



BULLETIN

September 2021

Website: sonorasirs.org
SONORA BRANCH #136

Annual Family Picnic

Tuesday, Sept. 14th

Happy Hour at 10:00am

Lunch at 12:00pm

Reservation only!

Deadline for Reservations
September 6, 2021

Indigeny Reserve
14679 Summers Lane

Sonora, CA

Menu: Catered by

Dickey's
Famous BBQ



BULLETIN INPUT NOTICE!

Jim Botto Editor - 559-0931

Asst. Jerry Bellefeuille 533-3630

I want to take this opportunity to thank the committee chairmen who sent 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 If I do not receive your report by the deadline it will not be published in the current month.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

September 30, 2021



BIG SIR MESSAGE

Gene Zanoni

(209) 532-1989

genevzanoni@gmail.com

Progress towards our goal of selling 100 tickets for this month's 2021 Annual Family BBQ Picnic (the "Picnic") is inching closer towards fruition. Please keep in mind this is the minimum number of lunches the caterer, Dickey's Barbecue Pit, has requested to consider for preparation. Once this objective is met, there remains yet one possible additional hurdle that we must overcome which is related to health. That is, we must remain cognizant of our state and county health officials as to their position relating to the assembly of groups of individuals with regards to their monitoring the critical progress in the containment of both the COVID-19 and Delta variant rate of viral infections.

One could surmise that if these virus's incidence remains in check and the Indigeny Reserve is in agreement with the then-prevailing circumstances, which they presently are, I remain optimistic that our long-awaited Picnic will occur as planned. As a final reminder, proof of being fully vaccinated (2 shots) or negative test results administered 72 hours prior to any SIR sponsored event is mandatory. In addition, the SIR EVENT WAIVER AND RELEASE OF LIABILITY FOR EXPOSURE TO COVID-19 must be signed and submitted if you have not done so previously. For those of you that have yet to comply, copies of this document shall be made available at the Picnic. In case you have yet to commit to donating a prize for our special drawings, please remember to do so as greater participation promotes greater enjoyment for all. Thank you in advance.

There has recently been one very important change in Branch 136's (the "Branch") officer's position: that is, Gene Bettencourt has stepped forward to replace Paul Squeri as our Little Sir. Such a change provides much needed relief for Paul as he remains extremely active in our Branch and possesses extended commitments elsewhere. He will remain our Chairman of the Nominating Committee for the remainder of the year as well as Area 5 Governor. Incidentally, Paul has recently received our BEC's unanimous support as its candidate for the Area 5 Governor's position for the upcoming 2022 term. Congratulations to Paul. Currently, he serves as a member on the State SIR Policy and Procedures Committee of which Dale Decker is recognized as its current Chairman. Dale just happens to be the Region 2 Director for 2022 as well.

As a reminder of such exemplary commitments by these Branch members and

other dedicated Branch officers and committee chairmen, their active participation and sense of pride is vital to the success of our organization's sustainability. Thank you all for your services.

Please remain safe from both current health and fire dangers that lurk within our communities.



LITTLE SIR MESSAGE

Gene Bettencourt

(209) 533-1676

genebettencourt@comcast.net

I am pleased to be your new Little SIR. I am looking forward to working with the team to continue the good work that they are doing. Since I am new to the area, I will need a little time to get to know you all and see what local opportunities there are for future activities.

Here is some of my background. I was born and raised in Santa Cruz, California, spent a great time at the Santa Cruz Boardwalk before receiving an engineering degree from San Jose State, next was jointing the navy and becoming an officer aboard a destroyer during the Vietnam war, and finally retiring after 40 years with Monterey Mushrooms at age 77. I joined a SIR's chapter in the Santa Cruz area after my wife of 51 years died. After a short time, I became active in promoting short- and long-term travel for the chapter's members and played golf and bocce with many of the members of the four chapters in the area.

Thank you for this opportunity and I am looking forward to helping make this chapter one of the best in the state



GOLF CHAIRMAN

Danny Laureta (209) 586-4567

drlaureta@gmail.com

August Sir's 2021 golf results

Format: six - six - six

Hole 1 - 6 Best Ball

Hole 7 - 12 Scramble

Hole 13 - 18 Alternate Shot

First : Danny Laureta & Mike Wright (net 53)

Second: Mike Coe & Jeff Phillips (net 59)

Chace Anderson & Jeff Juhl (net 59)

Par 3 #7 Closest to the hole

1st - Dave McGuigan 2'-1

2nd - Pete Larkin 2'-9

3rd - Jeff Juhl 5'-10

Par 3 #12 Closest to the hole

1st - Rod Salvi 18'-9

2nd - Steve Hagel 20'-8

3rd - Danny Laureta 21'-11

Next Sir's golf tournament: Tues. 9/21/21



RV CLUB NEWS

Eddie Toews (209) 5323970

lcoinlady@aol.com

Some of the RV club members will be driving to Pismo Beach the end of October to join the Turlock SIRS Branch RV club for a 5 day outing. The weather should be great with cool days and hopefully no smoke. Should be plenty of clam chowder enjoyed by everyone. Looking forward to the trip.

A side message, Any SIRS member wanting to visit and join the RV club in the future we are open to several new members. Please contact the RV Chairman below.



Bowling Chairman

Mike Coe (209) 769-3413

coemike@sbcglobal.net

The 2021 bowling season is upon us. Like everything else in the last two years, it will be different and a challenge. Black Oak has reduced their hours of operations which has made leagues change the days and hours that they are bowling.

We will be bowling, starting September 10, 2021, at 1:00pm. Please come a half hour early to get the teams set and paperwork completed. As of the present time, we have enough bowlers to cover 8 teams of 3 bowlers. We will be open to spouses of SIRS's members bowling to fill out teams.

As the new bowling chairman and recent new SIRS's member, I look forward to meeting all the bowlers. This will be a challenging year, but we will survive! If there is anyone that wants to bowl, please contact me at (209)769-3413 or coemike@sbcglobal.net.

We will be abiding by SIRS's rules. All bowlers must be vaccinated or had a negative test in the last 48 hours to bowl. We will have to show proof of vaccination and sign the waiver of liability. If you have previously complied, you will not have to do it again.

See you on the lanes!



KAYAKING/EASY HIKING

Sol Robin (209) 651-1054

s.robin@sbcglobal.net

The July kayaking event was at Pinecrest and included about a dozen people from the Twain Harte SIRS Group, including spouses. Also attending was Chuck Simons and his lovely wife Francesca. Yours Truly and my wife Ruth met the group for the BBQ.

The August event was cancelled due to the

smoke that has been in the area.

Kayaking is scheduled, weather permitting, for the last Thursday of the month. Spouses or significant others are invited and encouraged to join this event! Each outing will be followed by a BBQ or potluck. Please contact me to be added to the email list for this fun, slow paced event.



PINOCHLE

Bob Morrison—588-0994

robert.mrrsn@yahoo.com

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 sessions 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 sessions. The two highest scoring players at the end of a session win cash prizes. We hope you will join us.



FISHING CHAIRMAN

Chuck Simons - (209) 532-9550

simons4890@yahoo.com

No scheduled activities for Sept



SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Costello, Jim	09/02
Kehr, Fred	09/10
Barnes, Barney	09/11
Holt, Steven	09/12
Lewis, Scott	09/16
Hagel, Steve	09/19
Faifua, James	09/21
Abreo, Albert	09/24
Kutsch, Mel	09/27
Turner, Tom	09/27
Aberle, Dick	09/28
Chambers, Bob	09/29
Cocores, George	09/30
Bethel, Ron	09/30



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. I hope everyone has a great time at the BBQ at Indigene Reserve. I will be in Lake Tahoe visiting with family unless it is on fire in which case I may see you at the BBQ.



MEMBERSHIP REPORT

August 2021	
Beginning Membership	177
Applicants Being Installed	+ 2
Active Members Lost	- 2
Ending Membership	177
Luncheon Attendance (36%)	64
Excused Absences (64%)	112

Have a safe Labor Day





Sonora SIR Branch #136

Summer Family BBQ Picnic

September 14, 2021

Indigeny Reserve
14679 Summers Lane
Sonora, CA



Directions to Indigeny (please try to carpool)

- ◆ Drive north on Greenley Road and **TURN RIGHT** onto Lyons Bald Mountain Road
- ◆ Drive ~4 miles, **GO PAST** the Apple Valley Estates sign
- ◆ You will see and pass the sign **NARROW BRIDGE**
- ◆ Reach Apple Valley Ranches,
- ◆ **TURN RIGHT** at **Apple Hill Drive**
- ◆ Veer **LEFT** at **Summers Lane**
- ◆ Continue on Summers Lane (~1 mile) drive thru the covered bridge

Social @ 10:00 am
Lunch @ 12:00 noon

*Featuring Dickey's
Famous Specialties*

Menu:

Beef Brisket -or- Chicken Breast
BBQ Beans, Potato Salad
Caesar Salad & Cobbler

Two Free Any Beverage Tickets
With Each Ticket Purchased.
Subject To Beverages On Hand.

Beer, Wine, Soda
& Bottled Water

\$20 Per Person

Tickets will be on sale at the
July & August Luncheons
Deadline: Sept 6th - Firm

Children 12 & Under FREE
Hot Dogs with fixings

Critical Evacuation Steps / Reminders

A Few Tips So You Are Ready When the Time Comes

1. Gather as many items on the Five Minute list into one place and you really can do it all in five minutes. For example, consider a drawer where all keys are kept.
2. Gather photos, journals and baby books into one area now.
3. If you have ammo or propane tanks leave a note for first responders so they can protect themselves as well as your home. Make signs now and keep them in an easily accessible place so they are ready. Place note on outside doors and sheds where the dangers are. Keep it simple.

Example: Ammo (or propane tanks) inside
4. Create a snack box now. Purchase a plastic container with a lid that will fit on a kitchen shelf. Fill with snacks and use it everyday for lunches and snacking. Keep it full and it will be easy to grab when evacuating.
5. Gather your camping supplies together now.
6. Create a phone list of neighbors to warn and check on.
7. If you don't have 120-hour kits make it a priority now. I'm sure you can see how it will make evacuating much quicker and more efficient leaving more time to grab items that are truly irreplaceable.

When It's Time To Evacuate

Five minute Warning

✓	Gather	Location
	Shoes ~ Many people show up at shelters bare foot, especially the kids	
	Wallet/Purse	
	Keys~Cars, Home, Storage unit, Office, Bank deposit box, Mail box, etc.	
	Cell phones and chargers including car charger	
	Laptop and charger	
	Backup flash drive/external hard drive	
	Important documents*	
	Contact list*	
	Proof of insurance*+	
	Proof of residency*+	
	Mortgage*+	
	Tax return*+	
	Check book ~you will need the routing number for FEMA claims and if power is out	
	Cash* Aim for at least \$200 in small bills	
	Medications and medical devices~ Plan ahead for insulin and other medications needing refrigeration	
	120 hour Kit~ we all know 72 hours is not enough right?	
	Pets and pet 120 hour kit(s)	
	Preparedness binder	
	Warn neighbors ~ check on elderly/disabled	

*Add to your 120-hour kits leaving time to grab more valuable items.
+ Needed for insurance and FEMA claims

Fifteen Minute Warning

✓	Gather	Location
	All items on Five Minute Warning List	
	Dress in long pants and a long sleeved shirt or throw them in the car to change into later	
	Extra clothing* Just grab an armful but don't forget underwear and socks	
	Family photos	
	Valuable art work on the walls	
	Journals	
	Baby books	
	Kids favorite book and/or toy	
	Firearms and ammo**	

*Should be in your 120-hour kits leaving time to grab more valuable items.

** If you cannot take all of these warn first responders (see below)

Thirty Minute Warning

✓	Gather	Location
	All items on Five Minute Warning List	
	All items on Fifteen Minute Warning List	
	Snack box	
	Bottled water	
	Bed pillows	
	Quilts/blankets	
	Photos hanging on walls	
	Travel games/art books/crayons*	
	Toiletries *	

*Should be in your 120-hour kits leaving time to grab more valuable items.

One Hour or Longer

✓	Gather	Location
	All items on Five Minute Warning List	
	All items on Fifteen Minute Warning List	
	All items on Thirty Minute Warning List	
	Fill your auto(s) gas tanks and park cars facing the street for quicker escape when the street get crowded with others escaping	
	Turn off gas/propane	
	Move outdoor furniture indoors	
	Move barbecue grill to far end of property if propane Do not store propane in garage	
	Trim tree limbs that could hit the house in the wind or act as a fire ladder. Keep them pruned and you can skip this	
	Tent	
	Camp stove	
	Sleeping bags	
	Turn on outdoor lights ~ helps first responders see and protect your home	
	Notify Out-of-Area contact as to your plans	

SIR STATE OFFICERS

www.sirinc.org
President - Stu Williams
Vice-President - Rick Kindle
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

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
(209) 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

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