lodge in Salinas for one night before continuing on to Carmel by the River RV Park. Jim & Ginny Johnson, Jack & Rosie Walls, Jim & Linda Botto, and Earl Randall with his guest Gene Zanone traveled together.



Dinner at the Elks Lodge was Pot Roast, Mashed Potatoes, Salad, and Dessert. It was very good and we were all made very welcome by the lodge members.

On Tuesday September 10<sup>th</sup> we arrived at Carmel by the River RV Park and started to settle in.

10 more rigs arrived that afternoon; Ray & Judy Feldman, Martin & Kim Moates, Bill & Carol Donnelly, Steve Gaither, Steve & Carolyn Gregory, John & Dianne Avila, Bill & Peggy Guenza, Otto & Cathy Bullich, Eddie & Linda Toews, and Larry & Karen French. All settled in and got ready for our first happy hour which lasted until 9:30 pm. Spirits were flowing and a good time was had by all.



Thursday September 11<sup>th</sup> the morning and afternoon were on our own and many went into Carmel by the Sea, Big Sur, and shopping. Dinner was prepared by our "Chief Chef" Earl Randall with his helpers Gene Zanone and Bill Guenza. They served "Drunken Chicken". I am not sure if the chicken or the chefs were drunk. Earl says he uses wine to cook and sometimes he even puts it in the food.



Earl Randall and Gene Zanone relaxing after cooking a great Drunken Chicken Dinner with mashed potatoes and gravy, mixed vegetables, several salads and lots of Chianti.

We held a business meeting before dinner and discussed the proposed changes to the Sonora SIRs #136 RV Group By-Laws. The main reason for the proposed change is to reciprocate to other branches of SIRs that have invited #136 members to join



their fishing, bowling, hiking, travel, pinochle, and golf groups. A motion to change the by-laws was made by Jim Johnson and seconded by Steve Gregory, a vote was taken by the ten members present and it was unanimous. Motion passed. It was also discussed that our club consider the recommendations of the State SIRs RV Committee that a Treasurer and a Secretary be appointed by the chairman to assist in

the smooth operations of the club. This will be the decision of the new RV Club Chairman, although Knute Kleinen has already indicated that he would need the help of a secretary. With all the new members that we are getting I do not think there will be a problem getting a volunteer for the job.



Saturday September 12<sup>th</sup> we all went to Monterey for the Fiesta Santa Rosalina. This was the 82nd Annual Santa Rosalina Fisherman's Festival. We all gathered in front of the band stand to listen to the music and watch the Santa Rosalina parade. A young group "Operation Rock" was excellent.

The parade marched down to the wharf where the Bishop Blessed the Italian Fishing Fleet.

Several of us ate lunch at Crab Louie's and watched the sea gulls and harbor seals play in the marina. They gathered round where the fishermen were cleaning their catch of the day.

Sunday September 13<sup>th</sup> we held our traditional breakfast for all. Waffles, eggs, bacon, sausages, coffee, and juice.

Jack & Rosie Walls left on Sunday to get Rosie ready for her trip to Italy. The lucky stiff! We all wish her "Buongiorno e fai un viaggio sicuro" "Good journey and have a safe trip

On Monday September 14<sup>th</sup> the rest of us headed home after another wonderful RV outing with great friends and two new couples from other SIRs Branches; Bill & Carol Donnelly from Marin and Marty & Kim Moates from Manteca. It was a pleasure having them join us on this outing and as usual we all had a wonderful time.

Our next outing is scheduled for September 27 and we will be traveling almost three weeks through Arizona. We are already getting ready for that one. Since this will be our last outing before our Christmas I would encourage everyone to start thinking of where to go next season. We will hold our planning meeting in February. Our new Chairman Knute Kleinen, will be voted in at the Christmas Dinner and will organize the time and date for the planning meeting.



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

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MAXIMUM 200 TICKETS AVAILABLE  
NO CANCELLATIONS AFTER  
Nov 30, 2015

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## 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





illustrations of.com #1058371

**INTERNET CHAIRMAN**  
**Jerry Bellefeuille -533-3630**

You can find this and all our  
 bulletins on line at  
**www.sonorasirs.org**



**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

**October 30, 2015**

**EAT  
 SLEEP  
 PINOCHLE**

**PINOCHLE**

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

For an afternoon of fun, please join us each Monday to play pinochle. If you don't know how to play 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. We meet at the Pine Tree Restaurant at 11:30 A. M. for lunch and start playing at 12:30 P. M. For more information, go to web site [www.sirtwain.org](http://www.sirtwain.org) and click on the pinochle icon. Shown below are three tables giving the results of scores for our pinochle sessions. The first table lists the average score of each player based on the number of sessions played in August. The second lists the weekly first place winners and their scores for August. The third lists the SIR branch average scores for 2015 year-to-date.

**September 2015**

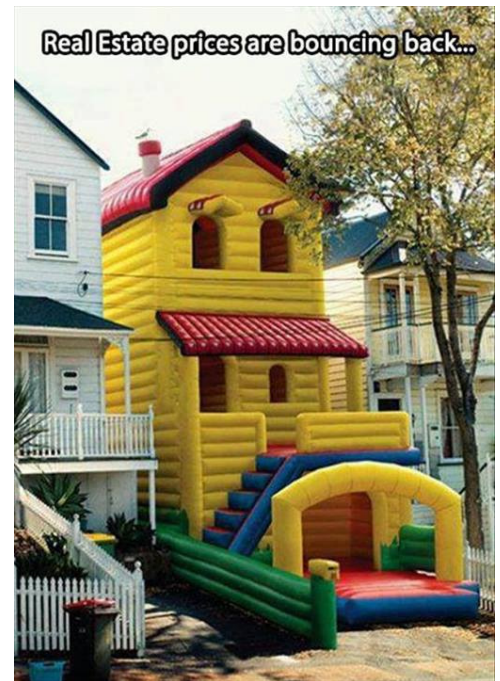
| Player                          | Branch | Average |
|---------------------------------|--------|---------|
| <b>4 Monday Session Players</b> |        |         |
| Tom Newell                      | 136    | 406     |
| Henry Beltan                    | 172    | 310     |
| Mike Schmidt                    | 172    | 296     |

| <b>Weekly First Place Winners</b> |       |             |        |
|-----------------------------------|-------|-------------|--------|
| Date                              | Score | Player      | Branch |
| 7-Sep-                            | 679   | Tom Newell  | 136    |
| 14-Sep-                           | 416   | Bill Burnes | 136    |
| 21-Sep-                           | 473   | Tom Newell  | 136    |
| 28-Sep-                           | 448   | Sonny Tome  | 77     |

| Player                          | Branch | Average |
|---------------------------------|--------|---------|
| <b>3 Monday Session Players</b> |        |         |
| Sonny                           | 77     | 372     |
| Al De Neveu                     | 136    | 354     |
| Bob                             | 136    | 350     |
| Roland                          | 172    | 342     |
| Ed Mintline                     | 172    | 326     |
| Bill Burnes                     | 136    | 300     |
| Dave Goldemberg                 | 172    | 292     |
| Bert                            | 77     | 170     |
| Del Rotelli                     | 77     | 164     |

| Player                          | Branch | Average |
|---------------------------------|--------|---------|
| <b>2 Monday Session Players</b> |        |         |
| Dick                            | 172    | 339     |
| Felix                           | 77     | 264     |

| Player                         | Branch | Average |
|--------------------------------|--------|---------|
| <b>1 Monday Session Player</b> |        |         |
| Paul Halek                     | 172    | 99      |



**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](mailto:jlj32@sbcglobal.com)

Little SIR: Dale Decker 533-0455

[daledftg@sonnet.com](mailto:daledftg@sonnet.com)

Sec: Jerry Bellefeuille 533-3630

[sirjerry@sonnet.com](mailto:sirjerry@sonnet.com)

Asst. Sec: Angelo Costanza 588-9529

[angelof55@sbcglobal.com](mailto:angelof55@sbcglobal.com)

Treas: Frank Taylor 532-4480

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

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

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

**OCTOBER 13th MENU**

Sirloin Steak, Baked Potato  
Green Beans, Green Salad,  
Peach Cobbler

**GUEST SPEAKER**

Chris Bateman  
Associate Editor and  
Writer  
Friends and Neighbors  
Magazine

**Sons In Retirement, Inc**  
**Sonora Branch #136**  
**22295 Paseo De Los Portales**  
**Sonora, CA 95370**

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